



MARCH PRAYER DIARY

Reflecting on the words of Ezekiel 36:26, we pray:

Lord, thank you that you make us new creations, 'the old has gone, the new has come!' Please keep us tender-hearted, and if our hearts become hard, please soften them through the work of the Holy Spirit you have put within us, keep us in your love. Amen.

We encourage you to reflect on Ezekiel 36:26 throughout this month and use it to guide your prayer time.

Wednesday 1st – Saturday 4th

The start of March marks World Compliment Day. Lord, help us to be lavish in our compliments and remind us to be kind, 'encouraging one another and building one another up' (1 Thessalonians 5:11). As we pray, please put people on our hearts who particularly need encouragement this week.

1. For the White Cross Mission Community, its priest Bill Lemmey, LLM Christine Grist, and for all who live and worship in Woodbury with Exton, Woodbury Salterton, Farringdon, Clyst St Mary, Clyst St George, and Aylesbeare.

2. On University Mental Health Day, we pray for students struggling with their mental health, particularly those studying in Devon. Please prompt us to reach out to students in our communities and continue to pray for them, that they would know the love and peace of God.

3. On the World Day of Prayer, we join in a global wave of prayer for Taiwan. We give thanks for your church there, and pray you would strengthen them, reminding them of God's immeasurable power working in and through them.

4. In our link with the Diocese of Bayeux-Lisieux, we pray for the Cathedral at Bayeux, and for the parishes, their clergy and the people in the area of Bayeux.

Sunday 5th – Saturday 11th

During Carers Week, we pray for all those who care for others in either paid or voluntary roles. We pray they would know the impact of their love and kindness towards those they care for, and that they would receive a renewal of energy from you, Lord.

5. During 'No More' Week, we give thanks for campaigns like 'UK Says No More' which raises awareness to end domestic abuse and sexual violence. We pray for more support for victims, and that your church and its people would be a safe space for them.

6. For the Winkleigh Mission Community, its priest Helen Blaine, and for all who live and worship in Winkleigh, Brushford, Broadwood Kelly, and Ashreigney.

7. For the Withycombe Raleigh Mission Community, its priest Robert Sellers, and for all who live and worship in Withycombe Raleigh.

8. On International Women's Day, we give thanks for the women who bless our lives and communities. We pray for women around the world suffering because of prejudice, abuse, and hate. Where there is despair, we pray for hope. Help us build a world that celebrates and empowers women.

9. For the Yealm and Erme Mission Community, its clergy Alan Ryan, Kim Lovell, LLM Tricia Stringer, and for all who live and worship in Yealmpton, Wembury, Revelstoke, Newton Ferrers, Holbeton, Brixton.

10. In our link with the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, we pray for the Ven. Canon Dr Michael Mbona, Archdeacon in the Gulf, and for the clergy and churches in the Archdeaconry which spans several countries. May God unite them even when miles separate them.

11. For the Alphington Mission Community, its clergy Mike Partridge, LLMs Ruth Ramsbottom, Anthony Cummings, and for all who live and worship in Shillingford St George, Ide, and Alphington.

Sunday 12th – Saturday 18th

During this season of Lent, would you continue to strengthen us in our prayer, fasting and worship. Please help us to search our hearts, just as you search us and know us. Teach us to only seek you. May anything we have placed above you fall away.

12. For the Ashburton & Moorland Mission Community, its clergy Mark Rylands, Geoffrey Fenton, and for all who live and worship in Widecombe in the Moor, Leusdon, Holne, Ashburton with Buckland in the Moor and Bickington.

13. In our link with Melanesia, we give thanks for their climate adaptation programmes, helping communities deal with extreme weather conditions, flooding, coastal erosion and crop failures. We pray for your provision, that funding will be available to enable these programmes.

14. On Young Carers Action Day, we pray for young carers in our communities and for those who may not recognise their role as a caregiver, help us to support them. Jesus, your burden is light even when ours feel heavy, may they come to you and find rest.

15. For the Aune Valley Mission Community, its priest Daniel Hartley, and for all who live and worship in Woodleigh, Thurlestone, South Milton, Loddiswell, and Churchstow.

16. For the Axe Valley Mission Community, its clergy Clive Sedgewick, Nicky Davies, Cate Edmonds, Shuna George, Tracey Voysey, LLM Su Clark, and for all who live and worship in Uplyme, Membury, Combyne with Rousdon, Chardstock, Axmouth, Axminster, and All Saints

17. For the Barnstaple Mission Community, its clergy Martyn Tyrrell, Paul Taylor, Guy Chave-Cox, David Fletcher, Selina Garner, Shirley Paterson, Cathy Scoffield, Robin Smith, Ildiko Varadi, LLMs Peter Nott, Joanna Pay, and for all who live and worship in Sticklepath with Roundswell, Pilton with Ashford, Newport, Goodleigh, Bishops Tawton, and Barnstaple

18. On Red Nose Day, we give thanks for the difference Comic Relief is making to the lives of millions of people as it aims to tackle poverty around the world. We pray for churches participating in the event and that we would be stirred to generosity.

I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your body and give you a heart of flesh.

EZEKIEL 36:26

Sunday 19th – Saturday 25th

During Debt Awareness Week, we pray for all those affected by debt and poverty in our communities. We pray that our churches would reflect Christ's love and generosity towards others. We give thanks for charities working across Devon and beyond to support those in need.

19. On Mothering Sunday, we give thanks for our mothers and their love for us. We pray for those who find Mother's Day difficult due to loss, estrangement, or inability to have children. Thank you that you comfort us 'as a mother comforts her child'. (Isaiah 66:13)

20. On the First Day of Spring, we reflect on new life, and the new lives Christ has given us. We give thanks, that He brought us from darkness into light. Though the seasons change, we remember that God remains the same 'For his steadfast love endures forever.' (Psalm 136:1)

21. On the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, we pray for all those who have been victims of racism, and ask for forgiveness when the church has been a part of this. We know God made all of humanity in his likeness, and that he calls all nations to himself. We pray for an end to racism in all its forms.

22. On World Water Day, we pray for the 2.2 billion people without access to safe water due to the water and sanitation crisis. Lord of living waters, convict us to re-think how we use water and how we support our global neighbours.

23. On the Marie Curie National Day of Reflection, we join with others across the UK to remember those we've lost and support those who are grieving. May they know that the Lord is near to the broken-hearted, and one day he will wipe away every tear.

24. For the Beacon Parishes Mission Community, its priest Andrew Down, LLM Hillarie Griggs, and for all who live and worship in Woodland, Ipplepen with Torbryan, Denbury, and Broadhempston.

25. On the Feast of the Annunciation, when the angel told Mary she would give birth to Jesus, we remember her willingness to trust God. We pray Mary's faith would inspire us to say: 'I am the Lord's servant.' May your will be done in our lives.

Sunday 26th – Friday 31st

During the last week of the school term, as the Easter holiday approaches, we pray for energy for our teachers and other school staff and pupils and their parents. We also pray for the churches planning holiday clubs, particularly those providing food for families struggling because of the cost-of-living crisis at the moment.

26. On Epilepsy Awareness Day or 'Purple Day', we pray for the 600,000 people in the UK affected by epilepsy and give thanks for the organisations researching ways to improve the lives of people with epilepsy.

27. For the Bere Ferrers with Bere Alston Mission Community, its priest Nick Law, and for all who live and worship in Bere Ferrers with Bere Alston.

28. For the Bideford and the Four Villages Mission Community, its clergy Claire Rose-Casemore, Marisa Cockfield, Kevin Beer, Robin Pirrie, Christopher Hutchins, LLM Sarah Cordingley, and for all who live and worship in Weare Giffard, Monkleigh, Littleham, Landcross, and Bideford.

29. For all Rural Deans in our Diocese, we pray that God will renew their strength and give them wisdom and insight to grow in their knowledge of Him as they serve across Devon.

30. For the Bovey Valley Mission Community, its priest Graham Hamilton, LLM Carolyn Laycock, and for all who live and worship in Ilsington, Hennock, and Bovey Tracey with Heathfield.

31. Our link with the Diocese of Thika, we pray for Ven. David Murage and the clergy and people of the Gatanga Archdeaconry. We also pray for the parishes of Giachuki, Kiairegi, Ndunyu Chege, Kiarutara, Thika Memorial and Kame.

Amen.




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