

# PRAYING THE WAY

September 2019

## The World

For all in Hong Kong and for a peaceful resolution of the issues with China;  
For all suffering persecution and injustice for their faith around the world

## For our country

For our The Queen, our Prime Minister and Government, that all will work together for the best future of our country;  
For all staff, children and students starting new schools and universities and for those starting in the world of work.

## For our diocese

For our Bishop James and Simon, bishop of Tonbridge  
For the visit of the Knife Angel to Rochester Cathedral and for the prayer vigil from 2<sup>nd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> September that this visit may be covered in prayer and we may see a great improvement in the knife culture.  
Pray too for all those who have already suffered the loss of loved ones (over 100 have died this year due to knife crime).  
For all being ordained at the end of the month  
For all in education at the start of a new academic year.  
For all harvest festival services being celebrated this month that there may be joy and thanksgiving.  
For Ride and Stride on the 14<sup>th</sup> in aid of Kent churches, for safety and fun.

## BROMLEY AND BEXLEY ARCHDEACONRY

### Beckenham Deanery

Give thanks for: firefighters, army personnel and medics who have helped during the unsettled July/August weather.

Pray for: The Deanery Confirmation Class as they prepare to be confirmed in October.

### Beckenham, Christ Church

Pray for: children and students starting new schools and universities; Alpha course starting in the Autumn; our Building to Bless project; our curate, Luke, as he is priested; health for several of our members who are coping with illness, that the God of love will watch over them, encourage them and hold them fast.

### Beckenham, Holy Trinity

Pray for: the work of Living Well as demands increase; the recruitment of a Youth/Community worker; our prayer life together

### Beckenham, St. George

Pray for: GCSE and A' Level students receiving their results and preparing for the next stage in their lives.

**Beckenham, St. Paul**

Pray for: our new Beckenham Together week, a week of activities organised by our church to bring the community together; our Alpha course, starting at the end of the month; our Youth Group

**Shortlands, St. Mary**

Pray: that many families will attend our "Back to School" service on the 8<sup>th</sup>; for our "Bible for Everyone" course for church and community members: that those who attend will get to know the Bible better and feel equipped to spread the gospel to those they meet.

**Bromley Deanery**

Pray for: the Bromley Deanery Youth Network, which starts its new programme on the 15<sup>th</sup>; that young people will continue inviting their friends so that we can reach out to them with the good news of Jesus Christ.

**Bickley, St. George**

Pray for: our Education Sunday celebrations on the 8<sup>th</sup>

**Bromley, Christ Church**

Pray: that people who went on Summer camps will have had a great time and learnt to love the Lord Jesus more; that many primary school children will attend our weekly Big Tuesday activities; that newcomers may receive a warm welcome in the term ahead and receive the gospel soundly proclaimed.

**Bromley, St. John's**

Pray for: our daytime fortnightly Bible study group for retired and elderly members of our congregation, which restarts on the 5<sup>th</sup>; our informal Sunday afternoon service for families, 4 O'clock Church, which restarts on the 8<sup>th</sup>; Church Family Barbecue on the 15<sup>th</sup>

**Chislehurst, Christ Church**

Pray for: our Vicar, Dave, and his wife, Cath, returning from sabbatical on 1<sup>st</sup>; the future of our ministry to young people as our Youth Worker, Jacob, has moved to Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells.

**Chislehurst, the Annunciation**

Give thanks for: the success of our Summer Fair; a good number of church members signed up to attend the Richborough Festival in Rochester Cathedral on 14<sup>th</sup>

Pray for: God's blessing on all who attend the Richborough Festival

**Hayes, St. Mary the Virgin**

Pray for: God's grace in changed circumstances with our curate and full-time Youth and Families Worker; for God's guidance and strength for the reduced Ministry Team; courage to face what the future holds for St. Mary's.

**Erith Deanery**

Pray for: all teachers, staff and pupils returning to the church schools in our deanery for the new school year, especially those starting a new school.

**Belvedere, All Saints**

Pray for: our monthly Luncheon Club for older persons; the Willow Club and those that help; Churches Together in Belvedere, of which we are a part.

**Belvedere, St. Augustine of Canterbury**

Give thanks for: a fantastic Walsingham Youth Pilgrimage, which the Bishop of Tonbridge was able to attend in part.

**Bexleyheath, Christ Church**

Give thanks for: the great contribution made by our Knitting and Craft groups; for the fellowship they enjoy.

Pray for: our 3 O'clock Church, restarting on 15<sup>th</sup>; a concert by the Countess of Wessex String Orchestra on 28<sup>th</sup>

**Bexleyheath, St. Peter**

Pray for: our School Start service on 1st

**Bostal Heath, St. Andrew**

Pray for: our Confirmation service on 1<sup>st</sup> with Bishop Rod Thomas presiding.

**Orpington Deanery****Orpington, All Saints**

Pray for: All Saints as we go through our second interregnum in two years following Fr. Rob's move to Suffolk; all on the ministry team; supporting ministers who are helping at this time; members of the congregation who have extra duties until we have a new Vicar; the families still waiting for permanent accommodation following a serious fire at a block of flats in the High Street nearly two years ago.

**ROCHESTER ARCHDEACONRY****Cobham Deanery****Deanery**

Take time to pause and give thanks for the summer months, for what may have been a different pace of life for some. Thank God for the opportunities to visit new places, take up new activities and make new friends.

Praise God for the gift of prayer and the gift of the scriptures. Please pray for the study groups and prayer groups running throughout the autumn season across the deanery.

**Rural North West Kent Group which comprises these churches and their prayers are now together below: St. Peter and St. Paul, Ash and St. Peter, Ridley; St. Mary Fawkham and All Saints Hartley; St. Mary Magdalene, Longfield.**

- We pray for our schools, the teachers, staff, children and parents; may they return from their summer holidays refreshed and eager to learn and grow together.
- As St. Mary's, Fawkham, celebrates its Patronal Festival on the 8<sup>th</sup>, we pray for the village, its community and the life of the church there.
- During this harvest season, we give thanks and pray for our farmers, their livestock and crops, thinking of the changes and issues that may arise for them come 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- We pray for all those currently in training, following God's call on their lives and pray particularly for Ollie Phipps as he begins his training for ordination this month.

## **St. Mary Magdalene, Cobham, and St. Peter and St. Paul, Luddesdowne**

Please pray for:

St. Mary's Church drainage works, for St. Mary's Church Room refurbishment and for all the folk who are on holiday at this time.

## **St. Barnabas, Istead Rise**

Please pray:

- That the teaching series to support the new vision and strategy will be inspired by the Holy Spirit and be well received by the whole congregation.
- For smooth preparations for a new Alpha course and that new connections would be made with people from our local community in and around Istead Rise.
- For the new youth group that has grown out of Youth Alpha, that a leadership team would be established and that the young people would grow in relationship with Jesus Christ and each other.

## **Meopham with Nurstead**

- Pray for our harvest celebrations over the next month for a reminder of the goodness of our Creator God and his provision for us in whatever circumstances we find ourselves.
- Please pray for the new school year and for the changes that will affect our schools, with new staff, new pupils and new buildings for some.
- Please pray for enthusiasm, confidence and hope for those moving on to college, university and the workplace.
- Pray for St. Mildred's PCC as plans for a toilet gather momentum and move into the next phase.

### **St. Nicholas, Southfleet**

For all new pupils, parents and teachers starting school this term;

For our Harvest Festival and Harvest Barn Dance, that they may be opportunities for fun, welcome and fellowship, whilst also reaching out to those who are less fortunate than we are;

For all who are preparing for baptism and confirmation, for those taking part in discipleship courses, and for all those who are seeking to grow closer to God;

For all who are discerning God's calling in their lives, in particular for those who are considering their call to ordained or lay ministry in the church.

## **Dartford Deanery**

Give thanks for all the Holiday Clubs and Holidays at Home, that those attending will remain touched by God's love and presence.

Pray that during the holiday season all clergy and lay people will have had a time of rest, relaxation and will be refreshed and renewed to continue their ministry again. Pray that families will remember special times together. As school returns this month pray for all children, staff, parents and governors that it will be a smooth transition to the new academic year.

Pray for all the plans and preparations to celebrate Harvest and for generous donations to local Food Banks.

Pray for God's blessing on all that he is doing in our churches and our communities.

## **Crockenhill, All Souls**

Give thanks: for Church Community Room and that all who use it feel loved and blessed; and for the Craft Day arranged with Churches Together and Crockenhill Council.

Pray for the Called to Grow course which concentrated our minds on what it means to be a church and for the way forward.

## **Darent Valley Benefice**

Give thanks for the time of happy fellowship together on 20<sup>th</sup> August.

Pray for those suffering pain and awaiting operations; that aftercare will bring complete healing.

For families with teenagers to find hope and peace in the knowledge that they are loved.

For all those taking part in 'Ride and Stride' on the 14<sup>th</sup>, that they will be met with a warm welcome at each church they visit.

## **Dartford, Christ Church**

Pray for wisdom for the PCC and those in leadership as they seek God's guidance in the coming year and help them to hear what God is saying to us as a church to bless our community; for our curate, Laura, as she is ordained on the 28<sup>th</sup>, and we give thanks for the blessing of her and her family.

## **Dartford, St. Alban and St. Edmund**

Give thanks for the ministry of Gwen, who has so faithfully carried the flame of prayer and feels it is right to step down as prayer co-ordinator for our churches. Bless her as she continues to be a faithful prayer warrior.

Pray: that the Lord will raise up someone to take over the mantle from Gwen.

Continue to pray for our new Community and Mission priest, the Revd. Mandy Young, that she will be blessed.

For our Community Café to continue to flourish and grow.

For God's blessing on all that we are doing in his service.

## **Hextable, St. Peter and St. Paul and Swanley Village**

Give thanks for a wonderful Holiday at Home and for the blessings of New Wine.

Pray for Emma Jane, our Children's and Youth Worker, and her husband, Harry; for Adam, our Pastoral Apprentice, and for the new organisation of the staff team and for the commissioning service on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **St Mary the Virgin, Stone,**

Please pray for the Revd. Carol Avery and her husband, Andrew, as they move to their new posts in the parish of Stanground and Farcet in the Diocese of Ely.

Also, for our involvement in Food and Fun events offering lunch to those who would otherwise rely on school dinners for a decent meal.

We welcome Anthea Harris-Faulkner who will be re-joining us as Assistant Curate from the 1<sup>st</sup> and who is due to be ordained as a priest on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **Wilmington, St. Michael and All Angels**

Give thanks for our Holiday Club in August and for our part in Wilmington Annual Fete, that it was a time of blessing and serving our community.

Pray that our leaders will all be refreshed as we begin our activities again this month.

Pray for our part in the Ride and Stride on 14<sup>th</sup>; and for the new St. Michael's Fellowship on the 1st Wednesday afternoon, that it will flourish and grow.

For all plans and preparations for our Harvest on 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup> and for plans for the Model Railway Exhibition on 12/13 October.

## **Gillingham Deanery**

### **Bredhurst, St. Peter**

### **Gillingham, St. Barnabas**

## **Gillingham, St. Luke the Evangelist**

## **Gillingham, St. Mary Magdalene**

## **Rainham, St. Margaret**

## **Wigmore, St. Matthew**

**Gravesend Deanery** Please pray for Nigel, our Area Dean, as he continues his period of study leave and for the project in which he is involved.

## **Chalk, St. Mary**

Give thanks for clergy and lay ministers helping us while Nigel is on study leave. Pray that invitations to the Thanksgiving and Remembrance Service on the 29<sup>th</sup> will be appreciated and many will attend; and for Loaves and Fishes restarting in the middle of the month.

## **Gravesend, St. Aidan**

We pray for those who work in the hospitality industry, for seasonal workers and for towns and resorts which rely on tourism; also for the parish nursery, for children as they return to school or start at new schools; for those preparing for college and university.

## **Gravesend, Holy Family**

Please pray for God's guidance and the way forward for our church as we finish the Jesus Shaped People course; pray too for those on the estate with addiction and mental health problems, that they may be healed.

## **Gravesend, St. George**

Please pray for the Revd. Mike Nelson who is completing the last six months of his curacy at St. George's; pray too for our young people in the parish and for our Noah's Ark and Cool Tots groups when they return this month.

## **Gravesend, St. George's School**

Please pray for the new primary school and for the head and staff preparing to join us this month.

## **Greenhithe, St. Mary**

We give thanks for the ministry of Andrew and Carol Avery over the last six years and pray for God's enabling for them in all they need to do before their move. We pray for our Church Wardens, PCC and all who need to plan and prepare for the interregnum.

## **Ifield, St. Margaret**

We give thanks and pray for our fellowship, that all visitors may experience a warm welcome. Please pray too for our churchyard maintenance team.

### **Milton, Christ Church**

At the start of the new academic year, please pray for teachers and all who work in the field of education, that they may know God's blessing in their responsibilities towards the pupils in their care and that the pupils will be equipped and enabled by God in their studies throughout the year ahead. Pray for our 'Last Night of the Proms' party on the 14<sup>th</sup>, that God would bless this event and a good time will be enjoyed by all.

### **Milton, St Peter and St Paul**

Please pray for our congregation and parish and for all that is planned for this month.

### **Northfleet, St. Botolph**

Give thanks for the success of our summer events and pray for Harvest on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Macmillan Big Coffee Morning on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Please pray too for our parish and congregation during this vacancy, that we will move forward to appointing a priest for our parish; also, for our 'Day of Refreshment' with Canon Gordon Oliver on the 7<sup>th</sup>, that we may be uplifted and affirmed.

### **Perry Street, All Saints**

Pray for our Harvest celebrations weekend 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup>, that all who receive gifts may know that they are not forgotten.

Pray too for the priest God is guiding to us, and for all who are helping us discern our future path.

### **Huggens College**

Give thanks and praise for the rich and varied ministry of Ted Goodyer during the past seven years; pray for God's blessing on him and on Liz.

Pray for Collegians and for the new Chaplain as he moves to Huggens College.

### **Rosherville, St. Mark**

Pray for all that is planned for our church, that God will bless all that we do in his name; and pray for the community and for Rosherville Primary School, that we may grow together in faith with our church building as the focus.

### **Shorne, St Peter and St Paul**

Pray for our congregation and parish and for all that is planned for this month.

### **Swanscombe, St Peter and St Paul**

We give thanks to God for all his help in setting up our 'edible garden', and ask for God's help in the years ahead, giving thanks for the everyday help we take for granted.

### **Wrotham Road, St. Mary**

Please continue to pray for all the good work being done in the Ellenor Hospice.

### **Gravesham Street Pastors**

Pray for all those with whom the Street Pastors make contact on Friday and Saturday nights and give thanks for the ministry of the School Pastors.

**Pray for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Gravesham's involvement and the service at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, at 6.30 pm – all welcome.**

Pray for Sam Coveney, Street Pastors' Co-ordinator and Ruth Field, School Pastors' Co-ordinator, and for the Management Team.

## **Rochester Deanery**

### **Chatham, St. Stephen**

Come, your thankful people, come! As the season of Harvest approaches, please give thanks for all God's goodness and pray that we may respond with love and care to those around us, continuing our support for the local Food Bank. Please pray for a future harvest following the very successful Holiday Club and pray that the young people who came will be nurtured and grow in faith. Please give thanks for the leaders, junior leaders and all the helpers who shone through with what they had experienced and witnessed. Lord, you have blessed us richly: teach us to respond to others.

### **Princes Park, Christ the King**

We give thanks to the Lord for the selection of our new incumbent. Please pray that we all, together with our new incumbent, will tread the Lord's path and journey in unity to make Jesus known in our locality, that His Kingdom might come more fully in Princes Park. Please pray for baptism families old and new, that something of what they hear and see in our church will remain in their lives and be meaningful.

## **Strood Deanery**

### **Strood, St. Francis**

For God's blessing on all who live in our parish and all who worship with us.

## **TONBRIDGE ARCHDEACONRY**

Please pray for our Archdeacon, the Ven. Julie Conalty

## **Malling Deanery**

### **Aylesford, St. Peter and St. Paul**

Please pray for the growth of children's non-church choir and new start for Sunday Club. May leaders be inspired to teach and nurture our children.

### **Barming, St. Margaret**

Please pray for:

Our youth and children's ministry as they start up after the Summer break;  
The PCCs of Barming and Teston as we continue to explore uniting as a benefice;  
The sports ministry conference being hosted by Bishop Simon on the 23<sup>rd</sup>;  
Our ministry team as we review our outreach to the community;  
The buildings team as they continue to work with the architect to develop plans to improve our facilities.

### **Snodland, All Saints with Christ Church**

Snodland CEP School as they start a new year  
The re-launch of Pathfinders

## **Paddock Wood Deanery**

Please pray for our Area Dean, the Rev. Andrew Axon  
Please pray for all children's groups and their leaders as they return from the summer break;  
For those in our communities turning to the church with mental health conditions, that we may, as the Church of Christ, find ways to help and support them  
For Hospice in the Weald, all patients, staff and chaplains, the Revd. Penny Stephens and Annie Balmpied-Radojcin  
For Pembury NHS Hospital and chaplain, the Rev. Stephen Baker and all volunteer chaplains.

## **Pembury, St. Peter**

For the induction of our new Vicar this month

## **Sevenoaks Deanery**

### **Kippington, St. Mary**

1<sup>st</sup> We give thanks for two families who are coming to church today for the baptism of their two sons; pray that each member of these families will grow in their life of faith in God.

4<sup>th</sup> We give thanks for the Revd. Dermot Thornberry who begins ministry today at The Drive Methodist Church, praying for a fruitful ministry in this town.

7<sup>th</sup> We pray for Nick Morris and Lizzie Read, being married at Kippington today.

10<sup>th</sup> We pray for all our pastoral care and outreach as 'Meet and Mix' opens its doors this morning.

15<sup>th</sup> Please pray for David, leading and preaching this morning at Knockholt, praying for their vicar who will be away in Tanzania to do some teaching in the Diocese of Kondoa.

22<sup>nd</sup> Please pray for the annual celebration of our diocesan partnerships overseas in Bromley Parish Church with the Bishop of Harare preaching.

25<sup>th</sup> We give thanks for the work of Sevenoaks Counselling and we pray for a good time at their annual meeting this evening.

28<sup>th</sup> We give thanks as a former member of this church is ordained priest this morning, praying for her in her continuing ministry in Yalding.

29<sup>th</sup> We pray for healing at today's 'healing service' and for Anna Graham, Lay Chaplain at Trinity School, Sevenoaks, who will be preaching.

### **Sevenoaks, St. Luke**

Please pray for all those returning to or starting school;

For our Junior Choir and Papa Youth as they begin again, that they may grow in their understanding and faith;

For the work of the Universities and Colleges Christian Fellowship and Claire Dent as she speaks about her work at our service this month and how we, as a congregation, can support them; pray for the planning of our Harvest Lunch next month.

### **Sevenoaks, St. Nicholas**

### **Weald, St. George**

1<sup>st</sup> For the St. George's 10K and 2K runs in aid of various charities. This starts with an informal service on The Green for which we pray many will attend. Pray too for safety and fun and a good spirit.

10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Sevenoaks Deanery pray-ers in Weald.

Pray for the development of our links with St. Francis, Strood.

## **Shoreham Deanery**

### **Ightham, St. Peter**

Give thanks that the need for a larger space for more informal forms of worship, such as Breakfast@Church, means that the Parish Centre is currently being enlarged. This is being supported in prayer and we trust that the remainder of the money will be found as a result of these prayers

### **Kemsing, St. Mary**

We give thanks that the building of the new Church Hall has started and that funds will be found to continue.

### **Stansted, Fairseat and Vigo**

Give thanks for the Village Fellowship in Stansted, recently started, to run fortnightly and pray for support.

### **Platt, St. Mary**

Please pray for Mrs. Hannah Walters as she leaves Platt School to take up a new Headship, for the process of appointing a new Head Teacher and for Mrs. Karen Dyson, who will be Acting Head in the interim;

For all Year 6 leavers.

### **Wrotham, St. George**

Please pray for the schools as they return after the holidays, for the staff, pupils and for Mrs. Rye, the new Head Teacher.

## **Tonbridge Deanery**

For Bishops James and Simon and our Archdeacon the Ven. Julie Conalty

### **Tonbridge, St. Peter and St. Paul**

Please pray for:

14<sup>th</sup> "Celebrating Community" at St. Peter and St. Paul with various organisations linked to the church taking part.

15<sup>th</sup> 4.00 pm Pet Service at St. Philip's Church

29<sup>th</sup> Harvest Sunday

29<sup>th</sup> Mission partners, the Gelsthorpe Family from Japan, speaking at St. Saviour's service.

### **Hildenborough**

We give thanks for a wonderful fun day with many people approaching our tent and stall. The message of Christ was shared. Please pray that those seeking may find Jesus the Saviour.

Please pray:

That people will enjoy the new service times and the congregation may welcome new folk into the church family;

For our Harvest services;

For Tim and Susan, Mark, Marcus and others who help lead services, that their words may be inspiring;

For our children in Sunday school and youth and their leaders;

For all the children who will be changing schools or going on to higher education that they may settle down quickly and pray that they will not lose sight of Jesus in the midst of new and heavy workloads.

### **Edenbridge, St. Peter and St. Paul**

We give thanks for:

- The gift of holidays for those who work tirelessly in our church, including Fr. Stephen, his team, the Churchwardens and the PCC and for those who covered for Fr. Stephen during his break;
- The youngsters from our church who went to Moldavia to build a house for those in need.

Please pray for:

- Unity within our church and the ECC in order that we may focus only on God's will and his glory and not on ourselves;
- the re-ordering proposals within St. Peter and St. Paul;
- all those children and young people in our congregation who will be starting school, moving to new schools and those who will be embarking on further education this month

**Tunbridge Wells Deanery- no submissions**

**Southborough, Christ Church**

**Tunbridge Wells, King Charles the Martyr**

**Tunbridge Wells, St. Luke**

**Tunbridge Wells, St. James**

**Rusthall, St. Paul**

*Prayer topics for October should be sent to [Lorna.Kahan@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lorna.Kahan@hotmail.co.uk)  
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By 10<sup>th</sup> September please.*