

Prayer Diary – May 2026

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

Please check the Weekly Update for up-to-date news.

USUAL WEEKLY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sundays

- 8.45 am Traditional Holy Communion at the Parish Church.
- 10.30 am Informal service at the Parish Church, with CCKids
Refreshments after both services.

Both Parish Church services will be streamed on the Cromer Church YouTube channel. (Go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church')

- 10.30 am Service at St Martin's with refreshments.
- 6.30 pm The Gathering at the Parish Church

Mondays

- 2.00-5.00pm Free Mustard Seed meals at St Martin's

Tuesdays Small groups meet in the afternoon and evening.

- 9.30 am CC Toddlers in the Parish Hall (term time)
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 7.15 pm CC Community Choir rehearsal in St Martin's

Wednesdays Small groups meet morning, afternoon and evening

- 10.00 am Holy Communion
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Junior School (term time)

Thursdays Small groups meet afternoon and evening

- 9.00 am Mustard Seed at St Martin's
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 2.30 pm Meeting Point in the Parish Hall (term time)
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Infant School (fortnightly in term time).

Fridays

- 6.45 pm Choir Practice in the Parish Church
- 2.00 pm Table tennis group at St Martin's

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR MAY

See below for prayer requests from Mission Partners and others

- Fri 1** Our vicar Will and his family as he starts his sabbatical
- Sat 2** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: James 1v19-27 – Hearing and doing). Speakers: David Masters (Parish Church), Paul Rosier (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sun 3** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 4** Journalists who stand up for Freedom of the Press
- Tue 5** Journalists who work in dangerous situations to bring the truth
- Wed 6** An end to the conflict in Sudan
- Thu 7** Our local elections
- Fri 8** Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Sat 9** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: James 2v1-13). Speakers: Paul Neale (Parish Church), John Chandler (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sun 10** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 11** Fair Trade
- Tue 12** Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Wed 13** An end to the conflict in the Middle East
- Thu 14** Mission Partner: Tearfund
- Fri 15** Our environment and endangered species
- Sat 16** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: James 2v14-26 – Faith and deeds). Speakers: Tim Britton (Parish Church), John Chandler (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sun 17** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; national church leaders
- Mon 18** Migrants and refugees
- Tue 19** Mission Partner: Mission Without Borders
- Wed 20** Our Church family
- Thu 21** Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor

- Fri 22** Mission Partner: Teso Development Trust
- Sat 23** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: John 20v19-23; Acts 2v1-13 – Receiving the Spirit). Speakers: Dee Freeman (Parish Church), John Chandler (St Martin's)
Pray for his month's Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sun 24** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 25** International Missing Children's Day.
- Tue 26** Those we know who are struggling with ill health
- Wed 27** Mission Partner: Canaan Christian Trust
- Thu 28** More affordable housing
- Fri 29** Mission Partner: Bible Society
- Sat 30** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 28v16-20 – A world to win). Speakers: David Masters (Parish Church), Paul Rosier (St Martin's – café church)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sun 31** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; international church leaders

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The Persecuted Church

Nicaragua

The Church in Nicaragua has been enduring an increasing crackdown on religious freedom in recent years. The oppressive government of President Daniel Ortega has arbitrarily arrested, imprisoned and exiled religious leaders and adherents, cancelled the legal status of religious organisations, and harassed and intimidated worshippers.

Church Ministers have had their bank accounts frozen or emptied, making it difficult for them to obtain food and medicine.

Charitable organisations, many of which were Christian charities, have also been targeted, demonstrated with the cancelling of the legal status of 1,500 Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

- Please pray for encouragement for Christians in Nicaragua despite the many difficulties they face.
- Ask God to watch over those imprisoned or in exile, lending them His peace and comfort in their ordeals.

- Pray that the oppression of religious freedom will come to an end, and Christians will be able to openly worship Jesus without fearing for their safety.

Barnabas Aid

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

Michelle writes:

- Give thanks that my first week in my new role went well.
- Pray that I will be able to retain all the new information I need and that I adjust to being office based after years of working in a hospital.

Teso Development Fund (Contact: Frances Britton)

All but the most basic healthcare has to be paid for in Teso, Eastern Uganda. Teso Development Trust (TDT) runs a continuous relief project jointly with Kumi hospital. The Kumi Compassionate Fund allows the very poorest to receive vital treatment which they couldn't otherwise receive. The fund is carefully audited and is run by social workers at Kumi hospital to ensure resources reach the most vital cases.

Recent beneficiaries are Joseph, aged 38 and Charles aged 75. They both needed surgery for leg fractures. Charles received (in local currency) £27 and Joseph £57. Surgery is expensive and often the treatment that patients need means waiting for a long time while they and their family try to find the funds to cover the costs.

Dinah Odeke received funding of £76 towards the costs of an emergency caesarean and counselling. She became pregnant as a result of rape and her family struggled to meet the costs of the medical bills.

Kolostika, aged 7, received £61 from the Compassionate Fund. She broke her elbow falling from a tree and needed surgery. Many children climb trees to pick fruit when it is in season! Her family covered two thirds of the costs and the Compassionate Fund covered the rest.

Pray for wisdom for those making decisions regarding the Compassionate Fund and for a good recovery for those named above.

Good News for Everyone (Contact: Jenny Jacquier and Jenny Syder)

Local news

As yet we have not started to deliver Hotel Packs to hotels as I have to make a new list of hotels to visit. Please pray that hotels will not only receive the pack but wish to have Bibles placed in every bedroom.

News from National Office

2025 saw a further 832,000 Bibles, New Testaments and Magazines being purchased for distribution in the UK, Praise the Lord! In addition to this, just over £498,000 was provided for the purchase of Scriptures around the world. Please pray that these Scriptures will be used to bring many to saving faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

Please pray for the Patronage Team; for Rob Miles and Andy Wooding Jones as they welcome new team members Nick Williams and Natalie Glass. Pray for discernment, wisdom and guidance for the team as they support dozens of appointment processes across the country.

Pray for all the Overall Leaders of the CPAS holidays as they put in considerable work behind the scenes to enable holidays to take place. Pray for peace, encouragement and provision as they build their teams and prepare their programme. Pray also that many volunteers would step up to lead on a holiday, either returning or for the first time.

Bible Society (Contact: David Anderson)

Thank God for the opportunity to take His word to children and their families through the Open the Book-inspired Explore the Book holiday clubs. We pray that the seeds planted from exploring Bible stories and faith more deeply in the holiday clubs will grow and flourish in the hearts of children and their families too.

Pray for Bible Society's Theos think tank as it shows people through all strata of society just how important the Bible's message is.

When we hear of conflicts or wars in the news let us pray with great strength for an end to these conflicts and especially pray that victims of violence will find the only true peace there is - one found in Jesus. Pray that people from all communities, especially the youth, will realise that hate must be replaced by love and forgiveness.

Are you praying for a young person? If you're praying for a young person, the Bible Society would love to pray with you and share your prayer. Later this year, the Bible Society is producing a booklet of powerful prayers for the next generation. Your prayer could be among them, whether it's for young people generally or one person in particular (names or any personal information would not be shared.)

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Some will remember the visit to Cromer from London City Mission 18 months ago of two very inspiring young women serving the Lord in London, Rebecca Tortelli and Johanna Briscoe.

One of the great strengths of the LCM is the Pioneer Programme where Christians from the margins of society are trained up in Gospel ministry to reach needy people also on the fringes of society, on the principle of 'it takes one to catch one!' Needy people will listen more readily to people from the same backgrounds.

Christians have shown that with training, support, trust and encouragement they can achieve much as fruitful disciples in their local churches. Over 50 people have benefitted from the training programme, reaching people with the Gospel of Jesus where they may never have heard it before, thus transforming countless lives and communities for Christ.

Please pray for the ongoing ministry of LCM and for Johanna and Rebecca.

Tearfund (Contact: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

Please continue to pray:

for the situations and people caught up in the Middle East conflict, and also for those in Iran. There is a large and growing underground church in Iran. Please pray for their safety and for the spreading of Jesus' gospel of peace.

Please pray:

- for a community in Syria that is having their lives and future helped by Tearfund training, amid years of conflict and uncertainty.
- for Deacon Ignatios Mansour, who is working with the local church in Aleppo to serve the practical and spiritual needs of the local people. He is seeing lives full of despair being transformed into lives that are flourishing and full of hope.
- for relationships being built and restored throughout Syria to endure – and that the spirit of the Good Samaritan continues to guide communities to resolution, harmony, and love in Jesus' name

Mission Without Borders (MWB) (Contact: Anne Attfield)

This month our prayer focus is on Ukraine.

Please pray for Ukraine's Country Director for Mission Without Borders, Volodymyr Brychuk. He has recently sent an update as the war is now in its fifth year with no end in sight.

Thank God for the unity amongst the Evangelical churches in Ukraine as they pray for peace and share the gospel of hope which can only be found in Jesus.

Hostilities have intensified. Russian drones and missiles are attacking everywhere, and alarms go off most nights. Please pray for the many families who have been bereaved and the many who have been injured and traumatised. Please pray for safety, skill and provision for all Christians who are trying to help those suffering.

Aerial attacks have caused major power outages and water cuts, and this winter has been harsh with temperatures going down to -20 and below. Pray for the millions who face blackouts and insufficient heating.

Please pray for the mission's regular programmes partnering with local churches that they continue to bring love and hope to the most vulnerable people.

Canaan Christian Trust (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

Prayer breakfast has grown and we are meeting in the dining room. It is a group of about 8 or 9. The next breakfast is at 9.30am on 4th May at Canaan in Sheringham, when we will have a lovely time together. Transport is possible - please contact Evelyn.

Monthly lunch has also grown, which is encouraging. The next lunch is on Thursday 14th May at 12 noon, all welcome.

Marilyn Baker, singer songwriter, and Tracey, author and mission helper, who are both part of Canaan's outreach programme, are giving a concert for all at The Pleasance in Overstrand at 8pm on Wednesday 6th May. They have a wonderful ministry. Contact The Pleasance for details of the concert. They are staying with me later in the month and will be taking part in Cafe Church at Meeting Hill at 10.30 am.

Please send prayer requests for June to Katharine Checketts by
Monday 25th May