



CROMERCHURCH

transforming lives with Jesus Christ

Prayer Diary - July 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 services will be a traditional Holy Communion service at 8.45am and an informal service at 10.30 am (with Communion on the first Sunday of each month), both in the Parish Church. Both services will be streamed on the Cromer Church YouTube channel, accessed in the normal way. (Go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church'.)

Also this month a Children's Service will be available on the church YouTube and Facebook channels, from 10am each Sunday.

We hope to begin 10.30am services at St Martin's on the 25th July.

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR JULY

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 Scripture Union.

See below for details of prayer requests from mission partners and others.

Thu 1 *Mission Partner: Andrew and Maria Leake*

Fri 2 *The persecuted church (see below)*

Sat 3 *Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Ezra 4 - Discouragement comes. Preacher: Will Warren.) Scripture Union*

- Sun 4** Sunday services (8.45 and 10.30 and on YouTube)
Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 5** *Mission Partner: Bible Society*
- Tue 6** *Ben and Kate settling into their new situation*
- Wed 7** *Mission Partner: Canaan*
- Thu 8** *Poorer countries struggling to cope with Covid*
- Fri 9** *Our government*
- Sat 10** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Ezra 5 - The unstoppable God. Preacher: David Masters). Scripture Union*
- Sun 11** Sunday services (8.45 and 10.30 and on YouTube)
3-5pm Church Family event at the Tennis Club.
Our church leaders; our national church leaders
- Mon 12** *The National Health Service*
- Tue 13** *Mission Partner: CPAS*
- Wed 14** *More effective measures to mitigate climate change*
- Thu 15** *Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor*
- Fri 16** 10am-12noon Parish Church Spring Clean
For a safe easing of Covid restrictions next week
- Sat 17** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Ezra 6 - Finishing with a feast. Preacher: Ben Rogers.) Scripture Union*
- Sun 18** Sunday services (8.45 and 10.30 and on YouTube)
Our church leaders; our bishops and archdeacons
- Mon 19** *Mission Partner: London City Mission*
- Tue 20** *The hospitality industry*
- Wed 21** *Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship*
- Thu 22** *Children, parents and school staff as summer holidays begin*
- Fri 23** *Safety in travel*
- Sat 24** 8am Blokes Brekky (Parish Hall) with General Lord Richard Dannatt
Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Mark 2:18-22 - The new wine. Preacher: Tim Britton.) Scripture Union
- Sun 25** Sunday services (8.45 and 10.30 and on YouTube)
Our church leaders; other local church leaders

- Mon 26** *The RNLI and all emergency services*
- Tue 27** *Mission Partner: Tearfund*
- Wed 28** *All suffering the effects of recent natural and man-made disasters*
- Thu 29** *Those suffering from poor mental health*
- Fri 30** *For a greater awareness of God's majesty and love*
- Sat 31** *Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Mark 3:20-30 - The strong man. Preacher: Paul Neale.) Scripture Union*

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

Mission Leadership Team (Contact: Jill Boyle)

Please continue to pray for our Wednesday morning family events this summer on 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th August and 1st September. They take place on the beach, at North Lodge Park and in the Parish Church grounds. Pray that families will bring a picnic for after the event and that fellowship and the gospel can be shared. Pray for helpers to come forward for the events and for people at home to be praying.

The persecuted church - Finland (Contact: Ken Nash)

The religious freedom organisation ADF International is making an urgent appeal to defend the case of Finnish Member of Parliament Päivi Räsänen. The Finnish Prosecutor General has brought three criminal charges against the grandmother of six, accusing her of 'hate speech' for voicing her opinion on marriage and human sexuality. She faces a sentence of up to six years, for quoting the Bible on social media.

ADF's Executive Director Paul Coleman commented: "It is sobering that such cases are becoming all too common throughout Europe. If committed civil servants like Päivi can be criminally charged for voicing deeply held beliefs, it creates a chilling effect for everyone's right to speak freely.

ADF/Heart Newspaper

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

This month:

- Please continue to pray for Andrew Leake's work with COMPASSION INTERNATIONAL, heading up the new challenge to outline and implement a project to care for children and how they will be affected by climate change.

- Much prayer is still 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.
- Please pray for Bishop Nick Drayson and Catherine who, after one year's forced (Covid) stay in the UK, return to Argentina for a short period when they will be further training and guiding the two assistant Indian Bishops Mateo and Crisanto. When Bishop Nick retires, they will be fully responsible.

Bible Society (Contact: David Orsborne)

Please pray for the work of Bible Society. Get resources at www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us or get *Word in Action* and *Prayer in Action* from David Orsborne or from www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/word-in-action.

This month:

- Thank God for *Open the Book* and pray that teams will continue to find effective ways to carry on their important work of telling Bible stories in schools as lockdown restrictions ease. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book)
- Please pray for the success of *Bible Trek*, a series of short films in which viewers visit Jerusalem, Galilee, Ephesus and other locations to discover the sites where famous Bible events took place. Pray particularly that the films, historical notes and reflections will help many people to experience Bible stories in a new way and see why they matter today. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/bible-trek)
- Please pray for the launch of *Navigating Trauma*, a Bible-based initiative that uses the Scriptures to accompany participants in their journey through the effects of trauma towards a place of peace. Whether through violence, abuse, substance misuse or loss, many have experienced trauma - and this has been intensified during the pandemic. It's something we're all vulnerable to, regardless of gender, age, class or race. But God is close to the broken-hearted and is with everyone who suffers. *Navigating Trauma* aims to help churches support their

communities through the impact of trauma.

www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/england-and-wales/navigating-trauma)

- Please pray that God will show us all how we can support Bible Society in their mission to “bring the Bible to life in today’s world.” Bible Society is passionate about making the Bible available to men, women and children in more than 200 countries, and there are lots of ways to get involved. (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved)

Canaan Christian Centre (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month:

- July is the start of folk coming on holiday to Canaan. Please pray that those who come may not only realise it’s a special place where the presence of the Lord is felt but also that they may come closer to him, using the prayer lodge in the garden and sitting in the peace garden. Pray for the Lord’s overwhelming peace and love to cover them. Some come from very traumatic backgrounds, some are in full time ministry with all that involves. Many have been before but had to postpone so they are really looking forward to their holiday in Norfolk. Pray for safety for all. Pray for us all as we encounter them on our visits to Canaan.
- Pray for Saturday Kids Club on 10th July, having breakfast in a cafe nearby in Cromer, then having a walk along the Runton cliff top and through the Heath ending up in Evelyn’s garden for ice creams and a story before Simon drives them home. In August we hope they will all enjoy Beachfest.
- Pray for the team as they too will be having holiday breaks.
- Pray for volunteers who come and clean in between guests. Changeover day is Fridays.
- Praise for our volunteers, kids team supporters and prayer partners who are such a wonderful asset to our ministry.

CPAS

Please pray for the ongoing work of CPAS:

- Equipping leaders, through training events and resources to help leaders and churches grapple with everything from leading in evangelism to PCCs to growing leaders.
- Venture and Falcon Holidays for 8-18s, each (normal) year giving around 4,500 young people the chance to explore who Jesus is, have fun and

make long-lasting, life-enhancing friendships. Falcons are specifically designed for young people facing disadvantage and School Ventures are for pupils at Church of England schools.

- Evangelical Appointments. CPAS is the UK's largest evangelical patron, with nearly 700 parishes (including ours) covering every English diocese. Each year CPAS appoints mission-minded clergy to around 100 vacant posts.

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Tim Spring and his wife Sue are both LCM missionaries, and are asking for our prayers. We heard Tim speak in the morning service in June, describing his work among the Turkish communities in London. He spends time visiting the many Turkish tea houses and chatting, in Turkish, with those attending them, often for several hours. He also sets out book tables with Christian literature in Turkish and other languages.

- Pray that seekers after truth will find Jesus, God's living word as they read these Christian books, Bibles and leaflets.
- Pray too for the Turkish Church Tim leads, that Christians will grow in their faith and that visitors may be welcomed and come to know Christ in the services.
- With the easing of lock down, missionaries are getting out knocking on doors once more. Please pray for a re-establishment of friendly relations with local residents and fruitful conversations about matters of faith.
- Finally pray for perseverance, protection and love for the lost for each missionary and for their daily walk with the Lord.

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month Michelle writes:

- The number of COVID cases in Zambia is rising fast and ICUs in the cities are filling up. We have a few cases at Mukinge and expect more as this third wave moves through Zambia. Pray that people would take seriously the guidelines for preventing the spread of COVID. Pray that as a hospital we would have enough oxygen to meet the needs as well as supplies needed to treat the patients, and protective gear for our staff.
- Pray for staff that have COVID and for protection for all working in the hospital.

- Give thanks that I was able to get the first vaccine and hopefully the second in July. Pray for more vaccines to be available and for people to be willing to have it.
- Pray for Zambia as campaigning begins for presidential elections on 12th August. Pray for peaceful campaigning and free and fair elections.
- Pray that I would have energy and peace of mind in this busy and uncertain time.

Prison Fellowship (Contact: Janet Rosier)

This month:

- As many people look forward to holidays this month, pray for prison staff and chaplains that they may get the rest they need to continue their roles with patience, energy and efficiency.
- Pray for prison staff facing burn out or experiencing high levels of stress and anxiety as they have dealt with extraordinary pressures and demands from the restrictions of Covid 19.
- Pray for prisoners who are finding the loss of freedom overwhelming and finding the prison regime difficult to cope with especially with the ongoing restrictions.
- Pray for those coming to terms with their first prison sentence and/or the length of their sentence and the inevitable loss of engagement with life outside prison. Pray that many will have positive experiences in prison and turn their lives around.

Scripture Union (SU) (Contact: David Orsborne)

Connecting You is SU's supporter magazine. Get a copy from David Orsborne or visit content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer.

Scripture Union is our Mission Partner for July.

- SU will not be running their full programme of residential holidays in 2021, but there is still a lot going on, including family holidays at Great Wood, non-residential day camps and online events. Booking is open now, so please pray for these, and for the many missions and holiday clubs that will be running as normal in a Covid-secure way. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/holidays-events).
- *Back of the Net* supports a two-hour event, held in a local park, with plenty of activity, fun and football as well as space to see how faith and football come together. Please pray that it will be well used, particularly

that it will help churches like ours re-connect with active, sports-mad children and young people. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/what-we-do/mission-through-sport)

- The *Revealing Jesus* mission framework helps churches support the 95% of under-18s who are not yet involved with church to find faith in Jesus. Please pray that it will help many churches - including ours - to connect with the 95 and 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 encouraging conversations about the mental health challenges they are facing. Please pray that the materials will be widely taken up and well used. (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/mentalhealth)
- Please give thanks that Scripture Union has been helping children, young people and adults to meet Jesus for more than 150 years. 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:

- A spokesman from Tearfund says, "Thank you for praying with us for those vital talks at the G7 summit. We saw some positive steps, but overall the talks were disappointing and did not deliver the scale of action needed to meet the crisis we face." Please continue to pray.
- 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. Pray for the distribution of vaccines worldwide.
- The Democratic Republic of Congo is in crisis, and people urgently need our help and prayers. Decades of conflict has intensified and there is cholera, coronavirus and natural disasters, including a recent volcanic eruption in the east which has created a wave of devastation. Please pray, especially for funds to enable Tearfund to work in these troubled areas.

Please send prayer requests for August to Tim Britton
by Monday 19th July.