



# CROMERCHURCH

transforming lives with Jesus Christ

## Prayer Diary - September 2020

*Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on Cromer.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on the Church.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on me. Amen.*

**This month's diary continues to reflect the lock down caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Please check the Weekly Update for up to date news of what is happening.**

**Sunday worship will resume in the Parish Church at 10.30am, starting on 6<sup>th</sup> September, with restricted numbers and with Covid-19 regulations in place (spacing, masks etc). The service will be streamed live over the Internet on the Cromer Church YouTube channel, accessed in the normal way. (Either use this link: [www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ySrZRXcovTLvIL136AHuQ/](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0ySrZRXcovTLvIL136AHuQ/) and click the "Subscribe" button to get to the CromerChurch channel, or go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church'.)**

**Sunday worship will also continue at St Martin's at 3pm each Sunday.**

**Morning Prayer will resume on the Cromer Church Facebook page at 9.30am on weekdays.**

### PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

*Please check weekly publicity for details and updates, especially if lockdown is eased further. As events start happening, they will need prayer support.*

*This month's mission focus is Andrew and Maria Leake.*

*See below for all mission partner requests.*

**Tue 1**      *The persecuted church (see below)*

**Wed 2**      *Local businesses as school holidays end*

- Thu 3**      *Mission Partner: the Bible Society*
- Fri 4**      *Staff and children preparing for the start of term on Monday*
- Sat 5**      *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Andrew and Maria Leake*
- Sun 6**      *Worship Theme: Ephesians 1:1-14 - A Chosen People  
Our church leaders; our church governing bodies (synods)*
- Mon 7**      *Mission Partner: Canaan*
- Tue 8**      *Leaders of our usual groups such as Take a Break, Meeting Point  
and many others that can't take place just now, as they plan what  
to do; and those who are missing these groups*
- Wed 9**      *Health and Social Care services*
- Thu 10**     *Mission Partner: CPAS*
- Fri 11**     *Leaders of nations which see themselves as superpowers*
- Sat 12**     *Norfolk Churches Trust 'Bike, Walk, Drive'  
Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Andrew and Maria Leake*
- Sun 13**     *Worship Theme: Ephesians 2:19-22 - A Holy Temple  
Our church leaders; other local church leaders*
- Mon 14**     *The homeless*
- Tue 15**     *Mission Partner: London City Mission*
- Wed 16**     *National and local government, and the decisions they have to  
make in difficult circumstances*
- Thu 17**     *The unemployed*
- Fri 18**     *Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor*
- Sat 19**     *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Andrew and Maria Leake*
- Sun 20**     *Worship Theme: Harvest  
Our church leaders; our small group leaders*
- Mon 21**     *Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship*
- Tue 22**     *Farmers after a year of extreme weather*
- Wed 23**     *Food banks*
- Thu 24**     *Mission Partner: Scripture Union*

- Fri 25**      *Successful measures against Covid-19 and other diseases*
- Sat 26**      *Tomorrow's worship and teaching; Andrew and Maria Leake*
- Sun 27**      *Worship Theme: Ephesians 4:1-16 - A healthy body  
Our church leaders; our national church leaders*
- Mon 28**      *Mission Partner: Tearfund*
- Tue 29**      *Negotiations after Brexit*
- Wed 30**      *Plans to mitigate climate change*

**The persecuted church: Open Doors** (Contact: Ken Nash)

Praise the Lord that, in 2019, Open Doors was able to distribute 1,873,503 Bibles and Christian books to persecuted believers. In addition, 3.8 million persecuted Christians were trained in discipleship, trauma care and persecution survival. Please pray for God to protect Open Doors partners taking great risks in order to deliver God's Word, and great quantities of relief aid, to places where the Bible is banned.

**MISSION PARTNER PRAYER REQUESTS**

**Andrew Leake (CMS/Compassion International)** (Contact: David Leake)

This month, please pray for:

- Argentina, grappling with the pandemic in the midst of a severe economic crisis. The virus has now reached indigenous communities along the border with Bolivia and Paraguay. The outlook is pretty grim. Pray for God's mercy and for stretched medical staff as they seek to address the situation with very limited resources;
- our son, Tomas, who is unable to travel back to Cordoba for work. There is little clarity on travel restrictions, which together with a ban on public transport makes the 800km journey a big risk in terms of getting stranded somewhere along the way. Pray for a solution to this challenge so that he might be able to resume his career;
- Andrew's work with Compassion International, which is now focused on adaptation to climate change. His past experience has placed him in a good position to help lead this work. Pray for wisdom and discernment

as he and his colleagues seek ways to assist local churches in developing their capacity to respond to the frequently devastating effects global warming has had on the poor.

### **Bible Society** (Contact: David Orsborne)

Learn more about Bible Society at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-Br9p4AovE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-Br9p4AovE), find prayer resources at [www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/pray-with-us) or get *Prayer in Action* from [www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get\\_involved/word\\_in\\_action/files/2020/pia\\_summary\\_2020.pdf](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/content/get_involved/word_in_action/files/2020/pia_summary_2020.pdf).

This month, please give thanks and pray for the work of Bible Society.

- Please pray for the impact of 'Inside Out'. Produced in collaboration with the Salvation Army, 'Inside Out' is a "Bible discovery guide, connecting the life-changing words of the Bible with everyday life." Aimed primarily at teens and young adults (but useful for all ages) it's a book you could give to someone wanting to understand more about the Bible and move on in their everyday Christian faith ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/9780564049073](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/products/9780564049073));
- Please pray for the work of Open the Book - especially our local teams - that, as schools re-open, Bible Society will be able to find safe ways for them to resume their important work of sharing Bible stories with children ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book));
- Bible Society estimates that their work is at risk in 88 countries because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The prayers and financial support offered by churches like ours are key to some incredible work bringing the Bible to people in these difficult days and challenging circumstances, but much of it could come to a halt as local Bible Society teams across the world feel the devastating economic impact and other effects of the pandemic. In particular, plummeting income in 88 countries has meant that people there face the prospect of no Bible distribution, no vital translation work, no Scripture-based literacy classes, no Bible-based trauma healing. Bible Society work is at risk of having to close down permanently in these countries, so please pray and, if you can, make a donation to help keep this work alive ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/appeals/bible-work-at-risk-in-88-nations](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/donate/appeals/bible-work-at-risk-in-88-nations)).

### **Canaan Christian Centre** (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month:

- huge prayers are needed for the safety of our children's team and Incredible Kids themselves as we restart in September, on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Loads of safety measures have been put in place and much money has been spent in redesigning the Wolery for them, where all will

own their own desks, drinking mugs, pencils, pencil cases, wallets etc. Through a generous gift from a prayer partner we have been able to upgrade the whole sound system with a smart TV and although we cannot actually sing it makes the whole programme fun and interactive. It has also increased the space we had too;

- children are suffering with much fear during this time so please pray that peace and joy will replace these negative feelings. Pray for our contact with parents too. We are only taking 10 children so no 11 year olds can come. Pray for the Link Up team to be given wisdom as to how to start that group;
- the small lunch group is also planned to restart on Thursday 17th September. Much prayer is needed again;
- no income from holiday guests has been forthcoming but God continually meets our needs through an overwhelming response to our Gift Day and very generous prayer partners.
- On 1<sup>st</sup> September a local couple are moving in for three months to our newly-converted two-bedroom ground floor flat, which is a wonderful provision for our needs and theirs. Praise God for His bountiful provision for us all which is enabling this building conversion to take place as I write! Pray on expectantly. We live in exciting and challenging days.

#### **CPAS** (Contact: Jane Loades)

This month:

- praise God that churches have seen an increased engagement through their online services. Pray that this may result in many people coming to faith in Christ Jesus as their Saviour;
- pray for our church leaders to be equipped to lead healthy growing churches;
- as the situation with COVID 19 evolves, ask God to bless CPAS staff with insight and discernment into how they can serve and equip Christian leaders.

Psalm 40 v3

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear the Lord and put their trust in Him.

#### **London City Mission** (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

This month:

- Jean-Louis at Webber Street Centre for the homeless reports that since the Government scheme to re-house thousands of London's homeless ended in July, a great many are back on the streets and the centre has

had over 50% more people turning up for food and clothes each day. They can only be given food and clothes at the door - no in-house catering is permitted due to Covid.

- Many families are struggling to feed their children and can't cope with home schooling.
- The Mission is asking every missionary to re-apply for their posts or take voluntary redundancy, due to the financial constraints caused by the pandemic - a step they are very reluctant to ask the missionaries to take as they restructure the work of the mission.
- Please pray that the Lord will prompt Christians to give generously at this challenging time. The need to get the good news of Jesus to London's neediest is as great as ever!
- Lonely people are lonelier than ever before due to the requirement for many to self-isolate. Missionaries are trying to keep in touch with as many as possible, but many may be slipping through the net, sadly.
- Please pray for wisdom to overcome these obstacles to the gospel and for each missionary to keep close to Jesus as they seek to share His love with London's neediest and least reached.

### **Michelle Proctor (SIM)** (Contact: Tim Britton)

This month:

- give thanks that I was able to get a break and spend time enjoying God's amazing creation;
- give thanks that, so far, no COVID cases have needed to be admitted to our isolation unit. Please continue to pray for Zambia and the health service as the number of cases and the workload increase throughout the country;
- pray for wisdom and compassion as I work on the children's ward;
- give thanks for the nursing team and pray for me as I work with our two recently qualified paediatric nurses, that I can be a mentor to them.

### **Prison Fellowship** (Contact: Janet Rosier)

This month:

- On July 31<sup>st</sup>, Prison Fellowship launched PRAYER LINE in prisons across England and Wales - a unique service for those in prison to leave a confidential prayer request as a voicemail. This will then be prayed for by Prison Fellowship volunteers that day and in the month to follow. Praise God for the many doors that opened to make this possible;
- pray that PRAYER LINE will be well promoted in prisons and that many

men and women will choose this service and have courage to express their request;

- pray that all those in prison, staff and prisoners, who will use PRAYER LINE will find reassurance and comfort from the knowledge they are being prayed for;
- Prison Fellowship is hosting the Sunday morning service that is broadcast on National Prison Radio on Sunday August 23rd. Pray that those involved in the service will be empowered by the Holy Spirit, and that those who tune in will be encouraged and challenged by what they hear;
- give thanks that God is not restricted by prison walls, never off duty, only a prayer away, and we know our loving Heavenly Father hears our prayers. "Call to me and I will answer you." Jeremiah 33v3.

### **Scripture Union** (Contact: David Orsborne)

This month, please give thanks and pray for the work of Scripture Union.

- COVID-19 has hit many people hard, but perhaps hardest hit are children and young people. At a time when they need the support, love and confidence that only Jesus brings, the vast majority have little or no contact with the church. SU's new 'Revealing Jesus' mission framework aims to help churches make those connections and provide these children and young people with opportunities to respond to the gospel and grow in a personal relationship with Jesus. The online launch of 'Revealing Jesus' takes place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 p.m. Details are at [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/revealingjesusevent](https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/revealingjesusevent). Please pray for the success of this event, put the date in your diary now, then come along in October to celebrate SU's work and discover a new way to reach 'the 95' ([www.vimeo.com/274854630](https://www.vimeo.com/274854630) and [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/95-campaign](https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/95-campaign)).
- Now that lockdown is easing and it's possible to carefully resume some face-to-face children's and youth work, SU has put together resources to help churches take their first steps into socially distanced mission ([content.scriptureunion.org.uk/leavinglockdown](https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/leavinglockdown)). The resources are grouped into three categories: 'In the yard' (ideas for missional 'making' activities within church grounds), 'On the trail' (ideas for sharing the good news in the public spaces of the community) and 'On the field' (ideas for mission through sport activities in outdoor spaces). Please pray that these resources will be well used and have a big impact.
- 'Connecting You' is SU's supporter and prayer magazine. It has the latest news on their mission to share the good news of Jesus with the next generation, and daily prayer requests to support this exciting work.

Contact David Orsborne for a copy or get it and other prayer resources at [content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer](http://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/support-us/prayer).

**Tearfund** (Contacts: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

This month:

- Tearfund local partners are working with the most vulnerable in Beirut where the devastating explosion has destroyed the city. Pray for the bereaved, wounded and the tens of thousands now homeless. Pray for those giving physical and emotional support and for those giving financially.
- It is difficult to know where to begin when praying for a crisis as large as this Pandemic. Tearfund have put together a Coronavirus Prayer Guide based on the acronym PRAY. (Praise, Reflect, Ask, Yield)
  - \* Praise: listen to a song of worship
  - \* Reflect: reflect on God's nature. eg Psalm 34:18
  - \* Ask: pray for families, healthcare, the government and society, the Church
  - \* Yield: how might God want to use you as an answer to your prayers?
- For more help, go to [www.tearfund.org](http://www.tearfund.org) and follow the link to "latest," and "Coronavirus."

<p>Please send prayer requests for October to Tim Britton by Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September.</p>
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