



CROMERCHURCH
transforming lives with Jesus Christ

Prayer Diary - March 2021

*Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on Cromer.
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on the Church.
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on me. Amen.*

This month's diary reflects the changes caused by the coronavirus pandemic at the time of writing. Please check the Weekly Update for up-to-date news.

Sunday worship continues at 10.30am on the Cromer Church YouTube channel, accessed in the normal way. (Either use this link: www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ySrZRXcovTLvIL136AHuQ/ and click the "Subscribe" button to get to the CromerChurch channel, or go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church'.)

Morning Prayer continues to be streamed on the Cromer Church Facebook page at 9.30am on weekdays.

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR MARCH

Please check weekly publicity for details and updates, especially if restrictions change. If events start happening, they will need prayer support.

This month's mission focus is Tearfund.

See below for all mission partner requests.

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| Mon 1 | <i>The persecuted church (see below)</i> |
| Tue 2 | <i>Mission Partner: Andrew and Maria Leake</i> |
| Wed 3 | <i>Schools preparing to ease lockdown restrictions</i> |
| Thu 4 | <i>Mission Partner: Bible Society</i> |
| Fri 5 | <i>Countries with high numbers of Covid-19 infections</i> |

- Sat 6** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Tearfund*
- Sun 7** 10.30 am Worship (on YouTube)
Theme: Luke 21v1-4 - Your money and your life: The poor widow
Preacher: Tim Britton
Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 8** *Mission Partner: Canaan*
- Tue 9** *Justice for all victims of prejudice*
- Wed 10** *Mission Partner: CPAS*
- Thu 11** *Our government*
- Fri 12** *Victims of abuse, especially when it is in the home*
- Sat 13** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Tearfund*
- Sun 14** Mothering Sunday
10.30 am Worship (on YouTube)
Theme: 1 Corinthians 15v1-11 - Man alive: past truth
Preacher: Paul Neale
Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 15** *Greater commitment to mitigate climate change*
- Tue 16** *Mission Partner: London City Mission*
- Wed 17** *All who are working in the NHS and caring professions*
- Thu 18** *Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor*
- Fri 19** *Red Nose Day!*
- Sat 20** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Tearfund*
- Sun 21** 10.30 am Worship (on YouTube)
Theme: 1 Corinthians 15v12-34 - Man alive: present hope
Preacher: Paul Rosier
Our church leaders; our national church leaders
- Mon 22** *Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship*
- Tue 23** *Businesses struggling to cope with new regulations*
- Wed 24** *The lonely and bereaved*
- Thu 25** *Mission Partner: Scripture Union*
- Fri 26** *Emergency services*

- Sat 27** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Tearfund*
- Sun 28** Palm Sunday
 10.30 am Worship (on YouTube)
 Theme: 1 Corinthians 15v35-58 - Man alive: Future glory
 Preacher: Will Warren
Our church leaders; our Bishops and Archdeacons
- Mon 29** *Food production, in this country and abroad*
- Tue 30** *Keep praying for national revival of faith in Jesus*
- Wed 31** *That this Holy Week and Easter may be very special*

The persecuted church (Contact: Ken Nash)

ADF International is asking Christians to PRAY, FAST, HELP for persecuted Christians around the globe, but particularly in a number of specific areas.

1. Seeking justice for victims of forced 'conversions': for courts to have the courage to stand up to pressure from extremist groups.
2. Speaking up for Nigeria's persecuted Christians: that government will do all it can to protect religious minorities.
3. LIFE for India's 'Vanishing Girls' - Love, Inheritance, Freedom, Equality.
4. Prayer and support for women in need: for vulnerable women and their unborn children as they prepare for motherhood.
5. Advocating for freedom of worship in Russia: for Christians who are prohibited from worshipping in accordance with their faith.
6. Keeping the door open for the gospel in Turkey: that courts will restore justice to missionary families who are sharing truth and living out their faith.

ADF International

MISSION PARTNER PRAYER REQUESTS

Andrew Leake (CMS/Compassion International) (Contact: David Leake)

Andrew writes:

- COVID-19 is now spreading among the indigenous communities in the Diocese. Restrictions in some regions have meant poor families have not been receiving government subsidies, leading to protest, followed by violent repression by police. Pray for the affected communities and for justice to prevail.
- Cecilia is now safely in Madrid and embarked on her master's on Constitutional Law and Human Rights. Carolina continues to sit her final

year exams. Tomas continues with his aero engineering in his work but is looking to move to a new job.

- The government of Salta is issuing a torrent of permits for farmers to deforest to make way for cattle grazing. Pray for Andrew and his colleagues as they seek to raise awareness and put pressure on the authorities to protect the remaining forest of the Chaco region.

Bible Society (Contact: David Orsborne)

Please give thanks and pray for the work of Bible Society. Contact David Orsborne or discover more at www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-Br9p4AovE, find prayer resources at www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us or get Word in Action and Prayer in Action from www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/word-in-action.

This month:

- Lent is a time of reflection when we journey with Jesus on his path to the cross and celebrate his resurrection. Bible Society has a wide range of resources to help us reflect and celebrate at this season. Please pray that they will be widely taken up and make a significant difference to those who use them. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/easter)
- Thank God for our local Open the Book teams, and pray that they will find effective ways to continue their important work of telling Bible stories in schools this term. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book)
- Pray for Bible Society's work across the world, especially in those places where climate change, war, terrorism, disease, poverty, ethnic violence or civil unrest threaten lives and livelihoods and hamper the work of translation, distribution and Bible teaching. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/around-the-world and www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/appeals/will-you-bring-the-bible-to-remote-communities-in-the-shadow-of-extremism)
- Pray that God will show us all how we can support Bible Society, whose website says: "Bringing the Bible to life in today's world is a big undertaking and we need your help." Bible Society is passionate about making the Bible available to men, women and children around the world, and there are lots of ways to get involved. Please ask God to show you what that might look like for you. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved)

Canaan Christian Centre (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month:

- We continue to distribute food to our families each month, which they appreciate.
- Huge bills are still waiting to be covered: Insurance for Canaan, over £2,000 plus; £600 for mini-bus service, MOT, new battery etc. God always supplies but sometimes it's a bit hairy!
- Continue to pray for Hungary friends at the orphanage and Kanaan Haz.
- Pray that we will all be kept safe and well.

CPAS (Contact: Jane Loades)

“I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you.” Ephesians 1:18

- Thank God for CPAS as the organisation celebrates 185 years since its founding. Thank God for all those who work in the advocacy and administration teams, and pray that they will be given wisdom and strength in the coming days.
- Please pray for the online Leadership Courses that are taking place. Prayer and church growth go hand in hand.
- Pray too that churches will continue to be “pathways of faith” for those who don’t know Christ.

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Please pray:

- for the LCM leadership team... for unity in the Gospel of Christ as they conduct business via Zoom each day;
- for the Finance team as the mission copes with the cutbacks necessitated by the pandemic... and for perseverance through the challenges;
- for the vulnerable and homeless who are hardest hit by the effects of the pandemic;
- for wisdom as to how to handle safely the changes allowed by the government in the weeks ahead;

- for all missionaries and the needy Londoners whose mental health has suffered due to the constraints of the past year;
- for all working in the mission to keep looking to Jesus in faith and hope, and to keep putting on God's armour each day!

Thank you for your prayers!

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month Michelle writes:

- Pray for us as the numbers of COVID admissions increase in the hospital. Pray especially for the staff working on the COVID ward that they would have peace and know God's care as they deal with frequent deaths.
- Quite a few of our hospital staff have had COVID. Give thanks that no one has had it severely. Pray that I would continue to test negative on our routine swabs.
- Up until now we have had enough PPE but we are now running low. Thankfully we have been given money from the SIM COVID fund to purchase more. We are praying we will be able to get some, for suppliers are also running short as the pandemic in Zambia is spreading and the demand for PPE is increasing.
- We are planning to move in to the new theatre building in mid-March. Pray that the move will go smoothly and give thanks for its completion. Sadly we could not have our grand opening due to COVID and restrictions on gatherings. We did manage a small dedication service.

Prison Fellowship (Contact: Janet Rosier)

This month:

- Give THANKS that 2,407 parents in 94 prisons sent 4,440 gifts through Angel Tree at Christmas, which is more than last year. Give thanks for the PF volunteers who bought, wrapped and delivered these gifts despite the strict Covid restrictions.
- March 14th is Mothers' Day this year. Pray for all PF volunteers working to make ANGEL TREE MOTHERS' DAY a success amid all the continuing Covid restrictions this year. Angel Tree Mothers' Day gives the opportunity for young adults in Young Offender Institutions and Prison to send a card with a personal greeting and a small gift to their

mother or carer or significant adult. This will be even more important this year as visiting has been suspended during the lockdowns.

- Pray that by sending a Mothers' Day card families will be drawn together and/or relationships repaired, and bring healing and connection. To be part of a family on release helps prevent re-offending by 70%, helps the person integrate back into society and find employment. Amazingly, 45% of prisoners lose contact with their families.
- Pray for women in prison who are separated from their children and mothers whose children are serving a prison sentence. Pray too for women who have given birth in prison and are caring for their babies while there. Loving God bring Your comfort, love and hope into those places.

To donate to ANGEL TREE MOTHERS' DAY go to prisonfellowship.org.uk and look for Angel Tree Mothers' Day and "donate".

Scripture Union (SU) (Contact: David Orsborne)

'Connecting You' is SU's supporter magazine. Contact David Orsborne for a copy or get it and other prayer resources at content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer.

This month:

- ***In Search of Easter*** is a trail-based treasure hunt for children and families, using a series of videos and activities to encourage conversation and help crack a code. Clue posters offer activities and QR codes for accessing videos, as the groups explore the local area. *In Search of Easter* provides fun activities to help children and their families to explore the Easter story and consider who Jesus really is. Please pray that it will be widely taken up, including here in Cromer, and well used. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/resource/search-easter)
- **SU's Mental Health and Wellbeing resources** help churches engage children and young people in supportive and helpful conversations around the particular challenges that they are facing during this time of pandemic worries, lockdown isolation and uncertainty about the future. Please pray that they will be widely taken up and well used. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/mentalhealth)
- ***It's Your Move*** has been given to more than 1.6 million children since 2001. Thank God for this, and pray for the churches who are planning to use it in 2021 to reach out and give confidence to Year 6 pupils making

the move to secondary school in these difficult times.

content.scriptureunion.org.uk/its-your-move

- Please give thanks that, for more than 150 years, Scripture Union has been inviting children, young people and adults to explore the difference Jesus can make in the challenges and adventures of life. Please continue to support them, and pray that 2021 will be a year in which their work makes a great impact for God's kingdom.

content.scriptureunion.org.uk/what-we-do

Tearfund (Contacts: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

This March, TEARFUND is our focus Mission Partner, and we shall be praying especially for their work in our services, and showing some short films. Please pray.

- **Poverty is not God's plan.** In praying for the work of Tearfund we are becoming part of transforming communities and empowering people to lift themselves out of poverty. Please be encouraged that each prayer, even though the problem seems so vast, is transforming people's lives one by one.
- Five years ago, at a climate summit, the Paris agreement came into being. This year has seen progress - extra World Bank investment, UK government signing up to net-zero by 2050 and Boris Johnson announcing "a green industrial revolution" as part of the Covid 19 recovery plan, Jo Biden recommitting the USA. Praise God. Pray for the Climate Summit at the end of 2021.
- Please continue to pray for the desperate needs of those in troubled areas in the world. Here are a few:- Myanmar, Syria, Afghanistan, East Africa, India and Pakistan. (More stories on the Tearfund website.)

Please send prayer requests for April to Tim Britton
by Monday 22nd March.