



CROMERCHURCH

transforming lives with Jesus Christ

Prayer Diary - November 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.

WEEKLY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sundays

- 8.45 am Traditional Holy Communion at the Parish Church.
Refreshments between services.
- 10.30 am Informal service at the Parish Church, with CCKids.
- 10.30 am Service at St Martin's with refreshments.
- Both Parish Church services will be streamed on the Cromer Church YouTube channel. (Go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church'.)*
- 4.30 pm Cromer Church Youth Group (11s-18s) at St Martin's.

Tuesdays

- Small groups meet in the evening.
- 6.30 pm Meeting Point (for people with learning difficulties and their carers) in the Parish Hall.
- 7.15 pm Gospel Choir rehearsal in St Martin's.
- 7.45 pm The Wellbeing Journey in St Martin's.

Wednesdays

- Small groups meet morning and evening.
- 10.00 am Cornerstone Coffee and Chat.
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Junior School.

Thursdays

- Small groups meet afternoon and evening.
- 8.30 am Coffee morning at St Martin's.
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Infant School (4th and 18th).

Saturdays

- 10.00 am Prayer Meeting under the Tower.

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR NOVEMBER

*See below for details of prayer requests from mission partners and others.
This month's mission focus is the Bible Society.*

- Mon 1** 2 pm Crafts2Share at Jackie's
Mission Partner: Andrew Leake
- Tue 2** COP26 in Glasgow until 12th November
- Wed 3** Mission Partner: Canaan
- Thu 4** The persecuted church (see below)
- Fri 5** A decrease in the COVID-19 pandemic
- Sat 6** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: 2 Peter 1v1-11-
Confirm your calling. Preachers: Will Warren at the Parish
Church, Tim Britton at St Martin's.) This month's Mission Partner:
The Bible Society
- Sun 7** Our services, children's groups and youth group (see above)
Our church leaders; our national church leaders
- Mon 8** School children and staff, especially those known to us
- Tue 9** Mission Partner: CPAS
- Wed 10** The NHS
- Thu 11** 11.00am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial
Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Fri 12** Preparations for tomorrow's BeachFest Extra.
- Sat 13** 10 am BeachFest Extra at St Martin's
Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: 2 Peter 1v12-21-
Remember, remember. Preachers: Paul Neale at the Parish
Church, Will Warren at St Martin's.) This month's Mission
Partner: The Bible Society
- Sun 14** Remembrance Sunday
Our services, children's groups and youth group
Our church leaders; our bishops and archdeacons
- Mon 15** Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor
- Tue 16** Armed forces and veterans

- Wed 17** 2 pm Crafts2Share at St Martin's
Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship
- Thu 18** 7.30 pm Deanery Synod
The food bank, and those who need it
- Fri 19** Progress in mitigating climate change
- Sat 20** 6 pm Tearfund Quiz
Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: 2 Peter 2v1-22- The enemy within. Preachers: Will Warren at the Parish Church, Ben Rogers at St Martin's.) This month's Mission Partner: The Bible Society
- Sun 21** Our services, children's groups and youth group (see above)
Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 22** Residents and staff at care homes, and those needing home care
- Tue 23** Mission Partner: Scripture Union
- Wed 24** Our emergency services
- Thu 25** Mission Partner: Tearfund
- Fri 26** Local government representatives and staff
- Sat 27** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: 2 Peter 3v1-18- The day of the Lord. Preachers: Tim Britton at the Parish Church, Jess Stubenbord at St Martin's.) This month's Mission Partner: The Bible Society
- Sun 28** Advent Sunday
Our services, children's groups and youth group (see above)
Our church leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 29** 10 am Christmas Tree Festival starts for a week
Preparations for celebrating Christmas
- Tue 30** Mission Partner: Andrew Leake

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The persecuted church: UK (Contact: Ken Nash)

John Sherwood - a 71-year-old pastor in London - was recently arrested while preaching in the open air for expressing his view that marriage is between one man and woman - a belief protected under the Human Rights Act 1998. He was placed in jail and released the next day without charge. He awaits a

decision on prosecution. In a similar case West Yorkshire Police admitted liability for arresting street pastor David McConnell, due to an alleged “hate-related public order offence”.

Sadly, this pattern of complaint, arrest, detention, and possible prosecution of street pastors, has been a far too familiar occurrence over the past two decades. Such pastors are increasingly uncertain as to when their preaching will incur criminal liability. (ADF UK)

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

This month:

- Following the sad death of Francisco Perez, his daughter Cristina "Lunhaya" (the wandering traveller) has taken on the leadership of "Lhaka Honhat", the association of over 100 indigenous communities laying legal claim to their ancestral land rights along Argentina's border with Paraguay. Pray for Lunhaya in these extraordinarily challenging tasks. In a macho society, she has to contend with the politics and technicalities of the process and face down the accusation of not being up to the job simply because she is a woman.
- Pray for the Land for Life initiative led by Andrew and Maria, as they shift the focus of their charity to raising awareness of the effects of climate change on the peoples of the Chaco.
- Pray for Carolina as she prepares for her last two final exams at Vet school, and Tomas as he seeks new work opportunities in the field of renewable energy.

Bible Society (Contact: David Orsborne)

Find resources at www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us and www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/word-in-action or speak to David Orsborne.

This month, please pray:

- that *Open the Book* teams - especially those working with our local schools - will be able to continue their important work of sharing Bible stories with children this Advent and Christmas (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book);
- that Bible Society's Christmas resources – including *The Impossible Promise*, *Instant Nativity* and *The Christmas Poem* (with its accompanying video animation) - will inspire and challenge individuals,

churches and communities to celebrate Christmas 2021 in new and meaningful ways (www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas);

- for the work of Bible Societies in China, Africa and the Middle East: giving thanks that the work of translation makes the Bible available in new languages and revises existing Bibles to bring the language up to date; that Bible Society's production facilities print physical copies and produce visual, audio and digital formats to meet the individual needs and demands of the millions wanting the Scriptures; that distribution networks take the Bible to places it might otherwise be hard to come by; and that literacy is improved and the Gospel spread by empowering people to read using the Bible (www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/around-the-world).

Canaan Christian Centre (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month:

- Canaan is without a resident caretaker for 2 months as Winsom is in Jamaica having a long awaited holiday. This results in lots more work being done by volunteers. I myself cut half the lawn and it took me over two hours and it needs finishing! Please pray for volunteers to come and help during this time, cleaning, washing, ironing etc.
- Please pray that prayer letters at the back of church will be taken!
- Please pray for new folk to attend the monthly lunch at Canaan. This is a support group of folk from various churches who pray for Canaan and through paying for their lunch support the children's ministry on Saturday mornings.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Luke 10:2

Just as many organizations are, at this time, experiencing staff changes so is the CPAS and they have just recruited three new members of staff for the Leadership Team and are now advertising for four new appointments. Please pray for God's guidance in appointing the following:

- for two new Venture Co-ordinators to join the team;
- for a Director of Operations and Finance;
- for an Admin post in the Fundraising & Communications Administration;

- for a PA to the General Director (John Dunnett) and the Director of Ministry (Graham Archer).

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Operation Forgiveness is being used in many London schools. It is bringing Christian witness to young people in schools and showing them how to live in the midst of violent crime, without succumbing to violence and retaliation.

Here is one snapshot from a recent tragic event:

After the violent murder of one lad, Zac, sixty 14-year-olds, friends of Zac, gathered in Fulham for a vigil and church-led peace and prayer march. Afterwards, Zac's mother and sister described their paths through pain and anger to forgiveness. The boys expressed their feelings on post-it notes. Missionary Jason collected these and anonymously read out some of them aloud and then helped the children understand and process the ripple effects of knife crime.

Then Sarah, Zac's mum, talked through her journey through grief. And how God enabled her to let go of these feelings when she heard in court of the hopelessly broken lives of the young murderers, as she wept for them. She focused instead on the cross of Jesus and His work of redemption for broken sinners and the possibility of forgiveness and new life and purpose in Him. At the back of the room, as the boys and teachers listened, there were tears.

There are many other facets to Operation Forgiveness and it is an on-going work in each school through each year group as needed.

Children are given the opportunity to respond after the 45-minute sessions in committing themselves to forgiveness instead of retaliation and hatred.

Please pray for wisdom for the missionaries involved in this vital work.

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month:

- Give thanks that we are getting fewer COVID patients and pray for continued protection for our staff.
- Our X ray machine is not working so please pray for wisdom for those trying to solve the problem and that it would be fixed.
- Please pray for more anaesthetic help, most of the time there is only two of us doing anaesthesia and the surgical workload is big.

Prison Fellowship (Contact: Janet Rosier)

- Angel Tree is a ministry of Prison Fellowship which enables a parent in prison to send a gift to their child/ren. We pray for any parent who is filling out an Angel Tree application form, that this opportunity might be experienced as a gift of love and hope for their family.
- This is the 27th year of running Angel Tree in England and Wales. It is especially important this year as no family visits have been allowed due to Covid 19 and phone calls may have been the only contact. We pray that through these presents many thousands of families would experience a real connection and the joy of Christmas.
- Pray for all the volunteers who are buying a present for a child with a parent in prison. May they have inspiration to buy exactly the right gift, so that the child feels known and loved on Christmas Day.
- Pray especially for volunteers in the Norwich prayer group, of which some of our church members are a part, who are receiving requests from HMP Norwich and HMP Wayland. Last year 75 presents were bought, wrapped and sent. This year it may be double! Give thanks for their commitment of time and energy.
- Give thanks for the donations from this church which helped towards the purchase of presents for the above prisons (£15 per present) and pray that enough money will be raised to cover the entire cost for all the presents that have been requested throughout England and Wales.

Scripture Union (SU) (Contact: David Orsborne)

Connecting You is SU's supporter magazine. Get a copy from the Parish Church or St Martin's, from David Orsborne or from content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer.

This month, please pray:

- that SU's Christmas resources will be a powerful way of helping children, young people and their families understand the real meaning and significance of the birth of Jesus as a human baby (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/resources?s=Christmas+2021);
- that Light Parties and other Christian events at Halloween will have helped many children and their families to discover Jesus, the Light of the World (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/what-we-do/light-parties);
- and give thanks that the Book of Wonders, a captivating and beautifully illustrated book that helps children to explore science and faith, was named Children's Book of the Year at the Christian Resources Together

Awards. Readers will be amazed by the detailed illustrations as they learn about themselves, the world, the universe and the God behind it all. The Book of Wonders was produced in collaboration with The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, an interdisciplinary research and communication enterprise linked to the University of Cambridge (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/book-wonders);

- that many churches will use the Revealing Jesus framework to reach out to ‘the 95’ (the 95% of under-18s who don’t go to church) and walk with them as they discover Jesus and grow in their Christian faith (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/revealingjesus);
- for the success of the “I don’t go to church but…” tour this autumn, which helps churches explore how they can make reach ‘the 95’ with the good news of Jesus (content.scriptureunion.org.uk/i-dont-go-church-tour).

Tearfund (Contacts: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

Please continue to pray for Afghanistan.

- Pray for the people of Afghanistan, for their safety and wellbeing. Pray also for an end to the drought that is leading to chronic food shortages in Afghanistan.

Please pray for follow-up to the COP 26 in early November.

- Pray that the UK government, and those in positions of power across the world, will make decisions that protect the most vulnerable people and creation.
- Pray that the church will continue to speak out on the climate crisis and be a strong voice calling for justice for people in poverty around the world who are affected by it.
- Young Christians met with other church leaders at Lambeth Palace to discuss how the church should respond. Pray for disillusioned young people everywhere that they may find find the Loving God who made this beautiful world.
- Lift up the poorest communities around the world facing changing climate due to the climate crisis. Pray for Tearfund partners helping these communities to adapt so that they can feed their families.

<p>Please send prayer requests for December to Tim Britton by Monday 22nd November.</p>
