



CROMERCHURCH
transforming lives with Jesus Christ

Prayer Diary - April 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.

The 10.30am Sunday worship in the Parish Church will be streamed on the Cromer Church YouTube channel, accessed in the normal way. (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 APRIL

*Please check weekly publicity for details and updates, especially if restrictions change. As events start happening, they will need prayer support.
This month's mission focus is our Easter season's outreach.
See below for all mission partner requests.*

- Thu 1** Maundy Thursday
7.30pm Holy Communion in the Parish Church and on YouTube
Mission Partner: Andrew and Maria Leake
- Fri 2** Good Friday
10.30am Family Worship (YouTube only)
2.00pm Quiet Hour in the Parish Church and on YouTube
A deep understanding of what Jesus' death means for us

- Sat 3** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching, here and all over the country*
- Sun 4** Easter Day
 Theme: John 20v1-10 - Peter and John
 Preacher: Will Warren
 9.00 am Traditional Holy Communion in the Parish Church and on YouTube
 10.30 am Family Easter Celebration in the Parish Church and on YouTube
Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 5** *Mission Partner: Bible Society*
- Tue 6** *Families during the school holidays*
- Wed 7** *Mission Partner: Canaan*
- Thu 8** *Countries having difficulties controlling the pandemic*
- Fri 9** *The persecuted church (see below)*
- Sat 10** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching*
- Sun 11** 10.30 am Worship in the Parish Church and on YouTube
 Theme: John 20v1-18 – Mary Magdalene
 Preacher: Tim Britton
Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 12** *For lockdown to be eased safely*
- Tue 13** *Mission Partner: CPAS*
- Wed 14** *Schools settling into a new term*
- Thu 15** Church '[Meeting of Parishioners](#)' to elect churchwardens.
Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Fri 16** *Local businesses*
- Sat 17** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching*
- Sun 18** 10.30 am Worship in the Parish Church and on YouTube
 Theme: John 20v19-23 - The Twelve
 Preacher: Paul Rosier
Our church leaders; our national church leaders
- Mon 19** *Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor*
- Tue 20** *Continue to pray for the NHS and all carers*

- Wed 21** *Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship*
- Thu 22** *Pray for people suffering from extreme weather events*
- Fri 23** *A revival of faith in Jesus throughout the country*
- Sat 24** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching*
- Sun 25** 10.30 am Worship in the Parish Church and on YouTube
 Theme: John 20v24-31 - Thomas
 Preacher: David Masters
Our church leaders; our Bishops and Archdeacons
- Mon 26** *An end to discrimination and oppression of all sorts*
- Tue 27** *Mission Partner: Scripture Union*
- Wed 28** *Our MP, Duncan Baker, and all members of Parliament*
- Thu 29** *Mission Partner: Tearfund*
- Fri 30** *Joy and peace in believing*

The persecuted church (Contact: Ken Nash)

Earlier in the year, Open Doors presented this year's Watch List. A feature of this year's report is that Covid-19 has given new weapons to people who want to suppress and eradicate Christianity. And in a number of countries increased surveillance and control has been legitimised by lockdown. One of the most devastating findings is that the number of Christians killed for their faith is up 60% on last year. It is estimated that 340 million Christians are persecuted for their faith.

North Korea is the most dangerous place to be a Christian - it has been top of the list since 2002. The rest of the top ten are: Afghanistan, Somalia, Libya, Pakistan, Eritrea, Yemen, Iran, Nigeria, and India. Many observers believe that it is only a matter of time before we experience persecution in this county. *Open Doors*

MISSION PARTNER PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Bishop David writes:

- Please pray for Andrew Leake who is facing a changing role in his work. Andrew up until now has been very committed to the whole question of Indian land rights and the care of creation. He has now accepted the challenge of an invitation from COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL to head

up a new challenge which is to outline and implement a project to care for children and how they will be affected by climate change.

- Much prayer is needed about the continual spread of Covid-19 in Brazil and that the virus may be prevented from spreading into Argentina. Also that South American countries may speed up their vaccination roll-out.
- Pray for the family: that Tomas may get stable work with servicing planes (work has been curtailed because planes have been grounded during the pandemic); for Cecilia now undertaking a post graduate course in Spain; that Carolina may be able to conclude her practical work and exams in her Veterinary studies.
- Pray for the Wichi and Toba bishops that they may be given wisdom as they lead the work in the absence of Diocesan Bishop Nicholas Drayson, still in lockdown in the UK.

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:

- Easter is a time of celebration and new beginnings. Bible Society has a wide range of resources to help us make the most of this season. Please pray that they will be widely taken up and make a significant difference to those who receive and 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. (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:

- Thank God for His supply for needs at Canaan as we still cannot have visitors.
- Pray for volunteers to paint children's play equipment, spruce up garden areas, clean inside of Wolery and Canaan - ready for reopening in June?!
- We look forward to having four other people in the garden at Canaan from 12th April, and two families who are able to come on a separate occasion - they [are](#) looking forward to this.
- Easter groceries, plus beautiful hand-made baskets, bunnies and chicks will be distributed to families with a book per family about Easter, a Palm Sunday picture and a palm cross. There will also be a family Easter egg hunt, reaching out to new families too, which is exciting. Huge thanks to Audrey Bligh, Crafts2Share and those who donate towards the monthly groceries.
- Much prayer is needed for Hungary where Covid-19 cases are rising.

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:

- LCM continues to develop links with Bible based churches across London and has an on-going recruitment campaign to appoint those with a love for the marginalised and a passion for the Gospel. LCM helps churches reach out to people in socially excluded groups - prisoners, homeless, victims of trafficking and those caught up in addictions. Most of these folk experience rejection, hostility and a deep sense of worthlessness. Churches seek to help these folk at several levels - first with food, clean clothes and showers, then helping them find stable accommodation. Then to welcome them into the Churches and share the Gospel with them at their level and eventually help them integrate into church life and fellowship.
- The mission is recruiting skilled evangelists to help reach these outsiders and show them the love of Jesus. Food banks are often the first point of contact or emergency help. All Souls Langham Place are helping homeless people to find suitable accommodation. Some attend weekly Bible studies; some benefit from one-to-one Bible study and friendship. The aim is to integrate people into active church fellowship and membership. It may even mean visiting some in prison.
- There are some miracles and some disappointments. It can take a lot of people to support one needy person! The emphasis is on teamwork across the churches, with much prayer and perseverance, and dependence on the Holy Spirit. It is worth it for just one who comes to Christ!

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month Michelle writes:

- Praise that the theatre building is complete and we have moved in.
- Give thanks that we now have raised enough to install piped oxygen and suction. Pray that the purchasing, shipping and installation of this will go smoothly.
- Pray that the number of COVID cases would decrease in the hospital and give thanks that I have continued to test negative on routine checks.
- Pray for stamina and energy for the next couple of months when we will have visiting surgeons so I will have increased [anaesthesia](#) to do.

Thanks to everyone for praying.

Prison Fellowship (Contact: Janet Rosier)

This month:

- Thank God for the chaplains who journeyed with the men and women in their prison through Holy Week and shared its message of hope. May God give them fresh energy and joy. Prisoners were confined to their cells for 23 hours during lockdown and chapels were closed, which means prisoners were disappointed not to be able to meet together to celebrate as usual over Easter.
- As we remember Jesus' death for us this Easter, give thanks that His love reaches out to all - even to those written off by society like the criminal who hung next to Jesus.
- As we remember Jesus' resurrection, praise God for this gift of life, love, grace and the promise of eternal life. We believe there is hope for everyone and no one is beyond God's love and forgiveness - neither those in prison nor those of us who have our freedom.
- Pray for those in prison who are struggling in darkness with mental health issues, depression and thoughts of suicide, which have increased with the current restrictions. Pray they would come to know that God is with them in their despair and can bring hope and peace. May they come from darkness to Jesus the light of the world.

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:

- Scripture Union's Revealing Jesus mission framework is designed to help churches encourage and support the 95% of children and young people not in church to find faith in Jesus. The scale of the task - reaching out to them with the good news of Jesus - is huge, and a bit daunting, but the opportunity is enormous. Please pray that the Revealing Jesus mission framework will help churches - including ours - to connect with the 95 and provide the resources and support needed to continue to walk alongside them as they find and grow in faith. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/revealingjesus)
- 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 month, please pray:

- Poverty is not God's plan. You are. I 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.
- Tearfund have partnered with People's Vaccine Alliance to campaign for everyone in EVERY country to have fair and free access to a tested COVID vaccine. The only way out of this pandemic is if we recover together. Please bring this prayerfully to our Father God.
- 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 continue to pray for our Government as they make key decisions to lead us into a greener future and for the preparations for the COP26 conference in Glasgow in November.

Please send prayer requests for May to Tim Britton
by Monday 19th April.