

Monday 1st

Hold the church of St. Luke before God, pray his blessing upon the church and its members. Pray for the licensed ministers who prepare and lead online worship.

Pray the Parish Prayer on the front of the diary.

Tuesday 2nd Candlemas (Presentation of Jesus in the temple.)

*Lord, now you let your servant go in peace,
your word has been fulfilled:*

*My own eyes have seen the salvation,
which you have prepared in the sight of every people:
a light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.*

Simeon's prayer Luke 2:29-32

Wednesday 3rd bhf Healthy Heart Month

Cardiovascular Disease is the world's number one killer. An estimated 17.9 million people died from CVDs in 2016, representing 31% of all global deaths. Pray for those suffering from CVD and the surgeons and doctors treating them.

Thursday 4th World Cancer Day

World Cancer Day is an initiative of the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC), taking the lead in initiative action that unite the cancer community to reduce the global cancer burden. 1 in 2 people will suffer from some form of cancer in their lifetime, pray for anyone you know who has cancer.

Friday 5th

Pray for the schools in the area, especially our church school. Pray for the staff who are having to find new ways of working in a virtual world, so that children can learn online at home. Pray for the school administrative team working under pressure from their arrival to their departure.

Saturday 6th

Pray for parents who are feeling the strain of keeping their children occupied, happy and stress free. Pray for those families who live in very restricted accommodation with no garden and little living space.

Sunday 7th St Augustine's prayer.

My God, let me know and love you, so that I may find my happiness in you. Enable me to know you ever more on earth, so that I may know you perfectly in heaven. O God of truth, grant me the happiness of heaven so that my joy may be full in accord with your promise. In the meantime let my mind dwell on that happiness, my tongue speak of it, my heart pine for it, my mouth pronounce it, my soul hunger for it, my flesh thirst for it, and my entire being desire it until I enter through death in the joy of my Lord forever. Amen.

Monday 8th

Children's Mental Health Week takes place this week. Set up by children's mental health charity Place2Be, the week shines a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health. Pray for children and young adults who face highly pressured situations because of Covid restrictions.

Tuesday 9th

Pray for all those who are in hospitals nationwide. Pray for the front line medical staff caring for them and pray for their health and wellbeing. Pray for patients who are seriously ill and are on ventilators. Pray for their families and friends. Pray for those recently bereaved because of Covid 19.

Wednesday 10th

Pray for the members of the local and county councils still working and trying to maintain the services they provide in a very difficult and challenging economic situation. Pray for those council workers who continue to work during lockdown such as social workers and those involved in waste disposal.

Thursday 11th

Pray for the businesses in the town which are closed because of the Covid restrictions. Pray for the owners of small businesses who are unsure whether they will survive the coronavirus epidemic. Pray that the stress of the situation will not result in a breakdown of physical or mental health.

Friday 12th

Pray for Diabetes UK, the UK's leading diabetes charity, tackling the current diabetes crisis. With other charities it campaigns for and supports everyone affected by diabetes aiming to prevent Type 2 diabetes developing. The charity also funds research that will hopefully one day lead us to a cure.

Saturday 13th

Hold the church of St. Thomas before God. Pray for its members who are unsure when the church will be able to open its doors in the near future. Pray for the community the church seeks to serve.

Sunday 14th Transfiguration of Jesus

Dear Father, I thank You for the fulfilment of Your Word. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and they beheld His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. I thank You for Your divine power that was seen here on earth, it is because of this that we can come together and celebrate You. I pray that we do not take Your power for granted and I pray that we truly understand Your greatness, Amen.

This week we shall pray with the world church based on the USPG prayer diary

Monday 15th

Pray for the Church of South India and its Green Schools programme which trains students in environmental care, assessing air quality, energy efficiency and waste management. 60 students are appointed at each school and their findings are implemented by the school. CSI is recognised as a leading force in environmental action. Pray for the students taking part.

Tuesday 16th

Pray for the work of the Diocese of Columbo's Plantation Community Development Programme. Part of the PCDP was the minding of the welfare of the children of tea plantation workers affected by Covid 19 curfews and lockdowns. Pray for the diocese's work in tackling the problem of child labour which keeps children out of school.

Wednesday 17th Ash Wednesday

Lord, Holy One, have mercy on us. We confess our sins to you. We have fallen short of your glory and without your mercy and grace, we would be lost. We repent now. Lord, as we enter into this Lenten season, be near to us. Help us, by your Holy Spirit, to feel right conviction and repentance for our sin. Help us, by your Spirit, to have the strength to overcome the enemy. Amen

Thursday 18th

Pray for the church in Mozambique and its support for projects to inform, educate and respond to the effects of climate change. Because of its location Mozambique is very vulnerable to climate change disasters. Pray for communities who have suffered already from four cyclones brought about by climate change.

Friday 19th

Pray and give thanks for the education programme of the Church of the Province of Myanmar which is already transforming lives. Last year two students of a school in Mandalay were the first to qualify for a university education. The local church of one of the students paid for his schooling as his parents were too poor to do so. Pray for the staff and the students of the schools the church is supporting.

Saturday 20th UN World Day of Social Justice.

Social justice is an underlying principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and among nations. Pray for the work of the UN in encouraging all nations to uphold the principles of social justice, promote gender equality, and uphold the rights of indigenous peoples and migrants. Pray for all the UN supporters dedicated to promote human dignity by removing the barriers that people face because of gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture or disability.

Sunday 21st

*Heavenly Father,
Forgive those things we have done which have caused you sadness, and those things we should have done that would have brought you joy. In both we have failed ourselves, and you. Bring us back to that place where our journey began, when we said that we would follow the way that you first trod. Lead us to the Cross and meet us there.*

Amen

Monday 22nd Girl Guides World Thinking Day

Pray for the Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting movement and the theme for this day which is Peacebuilding. Pray for all the guides and scouts completing the steps in the Stand Together For Peace activity pack today encouraging them all to Stand Strong, Stand up and Stand Together for peacebuilding.

Tuesday 23rd Fairtrade fortnight

Pray for the aims of Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 which seeks to highlight the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities Fairtrade works with in countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia and Honduras, who have done the least to contribute to climate change but are disproportionately affected by it. Pray for them.

Wednesday 24th

Pray for the Ministry Team consisting of licensed ministers both clerical and lay. Pray for the meetings the team have on Zoom each month to consider and discuss the service rotas and any other issues affecting the spiritual and community life of St. Luke's and St. Thomas'

Thursday 25th

Pray for BMS World Mission working among some of the most marginalised and least evangelised people, in some of the most fragile places on earth. Its aim is to bring life in all its fullness through seven key ministries: church, development, education, health, justice, leadership and relief.

Friday 26th

Last month the minister of a church in Gulu, Niger State, Nigeria, was murdered by machete-wielding bandits after they ambushed and abducted him as he travelled with his brother, along the road from Lambata to Lapai. Pray for our fellow Christians throughout the world who are losing their lives because they are Christian.

Saturday 27th George Herbert poet and priest b1593

*"Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
My God and King!
The heav'ns are not too high,
God's praise may thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
God's praises there may grow.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
My God and King!"*

Sunday 28th

Jesus, Lamb of God, when you walked this earth you did not consider heavenly equality, though that was yours to choose, but took the role of servant, and in humility and obedience allowed the rough nails of our sin to be hammered into your flesh for the sake of our salvation. And so it is that we acknowledge you as Lord of all, to the glory of God the Father, Son and Spirit. Amen

Parish of St. Luke Cannock and St. Thomas Huntington

Building community with Christ at the centre

PRAYER DIARY FEBRUARY 2021



Parish Prayer

Gracious God, persevering through the years, as we face the future as a community of your people in this town, may we know afresh your faithful love, and see afresh your loving faithfulness. May it be your words of life for which we listen, and by which alone we live. Loving God, help us open our doors wide for those who do not yet know you. Help each of us remember that we're on mission in this community. Give us eyes to see the needs of our community and make our hearts and hands ready to meet them. Help us prepare a place in our church for our community to meet Jesus and to discover a place to belong.

Amen