

Prayer Diary – September 2024

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

Please check the Weekly Update for up-to-date news.

USUAL WEEKLY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sundays

- 8.45 am Traditional Holy Communion at the Parish Church.
10.30 am Informal service at the Parish Church, with CCKids
Refreshments after both services.

*Both Parish Church services will be streamed on the Cromer Church
YouTube channel. (Go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church')*

- 10.30 am Service at St Martin's with refreshments.

Mondays

- 2.00-5.00 pm Free Mustard Seed meals at St Martin's

Tuesdays Small groups meet in the afternoon and evening.

- 9.30 am CC Toddlers in the Parish Hall (term time)

- 10 am-4 pm Cornerstone Café

- 7.15 pm CC Community Choir rehearsal in St Martin's

Wednesdays Small groups meet morning, afternoon and evening

- 10.00 am Holy Communion

- 10 am-4 pm Cornerstone Café

- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Junior School (term time)

Thursdays Small groups meet afternoon and evening

- 9.00 am Mustard Seed at St Martin's

- 10 am-4 pm Cornerstone Café

- 2.30 pm Meeting Point in the Parish Hall (term time)

- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Infant School (fortnightly in term time).

Fridays

- 6.45 pm Choir Practice in the Parish Church

- 2.00 pm Table tennis group at St Martin's

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER

See below for prayer requests from Mission Partners and others

- Sun 1** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 2** Our Mission Partner: CPAS
- Tue 3** Our schools: teachers, students, governors, government ministers
- Wed 4** Refugees and asylum seekers
- Thu 5** Local businesses in North Norfolk
- Fri 6** Our King and Queen, Prince and Princess of Wales
- Sat 7** Tomorrow's worship and teaching.
Pray for this month's mission partner: London City Mission
- Sun 8** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 9** Our Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor
- Tue 10** Journalists who suffer persecution from repressive regimes
- Wed 11** Our armed forces
- Thu 12** Our Mission partner: Hope into Action
- Fri 13** Medical researchers
- Sat 14** Tomorrow's worship and teaching
Pray for this month's mission partner: London City Mission
- Sun 15** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 16** Our Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Tue 17** People suffering from ME – an illness that is often not recognised and has no cure
- Wed 18** The persecuted church
- Thu 19** Evelyn and the work at Canaan
- Fri 20** Our Mission Partner: Open Doors
- Sat 21** Tomorrow's worship and teaching.
Pray for this month's mission partner: London City Mission
- Sun 22** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; church leaders across the nation
- Mon 23** People suffering from bereavement, particularly anyone we know
- Tue 24** Our Mission Partner: Bible Society
- Wed 25** People working in dangerous jobs

- Thu 26** People who suffer discrimination
- Fri 27** Our Mission Partner: Mission Without Borders
- Sat 28** Tomorrow's worship and teaching.
Pray for this month's mission partner: London City Mission
- Sun 29** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; Christian church leaders across the world
- Mon 30** Our Mission Partner: Christians Against Poverty

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The persecuted church: North Korea (Contact: Ken Nash)

North Korea's Songbun system classifies citizens according to their perceived loyalty to the state. The Korean word "songbun" means "ingredients" (substance, makeup), the North Korean's political structure applies the word to identify a citizen's socio-political background. Those with religious beliefs – and especially Christians – are identified as "hostile", and are considered to be enemies of the state. They are routinely imprisoned, and in many cases executed. Any of the things we take for granted – praying, talking about the faith, owning a Bible, meeting with other believers – would be sufficient to incur the wrath of the regime.

Please continue to pray for Christians facing imprisonment, torture, or execution for their faithfulness in obeying God rather than men (Acts 4:19). Pray that through their courageous witness the Church will continue to grow in North Korea.

Barnabas Aid

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

Michelle writes:

Give thanks for a lovely weekend away in the gamepark with friends who are leaving Zambia. Praise God for his amazing creation.

Pray for Jeff and Rose my friends who are leaving after 30 years here as they settle in to the USA and for me as I miss them.

Pray for those suffering due to poor rains and drought last year.

Pray for the hospital to cope with the ongoing daily power cuts affecting our daily running if the hospital.

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Coming soon! Sunday 22nd September!

Pray for all missionaries going on Deputation to Churches around the country, seeking to inform and inspire Christians about the Gospel work and ministry of LCM. It is vital to have the prayers and financial support needed for this wonderful saving work to be able to continue.

Two missionaries will be visiting Cromer Parish Church and St Martin's on Sunday 22nd September. Charlie (Charlotte) Macdonald will be speaking at the Parish Church at 8.45 and 10.30 am services. Charlie is Team Leader for London schools working in the East End. There are over 3,000 schools in London. Charlie is married with 4 children. Rebecca Tortelli will be speaking at St Martin's at 10.30. She is a missionary in Hackney, working with children, youth and schools. She seeks to bring hope to those on the margins of society in one of the most deprived areas of London.

Please pray for Charlie and Rebecca as they prepare to come to Cromer on the 22nd and give them a warm welcome!

Good News for Everyone (Contact: Jenny Jacquier and Jenny Syder)

Work in North Norfolk

- We are starting to contact the local secondary schools to offer to take an assembly and offer Youth Testaments to year 7 students.
- At the Aylsham Show in August, we are able to distribute 200 specially designed scriptures & Explore Magazines. Please pray for those who accepted a New Testament that they will read them and come know the Saviour.
- During Carnival Week on the 21st August, we will offer visitors to the church a New Testament, a Hope magazine and Explore booklet. Please pray that visitors will be interested enough to open the scriptures and read them.
- Please continue to pray that local Christians would be called by God to join our team, we are short of volunteers.

International Work

Mission Eurasia

Over the past year, GOOD NEWS for Everyone! has been able to provide funds to purchase Scriptures for Ukraine through Mission Eurasia, a partner organisation of GNFE and ShareWord Global. From 28 July to 5 August, a small team from Mission Eurasia travelled in Moldova and Poland, speaking in churches, encouraging local believers, distributing Scriptures for delivery into Ukraine.

CAP – Christians Against Poverty (Contact: Jess and Anne Mary Stubenbord)

CAP's latest client report, published earlier in the year, highlights the brutal reality of UK poverty and what CAP is doing to tackle it. The statistics and testimonies included are sobering, showing a growing need for CAP's services throughout the UK, but the research also shines a light on the miracles being performed through acts of kindness every day.

Stuart Winter, who works for CAP writes: "Letter after letter has been arriving from people whose lives have been transformed. Honestly, it's incredible to read their stories. So I've asked permission to forward some of the post bag."

- "I had a chippy tea last Friday. It's a small thing, isn't it? But for me, that meal (bought with money I'd saved through budgeting!) felt like a milestone. A new start, thanks to you. Two years ago I was scraping around for coppers to even go to the shops. I was in a violent relationship, my mental health was poor, and I was struggling in every way. But all of you at CAP helped me so much. Everything has changed and I feel like I am walking on a cloud! You gave me a new lease of life. Now I'm not just debt free, I'm a Christian and part of a church family. Believe me, I feel like a different person - you wouldn't recognise the Fiona of two years ago. Words can't express how grateful I am. Thank you. In Christ, Fiona"

- "To everyone in the CAP family. You saved my life, and I mean that. I couldn't have become debt free on my own. Your support over the past four years has been AMAZING. You have been so kind, and always professional. You helped me much more than you will ever know. Thank you so much.

Terry 😊"

So please keep praying that God uses CAP

- to help individuals and families out of extreme poverty and shame
- and points them to Christ the Light of the world.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

- Throughout July and August, at different venues throughout the country, CPAS have been running Ventures and Falcons Christian Residential Holidays for 8–18-year-olds. Please pray for the young people as they return home that what they have learnt and experienced will encourage them to share, with others, the love of Jesus. Give thanks for all who have made these holidays possible, the leaders, the catering staff and administrators, and that their faith has grown with the experience of serving in this way.

- Many churches have expressed the need for help following an influx of seekers into their congregations, so, with that in mind CPAS are running an Online Training Event on the 18th September looking at how to create a welcoming culture and prepare for newcomers exploring faith. Please pray for this online facility that it will greatly help to support the work of local ministry.

Hope into Action (Contact: Katharine Checketts)

- CEO Jon Kuhrt was invited to give a lecture about the future of Christian social action for the organisation Together for the Common Good. The event was held in memory of the late MP for Birkenhead, Frank Field, who was a Christian and a life-long anti-poverty campaigner. Jon argues that a practical theology of grace and truth is what we most need to navigate the challenges of Christian social action. This links in with a report on volunteering in the UK, which has declined in recent years. However, HIA is bucking the trend. Volunteers are at the heart of its work. Jon's speech can be found on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aNK3IFj4Ujo>
- Hope into Action Norwich are looking for an Operation and Office Administrator. *Please pray* that the right person will be appointed.
- Several trustees are coming to the end of their term of office. *Please pray* that new trustees with the right qualifications will come forward.

Bible Society (Contact: David Anderson)

- Remember our Open the Book teams as they return to our schools this autumn. Please pray for Open the Book in multi-faith schools, in inner cities such as Birmingham. The Society is working to promote the importance of the Bible in education. So, they are very grateful for the fantastic work of over 15,500 Open the Book volunteers helping school children to engage with the Bible.
- **The Romans Tour** is an interactive Bible Society event that features teaching, spoken word poetry, live music and some comic touches as it explores Paul's letter to the Romans. It is coming to various churches around the UK this autumn. Pray for the success of its outreach.
- At a small church in the Southwest of England, a young man who recently arrived from Iran received his first Bible. He almost couldn't believe what he was touching. 'If they see you holding a Bible like this in Iran,' he said, 'They kill you.' The Bible Society is active around the world, reaching more people than ever with God's word, but this is an

exciting picture of today's domestic mission, which our support and many others makes possible.

- Bible Society teams serving all communities in the Bible Lands have been working together through the war to share Jesus. Supporters here at home, passionate about outreach, have responded with extraordinary generosity to ensure people of all communities experience God's love in these desperate times.

Mission Without Borders (MWB) (Contact: Anne Attfield)

Ukraine

Please pray for family T from MWB's Sarny community. Their son has had a kidney transplant. Pray for a full recovery and that the new kidney functions fully. Please pray for protection against Russian rocket attacks. Energy systems have been under attack and caused power outages and blackouts. Pray that MWB's generators hold up.

Bulgaria

Pray for the elderly attending regular Bible studies that the Lord would continue to work in their hearts.

Moldova

Please continue to pray for Arthur aged 10, a boy from MWB's 'Children in Community' programme who had an accident at home and has needed two surgeries on his leg and is still very weak.

Romania

Pray for MWB's 'Back to School' campaign as they buy all the supplies for the children's backpacks. Pray they receive generous deals from the big stores. Please continue to pray for recovery for Petri, aged 11, who is back with his family after being treated for Leukaemia and for Denis, aged 14, who needs special medical treatment that he will be able to access the best treatment the state offers.

Open Doors (Contact: Judith Anderson)

Iraq

It's 10 years since ISIS brought havoc to this country.

Now people are beginning to return, Christians amongst them, to seek the remains of their homes, and livelihoods.

Over this period, Open Doors has continued to support many Christian families, providing food, basic supplies, trauma counselling, and helping to rebuild homes and businesses.

Please pray for our Christian brothers and sisters in Iraq as they return to settle once again. Please pray that they feel safe and are able to enjoy the full rights of citizenship and religious freedom.

Bangladesh

During the recent unrest in this country, Christians (and Hindus) are being targeted by radical Islamic groups, who are compiling lists of those who have converted to Christianity, to target their home and businesses.

Please pray for the interim government, that they will have wisdom, guidance, and courage, as they seek the welfare of the country in these difficult days.

Please pray for minority groups facing attacks, that Christians will know the presence and protection of God.

India

Since the BJP lost its majority in recent elections attacks on minority groups, especially Christians, have increased.

The area of Uttar Pradesh has been particularly targeted with many Christians arrested and imprisoned. Their offence? Praying! Many arrested at prayer meetings, betrayed by other villagers. Also accused of forced conversions to Christianity.

Open Doors are supporting many Christian families and providing advocacy for them as they face court appearances for trumped up charges and false accusations.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in India.

<p>Please send prayer requests for October to Katharine Checketts by Monday 23rd September</p>
