

Sunday 1st

Hold the churches of St. Luke and St. Thomas in your heart and pray the parish prayer on the front cover.

Monday 2nd Asthma Day

Over 300 million suffer from asthma worldwide and over 400 thousand die each year. Pray for all asthma sufferers who, pandemic because asthma is a respiratory disease are particularly vulnerable during the covid epidemic. Pray for all who care for and treat those suffering from asthma.

Tuesday 3rd Praying for Ukraine

*God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen*

Wednesday 4th

We continue to pray for all those who are in hospital at this time suffering from Covid19. Pray for those who are more seriously ill and having to be on breathing support machines. Pray for their loved ones anxiously waiting. Give thanks that the vaccine programme has drastically reduced the risk of severe illness and death.

Thursday 5th

Pray for the work of the UN Refugee Agency whose staff cover every angle of refugee emergency response, from establishing camps in safe zones, and installing water and sanitation, to treating injured civilians who have fled their homes and coordinating vast supplies and transport, such as emergency airlifts. Pray for all refugees, including those in the UK.

Friday

Pray for the work of Crisis and other homeless charities tackling homelessness in the UK and seeking action from on the causes of homelessness, such as a lack of affordable housing, poverty and unemployment; and life events which push people into homelessness. Some are forced into homelessness when they leave prison, care or the army with no home to go to. Many women experience homelessness having escaped a violent or abusive relationship. Pray for each of these groups.

Saturday 6th Red Cross and Red Crescent Day

Pray for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent aid charities. Both were founded to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for all human beings, and to prevent and alleviate human suffering. They make up the largest international humanitarian movement in the world with 97 million volunteers, members and staff.

Sunday 8th

*Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits thou hast given me,
for all the pains and insults thou hast borne for me.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know thee more clearly,
love thee more dearly,
and follow thee more nearly, day by day. Amen.
St. Richard of Chichester d1253*

Monday 9th Foster Care Fortnight

Pray for this annual event which aims to help and encourage society to understand and value fostering. Pray for the Fostering Network which champions foster care and supports foster parents and children. The network works to ensure society understands, values and recognises how foster carers transform children's lives. Pray for foster parents and the children being fostered.

Tuesday 10th

Pray for Pastor Lorenzo in Cuba who has been sentenced to 8 years in prison for peacefully protesting on 11 July 2021. He was sentenced after his trial in December. His wife says that the Cuban government's claim that Pastor Lorenzo was involved in a violent attack against Cuban State Security on 11 July is completely unfounded. There is, however, live footage and photos of Cuban authorities attacking unarmed, peaceful protestors in the street. Pray for Pastor Lorenzo's wife and family and for a successful appeal against his sentence.

Wednesday 11th

Pray for the 10 ambulance trusts across England facing up to the challenges providing ambulances in response to the thousands of requests for every day with queues of ambulances waiting outside A and E departments trying to get their patients into the hospital. Pray for the 999 staff and the ambulance crews trying to get to people in a reasonable time. Pray for our own West Midland ambulance service.

Thursday 12th International Nurses Day

International Nurses Day is a Global celebration that acknowledges and celebrates the commitment and bravery of nurses around the world. Pray for nurses working in hospitals, in GP practices, in community health centres, in residential homes, in hospices and in specialist units and schools. Pray for the nurses working in the hospitals and doctors surgeries that serve the people of Cannock.

Friday 13th

Pray for the licensed ministers of the parish. Pray for Vicky and George, Marie and Gill and for David and Diane. Give thanks for their ministry, leading worship and preaching and teaching and officiating at the church offices of baptism, weddings and funerals.

Saturday 14th

Pray for the Annual Parish Church Meeting taking place tomorrow after the church service. Pray for those who will be elected to the various offices in the two churches, church warden, treasurer or secretary, and for those elected to serve on the PCC. Give thanks for all who served in this way for the past year, giving their time and expertise to enable the churches to function as worship centres in Cannock and Huntington.

Sunday 15th Christian Aid Week

Pray for the work of Christian Aid and its aim to end poverty and injustice worldwide. Working in partnership with local organisations, as well as with governments and the private sector, its work includes helping people to claim their rights and access services such as healthcare and education. *The following 5 days highlight some Christian Aid campaigns. Pray for everyone involved in each of them, both those providing aid and those receiving it.*

Monday 16th Breaking the barriers

Over the last decade, Christian Aid and its partners have reached remote communities without access to energy across Africa and Latin America. 'Breaking the Barriers', aims to increase women's access to production, marketing and distribution of sustainable energy products and services, as well as to influence environment policy.

Tuesday 17th Educating Syrian adolescents

Together with local partners in Syria, this project seeks to ensure young people age from 12-35 affected by the ongoing conflict can access education and training to help transform their lives, reduce their vulnerability to joining armed groups, and support peaceful, cohesive communities. It will provide education, psychological support, vocational training, including specialised nursing courses, first response training, awareness raising and opportunities to take part in community initiatives.

Parish of
St. Luke Cannock and
St. Thomas Huntington

MAY PRAYER DIARY 2022



May 26th – June 4th 2022
“Come Holy Spirit”

Parish prayer

Father, in these uncertain times we pray for your church and for your world. Trusting in you we pray that the journey we are on as a community of faith will be a journey that helps us to grow deeper in our faith and in our desire to draw closer to You as Father and closer to Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Along the way remind us of Your sacrifice for us. Let us be ever mindful of Your presence with us. Let us never lose hope along the way. Help us to be strong in faith and in love so that, believing and trusting in You and in the love and grace You pour upon us, we can find the confidence to share our faith with our communities. This we pray in the name of our Saviour who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit One God for ever and ever. Amen

*I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, you are mine, and I am yours.
So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*
John Wesley Covenant Prayer 18th century

Wednesday 25th

Give thanks to God for all that is good in your life. Reflect on any particular blessings you have received over Easter. Pray for all those you love and who love you. Give thanks for close relationships and friendships that are important to you.
We love and serve a good, gracious Father, and we are undeserving of the love, grace, and mercy he so freely lavishes on us. What else could we do but give him endless thanks and praise in return?

Thursday 26th Ascension Day

We praise you Father God because you have exalted your Son Jesus Christ to your right hand in glory. You have given Him the name above all names, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow. Accept our praise and worship, our love and thanksgiving, and grant that we may always faithfully confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to your glory and honour. Amen

Thy Kingdom Come 2022 Global Prayer Movement

Ascension Day until Pentecost

Christians around the globe, from all denominations, are invited to hold as a focus for their prayers a desire for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit – upon them, their friends and the church, enabling us to be witnesses ourselves of the heavenly Father's revolutionary love for us in Christ first-hand.

Thy Kingdom Come Novena booklet is available in church. It offers nine days of reflections on the book of 1 Peter, written by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. Use this on the 9 days between the Ascension and Pentecost.

Wednesday 18th Disaster Reduction and Social Safety

DRaSS aims to save lives and protect the health and livelihoods of vulnerable people from the impact of climate-related disasters with focus on flooding in Nigeria. The 12 month project will strengthen social protection mechanisms and early warning and early action for vulnerable and disaster-affected groups, improving preparation and response to disasters by communities, government and other stakeholders.

Thursday 19th Forest Custodians

This two-year project seeks to directly address this issue of deforestation of the Amazon rainforest and protect its indigenous forest communities by protecting over 35,000 square miles of tropical rainforest in northern Brazil, and its 28,000 residents, from deforestation and land grabbing as a result of corporate exploitation. We recognise that investors in the global north are responsible for land grabbing in the global south.

Friday 20th Making Agriculture a business

This programme aims to improve the livelihood and economic resilience of women and marginalised groups in Zambia. The project will run for a period of four and a half years and aims to harness the potential of small-scale farmers and entrepreneurs as champions of economic development mainly in the four districts of Chisamba, Kapiri Mposhi, Kabwe and Mumbwa in Central Province, Zambia.

Saturday 21st

Sunday 22nd

*Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous;
teach me to serve You as You deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for any reward
save that of knowing I am doing Your Will. Amen*

Monday 23rd

Tuesday 24th John and Charles Wesley

*I am no longer my own, but yours.
Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering.
Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,
Praised for you or criticized for you.
Let me be full, let me be empty.
Let me have all things, let me have nothing.*