

Prayers for our Parish

Lent 2021

Please use these Bible verses and prayer ideas to help you pray during Lent.

You can join with others from St Andrew's in prayer at 7.30pm on:

Wednesday 17th February – Service of Penitence for Ash Wednesday

Thursday 25th February – Evening Prayer*

Thursday 4th March – Evening Prayer*

Thursday 11th March – Evening Prayer*

Thursday 18th March – Evening Prayer*

Thursday 25th March – Evening Prayer*

Thursday 1st April – Service for Maundy Thursday *details to be confirmed*

Join us from home using this link <http://bit.ly/StANS> from a computer, from the app enter 813 6651 6924 or by phone dial 0208 080 6592 and enter 813 6651 6924 #

**Words for the service included in this booklet.*

Wednesday 17th - Saturday 20th February: The Whole Parish

Out of the depths I cry to you, LORD;

Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive

to my cry for mercy.

I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,
and in his word I put my hope.

I wait for the Lord

more than watchmen wait for the morning,
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Psalm 130 v 1-2 and 5-6

To Ponder:

How far do these verses match up with your understanding of prayer?

For Prayer:

- That God would help us to be watchmen, looking out for where he is at work.
- That the people of North Swindon would know God's protection from Covid and other risks.
- That God would forgive the wrongdoing of all within our parish.
- That God would help me serve him among the people who live on my street.

Sunday 21st – Saturday 27th February: St Andrew's Ridge and Ash Brake

Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Mark 1 v 14-15

To Ponder:

What would the coming of the kingdom of God look like within the parish?

For Prayer:

- That many within our parish would turn to God in repentance and with renewed belief.
- That the people living in St Andrew's Ridge and Ash Brake would be open to hear the good news.
- That God would bless those who live and work in:
 - Ridgeway Rise care home
 - Vygon
 - Aldi
 - David Lloyd Gym
 - Bloor home Offices
 - The Harvester
 - Robin's Farm
 - Greyhound and Speedway Stadium
 - The Shops on Highdown Way
 - The Jovial Monk
 - Busy Bees Nursery
- That God would let his kingdom come on my street.

Sunday 28th February – Saturday 6th March: Abbey Farm, Blunsdon St Andrew and Eastbury

Do not fear, for I am with you,
do not be afraid, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.

Isaiah 41 v 10

To Ponder:

What fears do you have that you can entrust to God?

For Prayer:

- That God would take away the fears of all in our parish
- That the people living in Abbey Farm, Blunsdon St Andrew and Eastbury would be strengthened by God's presence.
- That God would bless all pupils and staff at Bridlewood School and those who work on the building sites at Abbey Farm.
- That God would give his peace to the people who live on my street.

Sunday 7th – Saturday 13th March: Tadpole Garden Village

Jesus said “Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?”

Matthew 6 v 26-27

To Ponder:

What else can you learn about God’s love by looking at the birds?

For Prayer:

- That God would provide for all who live in our parish
- That the people living in Tadpole Garden Village would know how valuable they are to God
- That God would bless all those who work or go to school at:
 - Tadpole Farm CE Primary Academy
 - Great Western Academy
 - William Morris Primary School
 - Churchward Special Education School
 - Sainsbury’s
 - Building sites
 - Sales offices
- That God would give abundantly to the people who live on my street, especially those worrying about their income.

Sunday 14th – Saturday 20th March: Redhouse

As God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Colossians 3 v 12

To Ponder:

How can clothing ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience help our neighbours?

For Prayer:

- That the qualities of compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience would flourish among those who live in our parish
- That the people living in Redhouse would experience God’s love through the kindness of others.
- That God would bless all those who work or go to school at:
 - Abbey Park secondary School
 - Red Oaks Primary School
 - Uplands Special Secondary School
 - Brimble Hill Special Primary School
 - The shops in the district centre
 - The Community centre
- That God would fill each house on my street with love and compassion.

Sunday 21st – Saturday 27th March: Oakhurst

But they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees,
and no one shall make them afraid;
for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

Micah 4 v 4

To Ponder:

How far does having your own house (and maybe garden too) prevent you from building community with your neighbours?

For Prayer:

- That anyone in our parish who does not feel secure in their home would be able to find help and support
- That the people living in Oakhurst would know the inner peace and security which comes from God and not just from having somewhere to live.
- That God would bless all pupils and staff at Oakhurst Primary School
- That God would provide security for everyone who lives on my street.

Sunday 28th March – Saturday 3rd April: The whole parish

'Abba, Father,' Jesus said, 'everything is possible for you. Take this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will.'

Mark 14 v 36

To Ponder:

In what areas of our lives do we need to let God's will be done?

For Prayer:

- That we would trust God to do his will in our parish.
- That we would know where He wants us to join in.
- That all the residents of North Swindon would know the reality of God's love and power in the Easter message.
- That I would find ways to share the Easter message with those who live on my street.

Evening Prayer for Lent

Preparation

O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.

Hear our voice, O Lord, according to your faithful love.
according to your judgement give us life.

Blessed are you, Lord God of our salvation,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
In the darkness of our sin you have shone in our hearts
to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
Open our eyes to acknowledge your presence,
that freed from the misery of sin and shame
we may grow into your likeness from glory to glory.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

A Song of Entreaty

Hear my prayer, O Lord,
and in your faithfulness give ear to my supplications;
answer me in your righteousness.

**Enter not into judgement with your servant,
for in your sight shall no one living be justified.**

My spirit faints within me;
my heart within me is desolate.

**I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul gasps for you like a thirsty land.**

O Lord, make haste to answer me; my spirit fails me;
hide not your face from me

lest I be like those who go down to the Pit.

**Let me hear of your loving-kindness in the morning,
for in you I put my trust;
show me the way I should walk in,
for I lift up my soul to you.**

Teach me to do what pleases you, for you are my God;
let your kindly spirit lead me on a level path.

**Revive me, O Lord, for your name's sake;
for your righteousness' sake, bring me out of trouble.**

Psalm 143.1,2,4,6-8,10,11

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

That this evening may be holy, good and peaceful,
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence is kept.

As our evening prayer rises before you, O God,
so may your mercy come down upon us
to cleanse our hearts
and set us free to sing your praise
now and for ever.

Amen.

**The Word of God
Psalmody**

25 th February	Psalm 137
4 th March	Psalm 71
11 th March	Psalm 116
18 th March	Psalm 138
25 th March	Psalm 146

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

If there are two Scripture readings, the first may be read here, or both may be read after the canticle.

Old Testament Reading

25 th February	1 Samuel 8
4 th March	Isaiah 41 v 1-10
11 th March	Job 39
18 th March	Deuteronomy 6 v 1-12
25 th March	Micah 4 v 1-5

Canticle

A Song of Christ the Servant

**Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.**

Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example,
that you should follow in his steps.

**He committed no sin, no guile was found on his lips,
when he was reviled, he did not revile in turn.**

When he suffered, he did not threaten,

but he trusted himself to God who judges justly.
**Christ himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.**
By his wounds, you have been healed,
for you were straying like sheep,
but have now returned
to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

1 Peter 2.21b–25

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Christ committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.**

New Testament Reading

25 th February	Mark 1 v 9-15
4 th March	1 Peter 2 v 1-10
11 th March	Matthew 6 v 25-34
18 th March	Colossians 3 v 12-17
25 th March	Titus 3 v 1-8

The reading(s) may be followed by a time of silence.

Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.
**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**
Make haste to help me,
O Lord of my salvation.
Be not far from me, O my God.
Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.
**Forsake me not, O Lord;
be not far from me, O my God.**

from Psalm 73

Gospel Canticle

The Magnificat (The Song of Mary)

**Come let us return to the Lord,
For our God will richly pardon.**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
he has looked with favour on his lowly servant.

**From this day all generations will call me blessed;
the Almighty has done great things for me
and holy is his name.**

He has mercy on those who fear him,
from generation to generation.

**He has shown strength with his arm
and has scattered the proud in their conceit,**

Casting down the mighty from their thrones
and lifting up the lowly.

**He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.**

He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
to remember his promise of mercy,

**The promise made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and his children for ever.**

Luke 1.46-55

**Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**The righteous will shine like the sun
in the kingdom of their Father.**

Prayers

Our prayers are based on the prayer focus for the week

These responses may be used

Lord, in your mercy
hear our prayer

(or)

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you hate nothing that you have made
and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
create and make in us new and contrite hearts
that we, worthily lamenting our sins
and acknowledging our wretchedness,
may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
perfect remission and forgiveness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Trusting in the compassion of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Conclusion

May God our redeemer show us compassion and love.
Amen.

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Parish of St Andrew North Swindon

