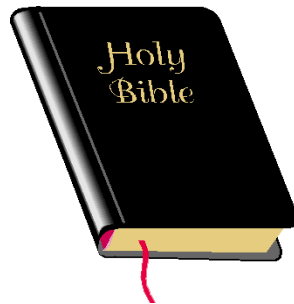


ST. MARGARET'S
COLEVIEW,
SOUTH MARSTON
&
STANTON FITZWARREN

OCTOBER
PRAYER DIARY



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The Book of Genesis – Chapter 8 Verse 22

22 "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease."

To my fellow Christians...

Owing to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, many church and local events have been put on hold or cancelled altogether. As a result, until such time as the events recommence, the prayer diary will be scaled down to weekly prayers, much like the prayer diaries that are distributed over Christmas and the summer months.

I will still attempt to make the prayer diary as varied as possible, but for that to succeed I will continue to require your help and support, so please feel free to jot down your own thoughts for prayer below.

God Bless,
Adam Jenkins

If you would like to suggest any topics for prayers, please contact:

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Prayer topics...

1st - 3rd Pray for all teaching staff, pupils and governors who are settling into the school year and its many changes; that each school community will continue to listen and learn together. Pray for all children and young people as they continue to grow and are constantly being challenged by the new regulations.

Week beginning 4th October

Collect: Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Just as we thought we were starting to come out the other side of the pandemic, we see that cases are, once again, starting to rise and people are starting to succumb once more. In your prayers this week, pray for the families and friends of the thousands of people who have passed away because of the virus. Pray that God will watch over them during their time of sadness and grief.

Pray also this week for those caught up in the ongoing conflict in Libya. Some incidents can shake a whole nation with horror and grief. In these moments, pray that people will call on Jesus and see God's glory. May the victims receive eternal life knowing that Jesus cares for them.

Week beginning 11th October

Collect: God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord.

On Saturday this week, it is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, which serves to promote awareness of people both here and across the world who are living in hardship and destitution. Take a moment this week to remember all those who are less fortunate than ourselves and that a way may be found, despite the other struggles that the world is facing at the moment, to bring poverty to an end.

Similarly, we also remember this week World Food Day. In your prayers, pray for societies like the Swindon Food Bank and Traidcraft who are working tirelessly across the year to make sure everyone receives a decent meal, and also pray that we do not take these things for granted.

Week beginning 18th October

Collect: Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

We remember this week Saint Luke, particularly during this period of harvest. We pray for all those who are working to bring food to us. Pray this week especially for our farmers who often have to battle the unpredictable weather that autumn brings in order to provide us with crops, meat and dairy products and other foodstuffs that we need to survive.

We also pray this week for all those who work in the medical profession, particularly our physicians and surgeons. Pray that God will continue to give them the conviction and inspiration they need to treat all those who come through their doors, no matter what their ailment could be.

Week beginning 25th October

Collect: Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty, that trusting in your word and obeying your will we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On this Bible Sunday, may we remember the influence the Bible has in our lives, particularly during these uncertain times. Pray that this year's events may bring current Christians closer to God and new Christians to know God better.

Also, pray this week for all those who are having to return to their places of work despite the ongoing predicament. We pray especially for all those who work in warehouses and in retail, where social distancing is not always easy. Pray that they may know that, despite the stressful environments they are living in, they are never alone. May God be with them in their quiet times when all they have is their thoughts.

