

is especially difficult ask God to give you the power to obey.

Sun, 7th April Give thanks for all the Home Groups that meet and for the fellowship we find in being part of one. Pray that more in our church would find friendship, support and teaching in this way.

Over 200 million Christians around the world are persecuted because of their faith. The next 7 days focus on some of the top 25 countries on the Open Doors 2019 World Watch List.

Mon, 8th April North Korea - Christians whose faith is discovered risk imprisonment, torture and death. Yet despite the incredible cost, the church is growing! Praise God for his faithfulness to his promise, 'I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.' (Matt16:18)

Tues, 9th April Laos - The Communist part is strictly opposed to any influence deemed foreign or Western, and puts enormous pressure on the small Christian minority. Pray for increased openness to Christianity in society and for greater freedom of religion.

Wed, 10th April Yemen - Yemen's ongoing civil war has left 80% of Yemenis dependent on humanitarian aid. Aid is typically channelled through tribal and family lines, from which Christians are often disconnected. Please pray that aid will reach Christians.

Thurs, 11th April Pakistan - Pakistan's infamous blasphemy laws are frequently abused to target Christians and other minorities. Accusations often lead to believers being imprisoned or killed. Pray that these laws will be changed so that Christians will no longer face false accusations.

Fri, 12th April Maldives - If a Maldivian is discovered to have left Islam, they will lose their citizenship, so Maldivian Christians keep their faith secret. Ask God to provide ways for believers to be discipled and gain access to God's Word. Owning a Bible can lead to imprisonment.

Sat, 13th April Myanmar - Radical Buddhist movements continue to 'protect' Buddhism as the country's national religion and Christian converts from Buddhism face intense pressure from society to recant their faith. Pray for courage and endurance in the face of persecution.

Sun, 14th April Iran - At least 150 Christians were arrested in the run up to Christmas in 2018. Pray for comfort and encouragement for those who are in prison, and protection and provision for their families.

Mon, 15th April Today is the last session of the European Parliament before the elections. Thank God for the many Christians who have served these last 5 years, speaking up for truth, justice and love. Pray for Christians running for office in May, that they will abide in the one true vine, bearing much fruit. Keep them safe. Pray especially for the witness of the ECPM (European Christian Political Movement) candidates

during the campaign.

Tues, 16th April Give thanks for our two wardens, Gavin MacPherson and Ann Start; pray for their protection, their closeness with God and his blessing of wisdom upon them as they continue to support Simon, Nathan and St Paul's as a whole.

Wed, 17th April Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.' (1Peter1:3-4) Rejoice and praise God for this amazing truth.

Thurs, 18th April Maundy Thursday - "A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35) Ask God to fill your heart with an even greater knowledge of his love, that you may love others more spontaneously, sacrificially and joyfully.

(see note on Monday, 9th March)
The Archbishop of York's prayer for the run up to Brexit reads:

God of eternal love and power,
save the British Parliamentary Democracy;
protect the High Court of Parliament and all
its members, from partiality and prejudice;
that they may walk humbly the path of
kindness, justice and mercy.
Give them wisdom, insight and a concern for
the common good.
The weight of their calling is too much to bear
in their own strength,
therefore, we pray earnestly, Father,
send them help from your Holy Place,
and be their tower of strength.
Lord, graciously hear us.
Amen

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Admin hours: Tues & Thurs 10am-1pm

Prayer Chain

If you have prayer needs, please contact:
Miriam Isaacs (02 767 6929)
or email on: am.isaacs@telenet.be

Prayer Ministry

Available after every 10.30 service at St Paul's

Prayer Diary enquiries

Miriam Isaacs (contact details as above)

STPAUL'S tervuren

An English-speaking Anglican church
caring for the international community

Lent Prayer Diary 2019

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

1 Thess 5: 16-18

Wed, 6th March 'You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.' (Ps51:16-17) As we begin this Lenten season, let us come before our compassionate God in repentance and faith, being aware of our sin yet assured of his mercy and forgiveness.

Thurs, 7th March Give thanks to God for the gift of his holy Word, which is sharper than any double-edged sword, asking that he would develop in us more of an appetite to consume its truth daily.

Fri, 8th March Praise God for his provision of Simon and Ann, Nathan and Jen, Patrick our recently licenced Lay Reader and Sharon our intern. Pray that they will always keep Jesus central in their lives, keeping their hearts saturated with God's Word and in prayer; that he will keep them physically healthy as well as spiritually and that he will provide them with close friends of integrity.

Sat, 9th March Please join with the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in praying for wisdom, courage, integrity and compassion for the British political leaders and MPs; for reconciliation; and for a fresh and uniting vision for all in Britain as Brexit approaches. (In the run up to Brexit, the Archbishop of York has written a special prayer which he is encouraging everyone to pray 3 times a day, at 6am, 12 noon and 6pm and is



ATTENTION!

Smart Phone Users

Add Email: STPPrayerDiary@gmail.com

Password: 1Thess5:16-18
(case sensitive)

Prayer points will be sent to your phone daily as a reminder
(make sure notifications are marked as 'on')

copied on the last page of this diary should you wish to participate.)

Sun, 10th March “He heals the broken hearted and binds up their wounds.” (*Ps147:3*) Pray for healing and comfort for those in our community and those that we know who are unwell in body, mind or spirit; that the Lord would show his mercy, sustain and restore (*Ps41:3*)

Mon, 11th March Give thanks for God’s continued financial provision through the generous contributions of church members; pray that it would continue to be used responsibly for the furtherance of God’s kingdom here on earth.

Tues, 12th March Give thanks for the provision of Fun Tots where mums can come and have coffee and a chat whilst their children are safely at play. Pray for the continuance of this valuable ministry where the gospel is preached in a low key, fun filled, inspirational way.

Wed, 13th March Pray for a spirit of prayer amongst Christians here in Belgium (*Zech12:10*): a never ending passion for prayer and hunger for God.

Thurs, 14th March Pray for the Belgian Royal family; for strong role models and moral authority.

Fri, 15th March As women from St Paul’s and from other international churches meet for ‘A Time to Breathe’ on the Women’s Retreat, pray for a time of physical, emotional and spiritual refreshment as they worship, explore Scripture and praise God together.

Sat, 16th March Give thanks for all those helping this afternoon at Messy Church, and pray that through the music, stories and craft, both children and parents alike will get excited about the Gospel of Christ.

Sun, 17th March If Lent is a time for personal reflection, it is also important to address shortcomings in the world around us, and our own indifference, inaction or even complicity along the way ... Gracious God, I hold just a few of the sins of our world before you and ask for your mercy upon us. Replace hearts of stone with hearts of flesh and put a new spirit within us. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen (*Ezekiel36:26*) (Excerpt from Prayerlines by Ian Adams, CMS Mission Spirituality Adviser)

Mon, 18th March Give thanks for the children and young adults in our church community and pray that the gospel message they hear at home and at church would continue to transform their lives through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Tues, 19th March Give thanks for the many volunteers who help the services on Sundays run smoothly: the set-up and sound teams, those on welcome, greeting, coffee and event co-ordination/catering, prayer ministry and serving at Communion, those in music groups and those who stand

outside in all weathers to allow us entry to the BSB, the volunteers also who work behind the scenes who facilitate the many rotas involved.

Wed, 20th March Please pray for our Mission Interest Group as it continues to liaise with the organisations we support financially and in prayer; that all their decisions would be glorifying to God.

Thurs, 21st March Today is the last European Council before the scheduled Brexit day. Pray for the leaders and that discussion will be marked by honesty, integrity, humility and courage, and that those charged with the leadership of their countries will act for the good of those they lead and not out of selfish ambition. (*Phil 2:3-4*)

Fri, 22nd March Give thanks for Alison Copner and the other children’s leaders, for their commitment to teaching our children each Sunday; pray that they would receive refreshment over the Easter holiday period and that God would raise up many more leaders to help in this ministry.

Sat, 23rd March “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” (*Matt18:21-22*) Is there someone you need to forgive? Bring the person/situation to God in prayer.

Sun, 24th March ‘Love was compressed for all history in that lonely figure on the cross, who said that he could call down angels at any moment on a rescue mission, but chose not to - because of us. At Calvary, God accepted his own unbreakable terms of justice.’ (*Philip Yancey*) As you reflect on this, give thanks to God for the all-sufficient work done on the cross by his beloved Son.

Mon, 25th March “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!” (*Rom10:15b*) As The Turning starts this morning, pray that those who are being sent out to proclaim the gospel on the streets of Brussels would be given a deep love for all those they encounter, clarity of purpose and wisdom to speak truth boldly yet respectfully. Pray that hearts and minds would be receptive to the life-saving message they hear.

Tues, 26th March Pray for the continued safeguarding of children at St Paul’s, giving thanks for Gavin in his role as Safeguarding Officer and for Ann Tyndall working within the Diocese to provide workable procedures; pray that they would be given wisdom and perseverance in this important ministry area.

Wed, 27th March How am I responding to my unique calling? Take time to think on this question and go to God in prayer with your answer.

Thurs, 28th March With the ACM being held this Sunday,

give thanks for the many different ministry teams operating in the church and the many people who volunteer on such a regular basis to make things run so smoothly.

Fri, 29th March Please pray the Archbishop of York’s prayer on the last page of this prayer diary.

Sat, 30th March Pray for Bishop Robert and Bishop David as they lead and pastor the diocese. Pray for the Bishop’s Office in Brussels, for Meurig Williams in his role as Bishop’s Chaplain and for Elaine Labourel (Director of Reader Ministry). Please pray for all those training to be Readers in the diocese and for those contemplating ordination.

Sun, 31st March Ukraine Presidential election. Pray for the people of this divided country, with one part illegally annexed by Russia and another plagued by ongoing civil war. Pray that the elections are free, fair and peaceful. Pray for healing, peace and justice, and that the church will not become side-tracked into politics and away from proclaiming the kingdom of God.

Mon, 1st April “This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice today and be glad in it.” (*Ps118:24*)

Tues, 2nd April According to IJM figures, there are more than 40m slaves globally, generating \$150bn annually to the perpetrators of human trafficking. Pray for an end to the global commercial sex trade, that the law enforcement agencies would be educated in justice rather than continuing in the abuse of it. Pray for the work of organisations such as IJM, Oasis Belgium and Hope for Justice, that God would bring comfort to those who mourn and raise up intercessors of faith and courage who would steadfastly bring their petitions to God, who longs to wipe away every tear.

Wed, 3rd April “If we would understand the potential power of our prayers, we would be on our knees a hundred times a day and ask Him things that would turn the world upside down.” (*Brother Andrew*) As we join together this evening for the ‘First Wednesday’ prayer meeting let us give thanks for this special time of closeness with God and with one another as we praise, worship and bring those things that are on our hearts to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. (*Eph3:20*)

Thurs, 4th April Pray for the many Muslims in our country; that many will find Jesus and for the formation of strong, healthy church communities for them.

Fri, 5th April Give thanks for the members of Council that meet each month, that the decisions they make would be God-inspired and glorifying to him.

Sat, 6th April “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love ...” Think on how God has shown his love to you; thank him and where adherence to his commands