

### St Mary, Greenhithe

Praise God for the commitment of our Music Group and pray the Holy Spirit will anoint, inspire and unite them when they rehearse and as they lead our singing Sunday by Sunday. Also pray for God to call others to join the Group.

We thank God for our talented Tech Team, including many of our young people, and ask for prayer that they will be fed spiritually each Sunday, despite having to concentrate on doing so many things at once.

*Charlie and Gareth Lloyd-Evans; Mandy, Jen, Margaret; Ben and Rod and the PCC.*

### St Peter & St Paul, Milton

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for April and May  
*For Graham and Linda Herbert and the PCC.*

### St Peter and St Paul, Shorne

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for April and May  
*For Ted and Sylvie Hurst and the PCC*

### St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for April and May  
*For Charlie and Gareth Lloyd-Evans, Jean Budgen, Church Wardens and the PCC.*

### Heavenly Father,

**Bless each parish, church and school in our Gravesend Deanery  
to build us up for the blessing of this area and for your glory.  
Help our leaders, ordained and lay, and help us all to work together  
and know the fruit of your Holy Spirit in our lives;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Gravesham Street and School Pastors

Pray for the Ministry of Street and School Pastors. Pray for Steve and Ruth in their roles as Coordinators; for the Management Team and Jordan Meade as Chair. For the Walk of Witness on Good Friday (10am from St George's Church, Gravesend) as Street and School Pastors help with stewarding and for the Patrol and Civic Ceremony in London on 18<sup>th</sup> April, marking the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Street Pastors. We all look to God for strength and guidance and pray for those patrols where members have been unwell, for healing and strength and for more volunteers to come forward.

Prayers for the **June and July 2023** edition of the Gravesend Deanery Prayers leaflet no **later than 9am, Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May please** to:

Marion Fielder-White [fwmarionfw@gmail.com](mailto:fwmarionfw@gmail.com) 01474 823381

### Thanksgivings and Prayers

#### Gravesend Deanery

*See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone.  
Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come,  
the cooing of doves is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2v11-12*



April and May 2023

### A message for all of us from Revd Nigel Bourne, Area Dean

The next few months bring us many of the 'High and Deep Days' of the Christian Calendar and I pray that we (and many) may all be blessed by them – even if they often take a lot of hard work to arrange! As we leave March behind, I would like to recall the Annunciation (marking the Angel's message to Mary of her miraculous pregnancy). In Mary (probably a teenager at the time, without a great education and relatively poor), God obviously chose wisely, and nurtured this life, but what an amazing person Mary must have been! Her humility and obedience to God are awesome – and unlike us she hadn't at that point had the opportunity to reflect upon and be inspired by the ultimate servant and inspiration, Jesus. Without a Mary accepting that role all the 'High and Deep Days' could never have come about. There are many challenges ahead for us and at times it might just seem all too difficult. The words of both the angel and Mary have cascaded down the centuries to comfort and encourage countless folk like us – for with God nothing is impossible and especially so when we have a heart like Mary's. May each of us be able to say with Mary, "I am the Lord's servant..." that our lives may continue to be blessed and a blessing in the places where God has set us.

Pray for all the schools, playgroups and nurseries in the Deanery; for those attending, for staff, parents and carers and for Governors and Trustees.

### St Aidan, Gravesend

For churches as they hold special Holy Week services, Easter celebrations and for all who attend them. For young people who are sitting examinations and for teaching staff who support them. For King Charles and members of the Royal Family  
For the various initiatives for raising funds for Christian Aid around Christian Aid Week.  
*For Michael and Amy Payne and the PCC*

### All Saints, Perry Street

Give thanks for the success of Bishop Norman's visit and pray that we will be able to develop ideas raised. We pray that all who visit the church over the Easter period may feel welcomed and want to find more about God. We pray for the sick, those struggling financially, and all who mourn. We pray for peace in the world. *For Fr Clive Jones and Fr Simon Walker, Wardens and PCC.*

**St John, Higham with Merston**

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for April and May.

*For Fr Clive, Churchwardens and PCC*

**Huggens College, Northfleet**

We give thanks for the community of the College, the residents of the thirty bungalows, their carers, the members of staff and their families, and the College Trustees.

For our Founders Day service in April.

For the College Chapel, its regular pattern of daily worship and the fellowship that flows from this. For the services in Passiontide, Holy Week and Easter.

*For College Chaplain, Philip Davies, and for Julia Davies and their family.*

**Holy Family, Gravesend**

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for April and May.

*For Ted and Sylvie Hurst; Church Wardens Ruth and Sylvie and the PCC*

**St Margaret, Ifield**

Give thanks and pray for our Fellowship and especially for those who faithfully keep our Churchyard tended in all seasons. For those who attend to general maintenance needs within the church building.

For our social and fundraising plans

*For Ted and Sylvie Hurst, Chris Benson and the PCC and Carey Laughland*

**St Botolph, Northfleet**

We give thanks for the life and ministry of the late Revd Joe King, a good friend and honorary priest to our Parish; we pray for Pat and their family in the times to come.

Pray for our Holy Week journey with Christ, from Palm Sunday to the Cross and for the glorious Easter Resurrection. Give thanks for our faithful and supportive congregation, always so generous with care, time and talents and their ministry to others.

'God Save The King'; we pray for King Charles and the Royal Family at his Coronation.

*For Church Wardens Pauline and Wendy and the PCC*

**St Mark, Rosherville**

We pray for our Holy Week and Easter services, from the darkness of Good Friday to our joyful cries on Easter Day of "Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed!" We pray for our local schools as they celebrate their Easter services in our church. As we start the process to find a new priest for our Parish, we pray that we follow God's guidance through this time. We pray for our APCM in May.

*For Church Wardens Keith and Sarah and the PCC*

**Christ Church, Milton**

At the beginning of Holy Week join with us, on Palm Sunday, in celebrating Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and pray that we would make a faithful observance of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

'Jesus Christ is risen today'. Easter greetings from Christ Church to our brothers and sisters in the Gravesend Deanery as we celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Pray for King Charles and Queen Camilla on Coronation day, 6th May and for our Coronation Picnic on 7th May.

*For Andrew and Alison Davey, Jacqueline Littlewood, Wardens and the PCC*

**St George, Gravesend**

May all encounter our Risen Lord as we mark Holy Week and journey together through the different emotions. 'He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!' We offer to God all of our Church services at this time of year, and pray for good rest and refreshment afterwards. We pray for our local schools on their Easter break.

We pray for our Church celebrations connected with the Coronation, especially praying for King Charles and the Royal Family

We pray for our APCM and those standing as Churchwardens, PCC and Deanery Synod reps; for the Council and the election of a new Mayor, and the Civic Service at St George's  
*Jim and Sarah Fletcher, Mark and Natalie Edwards, Emma Oliver, Ministry Team and PCC*

**St Mary, Chalk**

Give thanks for Nigel, his 25 years of ministry and leadership at Chalk and the celebrations (26 March)

Please pray for our Vision to bear the fruit God desires during the coming 5 years, and that all our Easter services will bring blessings, at church, the parish hall, and town centre witness.

For the King's Coronation including our BYO picnic (Sun 7<sup>th</sup> May).

For our APCM; may all posts be filled especially a new treasurer.

*For Nigel & Sue Bourne, and for the PCC, for Nigel in his role as Area Dean.*

**St Mary, Wrotham Road**

We give thanks to God for the Holiday Club that is starting again this year, the first one since the pandemic, we pray that the children will enjoy themselves and meet him there.

We pray for all the things we have planned for this year, we ask God to be our guiding hand, to guide us in the right direction in all we do.

We give thanks and prayers for the continuing growth in our Toddler Group, and give thanks that some of the Mums are beginning to come to our cafe' worship.

Please pray for the Hospice as the building work is starting; it will have an impact on our IPU, We give thanks for our wonderful Doctors and dedicated nurses, and please pray for the Chaplaincy.

*For Trudi and Shaun Oliver and the PCC*