

Prayer Diary – March 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.
- 6.30 pm The Gathering at the Parish Church

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).

Fridays

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

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR MARCH

See below for prayer requests from Mission Partners and others

- Sat 1** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 13v31-35 – The mustard seed and the yeast). Speakers: Paul Neale (Parish Church), Will Warren (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sun 2** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 3** World Book Day. Akili Trust (akilitrust.org) is a small charity that has founded and supports two libraries in a rural part of Kenya, and also funds bursaries for students
- Tue 4** Open the Book
- Wed 5** Conflict zones in Africa
- Thu 6** Our Mission Partner: Bible Society
- Fri 7** World Day of Prayer – service today at the Methodist Church 2pm
- Sat 8** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 13v44-46 – The treasure and the pearl). Speakers: David Masters (Parish Church), Paul Rosier (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sun 9** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 10** Mustard Seed
- Tue 11** Children who are struggling in school
- Wed 12** Our Mission Partner: Hope into Action (Conference today)
- Thu 13** People who need a place to call home
- Fri 14** Our Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor
- Sat 15** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 13v47-52 – The net and the fish). Speakers: Will Warren (Parish Church), Paul Rosier (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sun 16** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; national church leaders
- Mon 17** Our Mission Partner: Christians Against Poverty
- Tue 18** Mothers Union and our Cromer branch
- Wed 19** Crafts2Share

- Thu 20** The world's climate
- Fri 21** Our Mission Partner: CPAS
- Sat 22** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 13v53-58 – A prophet without honour). Speakers: Tim Britton (Parish Church), John Chandler (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sun 23** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; other local church leaders
- Mon 24** Our armed forces
- Tue 25** Missing persons and their loved ones
- Wed 26** Budget Day. See in particular the prayer notes for CAP
- Thu 27** Our Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Fri 28** Families
- Sat 29** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Eph 5v22-6v4 – God's design for families). Speakers: Will Warren (Parish Church), tbc (St Martin's)
Pray for this month's Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Sun 30** **Mothering Sunday** Our services, children's groups and youth group. Our church leaders; our bishops and archdeacons
- Mon 31** Rescuers: firefighters, mountain rescuers, first responders, paramedics, air ambulance crews, RNLI, Coastguard

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The persecuted church: World-wide (Contact: Ken Nash)

International Christian Concern has released its annual report – the Global Persecution Index. ICC President Jeff King says: Approximately 300 million Christians worldwide face persecution of all types, including imprisonment, torture and assassination.

The report highlights Nicaragua, India, the DRC and Nigeria as countries where there has been a dramatic decrease in security for believers. Meanwhile, according to the Pew Research Centre, global persecution has never been greater.

The Centre concludes that attacks on religious groups occurred in a record-breaking 192 countries and territories. Government policies and changes in attitudes of society are cited as the main causes. Christians are suffering more than any other group, experiencing persecution in 166 countries – the most ever recorded.

Heart News

London City Mission (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

LCM 's focus is on God's invitation to His wonderful Banquet. Indeed, one of LCM's flats for group living for vulnerable men is called the Banquet House! The missionaries are encouraging church members to leave their comfort zones and welcome in the most vulnerable and needy in their communities. They face the possibility of rejection and hostility but are finding that some are accepting God's invitation to come and find friendship and help, and above all the love of Jesus. It takes courage to face rejection but as St Paul said, 'the love of Christ compels us!'- love for 'all the lonely people'.

There is very encouraging response from Farsi speakers in N London, where one new congregation has recently grown from just 4 Farsi speakers to 43 who have given their lives to Christ. They in turn are now inviting their friends and neighbours, mostly from Muslim backgrounds (the hardest to reach - they are taught not to forgive and never to forget). One such lady says that since turning to Christ she is learning to forgive and love her enemies.

- Praise God for the many who have accepted Jesus' invitation to His Banquet.
- Pray for those who so far have rejected Him, to accept His free gift of forgiveness and salvation and the support and friendship of their local Church and face up to the persecution they will probably experience.
- Pray for wisdom and protection for all the Christians seeking out the lost sheep.

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

Michelle writes:

Hello from Zambia,

- Give thanks for safe travels to Lusaka. It took 12.5 hours, and the road was very muddy in places.
- Give thanks for new doctors at the hospital and continue to pray as they settle in. Pray for unity as a team.
- Pray for hospital chaplains as they minister to patients and staff. Pray for the right person to be found to fill a vacancy on the chaplain's team.

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

Spiritual Objectives

Good News for Everyone is an Association of men and women who love the Lord Jesus and want others to put their faith and trust in Him and be saved. The 'Objective' of the Association is to introduce others to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Work in North Norfolk

On 8th March we are inviting all of our church community to the Parish Hall at 2.30pm for a presentation about the work of GNfE in North Norfolk over the past year. There will be light refreshments. Please pray that many will be interested.

International Work – Cuba

Last January Rick and Helen Hillard from the Torbay Branch joined a small team from ShareWord Global (the international work of GNfE) to visit Cuba, where they spent a week visiting churches to present and teach a Relational Evangelism Program to assist them in their outreach.

CAP – Christians Against Poverty (Contact: Claire Harber)

With the spring budget due to take place towards the end of this month, please pray that the government:

- commits to bringing wages in line with the true cost of living;
- makes a clear commitment to address poverty in the UK, including funding debt advice and other projects to help those in financial difficulty;
- extends the Household Support Fund (council funding to assist those struggling to buy food, heat homes and meet other essential needs) beyond April.

Please pray that the decision-makers and aides within government are guided by compassion and wisdom and with recognition and understanding of people's experience.

Please pray for the leaders of CAP that they hear and act on God's guidance. Ask that God grant them wisdom to make the right decisions in all their work.

Please also pray for those at CAP involved in meeting people to give financial advice and assistance, that they will be confident in sharing the gospel so that more people may come to know Jesus.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

- Please pray for God's guidance and blessing on all the CPAS staff and particularly for Rev. Jon Scamman, CEO; Val Floy, Director of Operations and Finance; Tim Friend, Ventures and Falcons Principal; and Mike Duff, Patronage Secretary.
- School Ventures are residentials for Church of England primary schools, run in conjunction with local churches. Pupils investigate the core claims of the Christian faith and discover what's on for them through their local church. There are two School Ventures taking place in March, one in Chorley between 17th and 19th March and another in Winchester between 19th and 21st March, so please pray for the children involved that the Lord will prepare the children's hearts so that they may receive the good news of Jesus.

Hope into Action (Contact: Katharine Checketts)

- Please pray for the success of the conference in Peterborough on 12th March
- Pray for the team who work to bring people together at the Conference, especially Jon Kuhrt (CEO), Kat Doran-Smith (Head of Delivery and Training), and very especially Debs Green (Norwich Team Lead)
- Give thanks for the positive feedback from a survey of tenants, franchises, empowerment workers, friendship and support volunteers, church leaders

Bible Society (Contact: David Anderson)

Please pray for the team of people operating the Bible Society, who come from a variety of different backgrounds and church traditions but are united by a belief that the Bible is for everyone. The job titles show the many roles and tasks being carried out by the staff.

The President is His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London. The Vice-Presidents are Sal Brinton, Baroness Brinton; Prof David F Ford; Cardinal Vincent Nichols; Revd Maeve Sherlock, Baroness Sherlock; Sir David Suchet CBE; Revd Stephen Gaukroger; Revd Dr Krish Kandiah OBE; and Paul Boateng, Baron Boateng.

The strategic direction and day-to-day leadership of the Bible Society

Group is in the hands of the Leadership Team. This is led by Paul Williams, the Chief Executive. Kate Andrews – Chief Financial Officer. Toby Beresford – Director of Digital Strategy. Derek Hill – Managing Director: Bible Society Resources Ltd. Richard King – Counsel on Legal Risk Management and Governance. Nigel Langford – Director of Domestic Mission. Rhiannon McAleer – Director of Research and Impact. Chine McDonald – Director of Theos. Oldi Morava – Director of International Mission. Stuart Noble – Chief Operating Officer. Claire Sims – Director of Communications & Marketing. Melinda Staines – Director of People and Culture.

Please send prayer requests for April to Katharine Checketts
by **Monday 24th March**