

Sunday 24th – Sunday 31st

During Holy Week, we remember your journey to the cross, that you suffered many things, were rejected, betrayed and killed to save us. May we be filled with awe and thanksgiving at what you endured for us, and filled with hope that you rose from the dead and conquered the grave.

24. On Palm Sunday we remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem as people shouted 'Hosanna', which means save us, 'blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord' (*Mark 11:9*). May we rejoice in you today and always, our King and Saviour.

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.

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 churches of the St Andrew & St Paul Mission Community, their clergy Joe Dent, Leon Sim, Tim Partridge, Philip Cairns, LLM David Huntley, and for all who live and worship in St Paul Stonehouse and St Andrew Plymouth.

28. On Maundy Thursday, we remember Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, saying 'Unless I wash you, you have no part with me.'

Lord, thank you that you have washed us and made us clean. Help us to follow your example of humbly serving and your instruction to 'wash one another's feet.' (*John 13:1-7*)

29. On Good Friday, we remember Jesus' crucifixion. In your innocence, you died for the guilty. 'God shows his love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.' (*Romans 5:8*). May we never cease to give thanks for what you have done for us.

30. On Easter Saturday, we reflect on the significance of the cross, and pray for those who don't yet know the truth and hope of Christ' death and resurrection: 'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.' (*John 3:16*)

31. On Easter Sunday, we proclaim Christ is risen, he has conquered the grave! Remind us that the same power that raised Christ from the dead, is at work in us. We have been raised with Christ, help us to set our hearts on things above (*Colossians 3:1*). We wait and pray for your return.

Amen.



MARCH PRAYER DIARY

Friday 1st – Saturday 9th

During Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we pray for all those living with ovarian cancer, and their families and friends. We pray that in their pain they would know the love you have for them. We give thanks for organisations working to discover new ways to prevent and treat ovarian cancer.

1. On the World Day of Prayer 2024, we join with the global church – led by Christian women in Palestine – in praying the words of *Ephesians 4:1-6*, that we would 'bear with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.'

2. For the Paignton Mission Community, its clergy Neil Knox, and for all who live and worship in Paignton.

3. On World Wildlife Day, we remember that you gave us the Earth to cherish and steward, convict us to do what we can to protect all you have created. 'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (*Psalms 24:1*).

4. During 'No More' Week, which raises awareness to end domestic abuse and sexual violence. We pray for healing for all those who have been victims of abuse. As your church, may we demonstrate your love and care to victims and point them to you.

5. For the churches of the Offwell Mission Community, their priest Jeremy Putnam, and for all who live and worship in Widworthy, Offwell, and Farway.

6. For the churches of the Otter Vale Mission Community, their clergy Lydia Cook, Mark Ward, David Carrington, LLMs Caroline Poultney, David Williamson, Alan Steel, Ann Yates, and for all who live and worship in West Hill, St Michael, Tipton St John with Venn Ottery, Payhembury, Ottery St Mary, Newton Poppleford, Harpford, Feniton with Escot, Colaton Raleigh, and Alington.

7. For the churches of the Our Lady and All the Saints North Torquay Mission Community, their clergy Paul Jones, Nick Debney, Kenny Wickens, LLM Pamela Macey, and for all who live and worship in Torquay St Martin Barton, St Marychurch, and Babbacombe.

8. On International Women's Day, we pray for the women in our lives, and as we mark the 30th anniversary of the ordination of women this month, we give thanks for all women serving the church in our Diocese and across the UK. We also pray for justice for women around the world who suffer because of prejudice and abuse.

9. For the churches of the Our Lady of Glastonbury Mission Community, their priest David Bailey, and for all who live and worship in St Aidan Ernesettle, St Chad Whitleigh, and St Francis Honicknowle.

Sunday 10th – Saturday 16th

During this season of Lent, would you continue to strengthen us in our prayer, and worship, that our desire would be to glorify you. Help us draw close to you in our need, remembering your words in the wilderness: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' (*Matt. 4:4, Deut. 8:3*)

10. 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, God, that you comfort us 'as a mother comforts her child'. (*Isaiah 66:13*)

11. For the churches of the Northmoor Mission Community, their clergy Stephen Cook, Adrian Brook, Leigh Winsbury, LLMs Michael Winter OBE, Carol Bache, Kerry Friend, Maurie Webber, Beverley Johnson, Gwyn Thatcher, and for all who live and worship in Sourton, Okehampton, Northlew, Meeth, Lydford, Jacobstowe, Inwardleigh, Hatherleigh, Germansweek, Exbourne, Bridestowe, Bratton Clovelly, and Belstone.

12. For the churches of the Paignton Christ Church Mission Community, their priest Ruth Beckett, LLM David Harwood, and for all who live and worship in Paignton St Paul Preston, and Paignton Christ Church.

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. For the churches of the Pinhoe Church with Hope (Pinhope) Mission Community, their clergy Wiz Slater, Adrian Hough, and for all who live and worship in Pinhoe with Poltimore.

16. For the churches of the Plymouth Charles Mission Community, their clergy Michael Knight, and for all who live and worship in Charles with St Matthias and St Simon Plymouth.

Sunday 17th – Saturday 23rd

As Spring begins, we reflect on new life: 'if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come' (*2 Corinthians 5:17*). We give thanks that you have saved us and given us new life, help us to know this more deeply, and live our lives according to this truth.

17. For the churches of the Plymouth Emmanuel Mission Community, their clergy Robin Brown, Tony Williams, Bev Cree, Darryl Cree, LLMs Timothy Lyddon, Pam Edwards, and for all who live and worship in Emmanuel with St Paul, Plymouth.

18. For the churches of the Plympton Mission Community, their clergy Lizzi Green, Richard Wakerell, LLM Robert Harrison, and for all who live and worship in Plympton St Maurice and Plympton St Mary.

19. On the Feast Day of Joseph of Nazareth, we pray we may follow his example of obedience and faithfulness, remembering that he did all the angel of the Lord instructed him to do, marrying Mary and naming her child Jesus 'because he will save his people from their sins.' (*Matthew 1:18-24*).

20. For the churches of the Plymstock Mission Community, their clergy Jennie Appleby, Carl Budden, Jo Parker, LLMs Graham Dee, Anthony Banbury, and for all who live and worship in Plymstock and Hooe.

21. On the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, we pray that all human beings would be treated with dignity in the knowledge that all people have value, made in the image of God, according to his likeness (*Genesis 1:26*). May your church be an example of unity and love.

22. On World Water Day, we pray for the billions of people without access to safe water due to the water and sanitation crisis. In our desire to love our global neighbours, convict and compel us to rethink how we use water, and how we can support those in need.

23. For the churches of the Raleigh Mission Community, their clergy Martin Jacques, Mike Williams, and for all who live and worship in Otterton, East Budleigh with Bicton, and Budleigh Salterton.

I will put my law within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people.

JEREMIAH 31:33