

Friday 15 May 2020

St Paul's and St Luke's

Prayer Collective

Our link to You



Saved by Jesus Christ
Growing in Jesus Christ
Proclaiming Jesus Christ

"I have set the Lord always before me, because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken." Psalm 16:8
Jesus Christ says, "I have come that you may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10. Please help us realise this truth and use it guide our lives. Help us to pray!

Heavenly Father, We thank you for all your blessings and pray that we will respond with faith and honour your Holy Name. We thank you for the sacrifice of Your Son and pray that we be guided by your teaching, knowing that we live risen lives under your grace and forgiveness. Thank you.

Help us to understand that nothing can happen to us today that you and we cannot handle together, particularly in this Covid 19 environment. We pray for the world in this lockdown and we thank you for the response to the North Kigezi appeal as the Ugandan people suffer hunger and cannot go about their daily business. We pray that many more people will give generously to the appeal.

We give thanks for the Australian health workers who have volunteered to work in Italy for Samaritan's Purse and pray that they will be protected and cared for. We pray for all those affected by Covid 19 and praise God that many have recovered, but we grieve for those who have died, particularly those who don't know Jesus.

We thank you for our Link Missionaries who are also experiencing self isolation and pray you will sustain and guide them. May we know you are a loving God and your Holy Spirit lives in our hearts and guides us, even in lockdown. We are indebted to you and pray that we would be reverent and honour you.

We pray for our families and give thanks that many are joining us for the weekly services online. We thank you for the wisdom and ingenuity of our leaders: for the Parker family, Isaac, Chuck, David and John as they manage the technology needed and we thank you for their Godly leadership. We also thank you for Di, and we pray you will raise up a second person from St Paul's and St Luke's to compliment her role. We thank you for the LIAISE team coordinating care throughout the parish and for their love and compassion.

We thank you for the rain, but Lord, we need it to rain in the catchments of all the dams in the region. We are currently in a green drought and that needs to change Lord, for Your glory.

Thank you for the success of measures implemented by our governments to contain the virus and we pray for continued wisdom for our leaders and their advisers. We thank you that some of the restrictions on our movements have been lifted, but we pray we will be cautious and stick to the guidelines set out for us. We pray we would all come through this time with a greater appreciation for who You are, the Holy One who cares for us; and we pray that more people will come to see you clearly through the prism of Covid 19.

Amen

Courtesy of Jan Frampton



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Prayer Points....

- May we as a church, clearly perceive the need to proactively look after our mind, heart, behaviour and spiritual health given the ongoing changed structure of meeting together regularly. Ask God to inspire us to read our bibles in a disciplined fashion, to pray for what is happening around us and be mindful of others. May we continue to actively serve when it is easier to withdraw. May we feed both mind and soul with good literature.
- We praise you Lord, for the leadership of Darrell, Chuck and Isaac, for LIAISE, the tech crew and the many among us are stepping up to serve and care for one another.
- Thankyou Lord, for the organisation and creativity of our kids and youth teams. We uphold our children and pray they will tune into the online groups and connect with you deeply. We uphold our families and pray for positive relationships that glorify Your Name and for a smooth transition as they begin the return the 'usual' routines of school, home and work.
- 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.
- Please help us to walk faithfully, live humbly and fruitfully.

Prayer for our Link Church

**Colin Taylor – Felsted
Parish, UK**

Praise God for the smooth transition to the online platform and that many on the fringe have become regulars.

Pray that our online connections and Life Explored course will bear gospel fruit.

Pray for wisdom for our church plant at Flitch Green, complicated by this crisis.

Psalm 16 is a prayer of safe-keeping and trust, something to pray for every day as we seek the Lord's guidance and live out our faith. "Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." David sets the tone for us to recognise the Lord as our Sustainer and Protector and never is this clearer to us than now, as we manage fear, anxiety, sickness, and mental health in isolation. J.C. Ryle reminds us that sickness brings more than pain and suffering, it also brings with it moments of clarity and grows in us patience, trust, humility, grace and more, if we allow it. Remember too, that He is in control and that He has compassion on us in our pain and sufferings. This is plainly seen throughout the bible as God showers his love, mercy and compassion on his people and is exemplified by Jesus' ministry to the sick.

Sickness helps us to take God seriously and gives us opportunities to bear witness to our faith and trust in Christ to those around us. I am reminded of this as I read through the Overview of the Bible plan that Darrell has encouraged us to read together. Ryle summed it up for me as I read his take on sickness too. He states, "There is no book in the world that bears comparison to the bible, none so thoroughly meets man's wants, none that explains so much of the state of mankind." There are yet many unanswered questions that we have, but as we set the Lord always before us, may we have deep joy that in Christ alone, our hope is truly found. May we all this week be encouraged to make a real business of our prayers, be strengthened to endure God's will and seek the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit.