The Benefice of
St Mary the Less, Chilbolton
St Mary's Crawley
St Catherine's Littleton
St Stephen's Sparsholt
St Peter and Holy Cross, Wherwell

PRAYER LIST

August/September 2024

Prayer is like opening a door and slipping into the presence of God.

There in the stillness to listen to His voice

Perhaps to petition – or only to listen

It matters not;

Just to be there, in His presence, is prayer.

O Christ for whom we search,
our help when help has failed:
give us courage to expose our need,
and ask to be made whole
in your healing love;
That being touched by you,
we may be raised to new life,
in the power of your holy name. Amen.

This leaflet is used for prayers in the church room at Littleton on Thursdays at 4.15 pm each week, to which all are welcome, and can be used for your private prayers.

We hold before God all those for whom prayer has been requested.

To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), individual names are not printed, but we believe that God knows who these dear people are, and His Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

We also pray for anyone else on our hearts at this time and all those with temporary or long-term health problems and for the families and carers who support them.

We pray for those in residential care and the housebound.

We give thanks for those who are recovering from illness.

We remember with compassion friends and relatives of the recently departed:

Sir James Butler Ian Hay Joy Dewey

Bill Prince Derek Hibdige Margaret Twentyman

Ann Hopkins Geoffrey Blake Michael Trumper

We pray for all our ministry team and the work of all five churches in our Benefice

For our Incumbent: Kevin Rogers, and his wife Lorna.

For the Ministry Team: Bruce Kington, Alan Disher, Charlotte Nash, Andrew Kent, Sally Wesley, Alastair Barron and Carol Coleman.

Our Benefice administrator: Caroline.

All Parish Visitors and the support and time they give in the Benefice.

We give thanks for our Benefice and pray for a spirit of unity in the ministry we all share.

We pray for times of refreshment, both physical and spiritual, over summer holidays. We pray for safe travel and times of fun.

We uphold those unable to take holidays away due to financial, health or social reasons. May they be rested and refreshed none the less.

We pray for the young in our area.

We pray for all children and young people awaiting exam results this month, and pray for them as they prepare to take the next steps in their education, starting in new classes, schools, colleges or University or indeed to commence employment.

We pray for our local community

For establishments with a caring outreach, their users and residents, their families, staff, pastors and administrators.

- For all Nursing and Care Homes in the area.
- The Lookout, Naomi House and jacksplace
- Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester Hospitals, Hospices and GP practices.

For groups which give aid and support to the community

- The Boaz Project, providing work opportunities for adults with learning difficulties.
- The Prison and the Footprints Project, Street Reach
- The Emergency Services: Fire, Police and Ambulance,
- First Responders, Community Care Groups, Street and School Pastors
- Friends of the Family, Home Start, the Live at Home Scheme

We pray for the poor, homeless and hungry, and the on-going support given through the Trinity Centre, Winchester Beacon, the Basics Bank, Andover Food Bank and the Emmaus centre. We pray for the Church of England and the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby.

Within our diocese of Winchester we pray for Bishop Philip, Bishop David (Suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke), and Bishop Geoff (Acting Bishop of Southampton). We pray for the appointment process for the new Bishop of Southampton, due to take place later this year.

This month in our Benefice we pray for the Parish of Littleton.

We pray for the increasingly dangerous situation in Israel and the surrounding countries, with escalation of hostilities now involving Lebanon and Iran as well as Gaza. We pray that, in the seemingly impossible way forward in achieving peace and a resolution of differences, that *impossible* will become *possible*, and a just and lasting solution is found.

We pray for missionaries: Ben and Esther Brown, serving with MAF in Arnhem Land, Chris and Kesia Pain in Japan with OMF, for Bishop Crisanto in Northern Argentina supported by CMS, and The Brickworks supporting projects in South Sudan; for others known to, and supported by, individuals in our parishes. We pray for the ongoing work of Karis Kids in Kampala, praying for our link church, St Pauls in Okuvu, and the nine families supported by the Downs Benefice. We pray for Michael and Carol Coleman as they join the team running the Karis Summer Camp in Kampala this August and get a chance to visit some of the families linked to the Downs Benefice.

We pray for the work of Tearfund, Christian Aid and World Vision, together with organisations supporting the persecuted church including Open Doors.

Requests for Prayers may be made through the Benefice Office or direct to Revd Kevin Rogers. (office@downsbenefice.org.uk; 01962 880845)