

# *St Paul's and St Luke's Prayer Collective*

## **Our link to You**

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Saved by Jesus Christ  
Growing in Jesus Christ  
Proclaiming Jesus Christ

*"Each of you should look not only to your own interests but also to the needs of others."* Philippians 2:4

Dear Heavenly Father,

You hear our prayers Lord, and Lord, You answer. You know our needs before we ask. And yet, for our comfort and peace, You ask us to pray. We pour out our hearts, casting our cares upon You, aware of our helplessness and utter dependence, as the world faces Coronavirus. Thank you that we don't face this alone. You, our unchanging and faithful God, are with us.

Father, may we always come before You first with our thankfulness for the gift of Your Son. May we remember the gifts of His body and blood, to pay our debt. Today we live ransomed, risen lives, confident of Your promise of eternal life. Thank you that the stone was rolled away so we could see that the tomb was empty. We offer our lives to you, Lord. May our lives honour Your precious name.

Your abundance is beyond our understanding, just like Your grace. Thank you for Your Word. We pray that we would truly delight in it, and meditate upon it as Your Psalm says, 'day and night'.

Your Holy Spirit lives in our hearts. Even in isolation Your Spirit binds us as family, connecting us all to one another. Our belonging as family at St Paul's continues. Please help us learn to express that belonging and to love and encourage each other, even though we cannot meet face to face. Please give Your comfort to those who are lonely. Protect those vulnerable to the disease. We especially pray for health workers among us, and for their families. We ask for Gus Batley as he ministers at the hospital. We pray for each other, our families, and friends. We remember our link missionaries before you as they too experience self-isolation.

Lord, we are indeed thankful for the Godly leadership of our parish. We thank you for the creative work of our clergy and others with expertise to bring us services. We pray for our clergy families and Isaac, as they minister in new ways. Thank you for the LIAISE team coordinating care throughout the parish. We ask that each of us would take the opportunities to show others the care and compassion of the One we serve.

Thank you for the success of measures implemented by our governments to contain this virus. Please give wisdom to our leaders and their advisors as they seek to manage as best for all Australians. Lord, they need your help.

We know Father, that you are sovereign. Your loving care is unchanged. Your Grace remains. In these extraordinary times, we pray that more of our community would see Jesus clearly. Grow us Lord to be more like you.

Amen

*Courtesy of Helen Campbell*



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### **Prayer Points....**

- By your Spirit, empower the Christian community to be your witness to those in our private circles, amongst our families and friends and make the love of our Lord known to others.
- Pray for the poor, disadvantaged and vulnerable, both within our communities and further afield as they are significantly impacted by the health and economic effects of Covid-19. For aid organisations, world governments and the Christian church, that our collective hearts might not be closed to these people and that help would be given to those in desperate need.
- Uphold those in our church and communities who are finding social isolation incredibly difficult. For marriages under tremendous pressure, kids and parents at loggerheads, children schooling from home, those not being able to visit and care for senior family members in the usual way and the unique challenges of working from home.
- Praise God that our St Luke's and Loomberah community are supporting one another and many are accessing livestreamed services. Pray that Zoom bible studies can get up and running.
- Praise God for the timely rain, that he continues to bless us allowing planting of crops and replenishment of water supplies. Pray for more rainfall in the catchment area of Chaffey Dam.
- Those in sickness or trouble: Andrew Alexander, Peter Anderson, Megan Brown, Doris Campbell, Donna Condon, Naomi Danaher, Sophie Doran, Alice Eather, David & Marie Eather, Vic & Annie Garland, Alan Hartigan, Nick Lynch-Whitten, Diane Mason, Joyce Page, Bev Pitcher, Sam Pollard, Becca Simpson, Jenny Simpson, Suzanne Turner & others that we know.

### **Prayer for our Missionaries**

**Dene, Rachel, Simeon and  
Elliott Hughes - CMS,  
Amagasaki Japan**

Pray for opportunities and  
creativity as they minister  
online.

For sanity for the family in  
this ongoing period of no  
school.

For patience and grace in  
family relationships.

*The beauty of prayer is that it enables us to talk to God about what He places on our hearts and in our minds. Romans 8:26 promises, "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans." I was reading an article written by Christine Brain recently in MU Australia's, Mia Mia magazine on praying for others – perhaps for a missionary we don't know well or someone we know but perhaps are unaware of what is happening in their lives at present. Rather than pray vague blessings on the person, Christine encourages us to be meaningful in our prayers and if we're unsure what to pray, open the bible for inspiration. Paul himself provides us with many examples of beautiful prayers we can use to pray for one another. The following is a sample prayer she suggested, with inspiration from Colossians 1:9-10.*

*'Lord, I pray that .... may have spiritual insight and understanding from you. I pray that their lives may bring credit to Jesus' name and may show genuine Christian fruit. Please help them to know you better and grow in their love for you.'*

*I hope you find some encouragement and inspiration as I did. Christine's article was published in Mia Mia, Summer 2019 edition. You may find her full article by clicking on the following link:*

[https://www.muaustralia.org.au/uploads/8/8/7/6/88761328/mia\\_mia\\_summer\\_2019\\_web.pdf](https://www.muaustralia.org.au/uploads/8/8/7/6/88761328/mia_mia_summer_2019_web.pdf)