

Prayer Diary – January 2025

*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)
7.15 pm CC Community Choir rehearsal in St Martin's

Wednesdays Small groups meet morning, afternoon and evening

- 10.00 am Holy Communion
10.00 am 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
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). Meet
at St Martin's church beforehand (23rd January)

Fridays

- 6.45 pm Choir Practice in the Parish Church
2.00 pm Table tennis group at St Martin's

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR JANUARY

See below for prayer requests from Mission Partners and others

- Wed 1** Hospitals, care homes and those who work in them
- Thu 2** Our judges and our justice system
- Fri 3** Our Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sat 4** Tomorrow's worship and teaching
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 5** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 6** Our Bishops and Archbishops
- Tue 7** Garment workers, that they may have fair working conditions
- Wed 8** Our Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Thu 9** Young adults
- Fri 10** People struggling to find adequate housing
- Sat 11** Tomorrow's worship and teaching
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 12** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 13** Our Mission Partner: Hope into Action
- Tue 14** African countries suffering under conflict
- Wed 15** Our Mission Partner: Christians Against Poverty
- Thu 16** People struggling to make ends meet
- Fri 17** Peace in the Holy Lands and in Syria
- Sat 18** Tomorrow's worship and teaching
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 19** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; national church leaders
- Mon 20** A just government in the USA
- Tue 21** Those who work in low-paid, unpleasant conditions
- Wed 22** Our Mission Partner: CPAS
- Thu 23** Ukraine
- Fri 24** Pray and give thanks for public sector workers: street sweepers, refuse disposal collectors etc.

Sat 25	Tomorrow's worship and teaching Pray for our own opportunities for mission
Sun 26	Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; other local church leaders
Mon 27	The persecuted Church
Tue 28	Our Mission Partner: Bible Society
Wed 29	Immigrants and refugees
Thu 30	Research scientists working to find solutions to modern problems
Fri 31	The conservation of local and global wildlife

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The persecuted church: Mexico (Contact: Ken Nash)

Religious intolerance is on the increase in Mexico, particularly in Oaxaca, and evangelicals are the most common target.

Evangelicals Now reports that the situation is worst in Cerro Cajon, San Juan Lalana, where traditionalist Roman Catholics are persecuting evangelicals.

Many have had to leave their villages, churches have been burned down, land and livestock stolen and homes destroyed.

The Interdenominational Christian Church (ICIAR) held a protest outside the National Palace to demand freedom of religion and an end to the violence.

Mexican journalist Ellelein Kirk reported that at least 500 people and 50 families are now exiled. "They have been robbed, threatened, beaten, fined and had their children banned from schools; all because of the religion they profess".

Heart News

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

- Give thanks that we have had rains.
- Pray for this season's rains to continue and for there be enough rain for crops to grow and dams that provide our hydroelectricity to be filled.
- Pray for families who do not have enough food. On the children's ward we are seeing an increase in admissions for and deaths from malnutrition
- Pray that the staff on the children's ward would have compassion and wisdom as they care for children. And that they would know God's comfort and peace as they work in difficult circumstances

Thank you for praying.

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

Rob Prendergast, LCM's Director of training and Mentoring, reflects on the past 10 years of the innovative Pioneer Programme.

He is so thankful for the way God has blessed the Programme and provided 50 students from a variety of backgrounds, many very underprivileged and lacking much education. But God has been turning them into effective and fruitful missionaries and disciples in their localities and churches where they are inspiring fellow Christians, to participate in outreach events and personal witness.

The programme has only been made possible through the generous giving by LCM supporters, since many of the participants have very limited resources. The work they do as Pioneers is part time, so they need to have other part-time jobs.

They are trained to lead devotions or give short gospel talks or preach full sermons or lead an outreach team. They have instruction in understanding the Bible so that they can explain it to others.

Key Prayer Points are:

- more recruits for the Pioneer Programme,
- faithfulness for those leading the training,
- for the finance to maintain it,
- for protection for all the Pioneers,
- for perseverance for all participants,
- for many to find Christ through their witness and in turn lead others to Christ,
- for God to give them all great encouragement and Joy in the Lord.

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

Work in North Norfolk

On the 7th December, we were able hand out 70 New Testaments and 50 Explore Magazines at the "Christmas Tree Festival". Do pray that that these will be read. Many have never picked up or read the scriptures before, so we told them where the Christmas story was to be found in the Gospels.

International Work

India

Good News for Everyone has received a request to purchase Bibles for the Indian states of Odisha and West Bengal. In Odisha, the persecution of Christians is some of the harshest throughout India and there is a desperate need for Bibles. There have been several instances of pastors being killed. However, despite these challenges the vital work of sharing the Gospel continues. Brother John (name changed) is an evangelist who is involved in delivering personal evangelism training and encouraging believers to spread

the Good News to their neighbours and friends and often faces danger and persecution:

In West Bengal, the GNfE Regional Coordinator has managed to build excellent relationships in the border communities that serve the local churches, but also with pastors who are able to take Bibles into Nepal and Bhutan (where the Bible is banned); again, there is a great need for Bibles in these areas.

By God's Grace and the generosity of members, Friends, churches, and other supporters gave £100,000 to purchase Bibles that will go directly into the hands of those who do not own a Bible and have no means of obtaining one. Please pray for this work and the Lord's protection over His faithful servants as they travel and share the Gospel.

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

There is A brand-new venture at Sheringham, CAP Life Skills group at Sheringham Men's Shed, to help gain practical skills and to discover new ways to live for a brighter future. This new group starts Tuesday January 25th from 12:30 – 2:30pm. Poverty and debt can make us feel trapped, hopeless, overwhelmed, ashamed and depressed. Poverty can be isolating too. Please pray that people can find the right support- emotionally, financially and spiritually. And that the new CAP Life Skills group will help many people.

Pray that folk can find:

- the right plan for them and new habits that will lead to a new outcome in their finances,
- “and the loving God who will supply every need of yours according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus” Philippians 4:19.

Praise God that many are coming out of debt and more of these are finding God as their heavenly Father.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

- CPAS is the UK's largest evangelical patron, with nearly 700 parishes covering every English diocese. Please pray for these churches, that they may be a great blessing to the communities in which they are placed. Also pray for the churches that are seeking new leadership, that along with the PCC, mission-shaped leaders will be appointed.
- For your information, if you go to the CPAS web site you can follow the directions to find a three-month Prayer Diary.

Hope into Action (Contact: Katharine Checketts)

The Hope into Action annual conference is on Wednesday 12th March 2025 in Peterborough. It is an inspiring event, with well-known speakers, talks and information as well as stories from tenants. Early-bird tickets are now on sale.

The Big Give Christmas appeal was a great success, 100% match-funded. Give thanks for all the generous donors.

Hope into Action is not just giving a home to the homeless, it is about establishing relationships, restoring positive identities. Empowerment workers help tenants to find their own power. One tenant said, "She didn't just give me a ladder, she helped me build my own staircase."

This year, over 60% of tenants wanted to be prayed for and 16 tenants were baptised. Let us pray for all tenants, that they may be empowered.

Bible Society (Contact: David Anderson)

God's word is for everyone and when people hear it in their heart language they recognise it as their story. If you're from a place not mentioned in the Bible, you can celebrate the miracle that the gospel has reached you. But if you are from a land that is mentioned, is it inspiring to see the country you call home named in the Bible?

Amir leads Bible mission in Egypt, and he says Egyptians love Isaiah 19.25. When God says, 'Blessed be my people Egypt', they hear him calling them by name. Christians are a minority in Egypt but they're proud to be identified with Christ.

Pray for Amir as he takes the Bible to the January Cairo International Book Fair. He says: 'This event gets millions of visitors. A lot of non-Christians approach us and ask about the Bible. This is a good opportunity to give a Bible to anyone who asks for one.' Bible workers in Egypt produce an impressive array of Scripture resources that reach across the Arab world. People are interacting with God's word more deeply than ever and the effect is transformative. But Egypt's economic crisis makes these life-changing resources unaffordable for most people. Our support can contribute to putting God's word in people's hands and hearts.

Please pray for the Bible Society team in Syria. You may have heard that Syria's main cities, long held by government forces despite years of fighting, have fallen recently and the Syrian Arab Republic is transferring sovereignty to rebel forces. Christians in Syria have no idea what the future will look like for them. The team members in Aleppo, who managed to share the Bible throughout the war, are unharmed and hope to be able to continue their work under the new administration. Will you ask God to keep them safe and to

create amazing new opportunities for them to share Jesus at a frightening time?

Please send prayer requests for February to Katharine Checketts
by Monday 20th January