



DAY OF PRAYER

FOR OUR COMMUNITY
FOR OUR NATION
FOR OUR WORLD

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

- For those you hear about in the news
- Who bear heavy responsibilities
- Who are finding life difficult
- For older people, the frail and lonely, for the ill and dying
- For babies ,children and young people
- For adults in mid life
- For relationships struggling
- For family and friends
- For yourself

FAMILY

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our family and families throughout the world. Give joy to adults nurturing and caring for their family. Through their care may children feel loved and grow to feel confident and secure.

Support parents who struggle, physically, financially or through other pressures. We thank you for relationships between siblings and the wider family especially the role Grandparents play.

Be with families in their daily routine, as they celebrate a new child being born, adjust to a young person leaving home, nurse a sick child or visit an elderly parent. May all families know your love and share that love with each other. We ask this in your name, Amen

TOUGH TIMES - ILLNESS

Gracious God look with compassion on all who are finding life difficult through illness or as a result of accident or surgery.

Give encouragement to the sick and bless those who are caring for them. During long term illness grant them patience and a trust in you. May family and friends show your love through their care and medical staff skill and compassion. We think especially of those with chronic conditions, finding life difficult and living alone.

Console those who tend the sick and dying and give them courage and sensitivity to use these precious times well, knowing that you are ever present.

We trust in your healing love, Amen

FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Heavenly father look with compassion on older people. As we become older it can seem unfair that some retain their health while others become physically frail or suffer from dementia.

We see examples in the Bible of older people serving you and having a significant role to play. Help us to value the contribution that older people make in society, through wisdom, experience and nurturing and helping their families.

Send your healing love on those older people who feel cut off and isolated. Many may have lost contemporaries, are not confident with IT and live far from family. Life can feel bleak. Help us all to do what we can to enrich the lives of the elderly. We ask assured of your love throughout our life, Amen

FOR OLDER PEOPLE

- Pray for
 - Those caring for family members
 - Sunrise Care Home
 - Meadway Care Home
 - Abbeyfield Care Home
 - Hillbrook Grange
 - Bramhall Manor Care Centre

We echo God's commitment to those most at risk of this virus by praying today for those who are particularly vulnerable and isolated: praying for their deliverance, protection and comfort. We hold before God those who care for them – that they would be strengthened and encouraged in this work. Amen

PRESSURES

Loving God so many people are suffering from the stresses of everyday life. Events often beyond our control can throw us off balance and the challenge of coping can affect mental health.

We may not be aware that someone is struggling. We may not want to disclose that we too are not happy , not feeling quite right. We feel we should be ok.

Guide our words and actions when we are with others. Help us to listen to what is being said. It is easier to talk than to listen! May our response be supportive and guided by what we know you would have us do. We know that throughout the stresses of life and losses experienced we can trust in your unfailing love, Amen

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

- Please pray persecuted believers would know the hope God gives (Ephesians 1:18).
- Pray the Holy Spirit would strengthen them (Ephesians 3:16).
- Please pray persecuted believers would know how much God loves them (Ephesians 3:17)
- Pray they would know how to share the gospel (Ephesians 6:19).
- Please pray persecuted believers would fearlessly tell others about Jesus (Ephesians 6:20).

THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

- May they have access to a Bible.
- For those who have been rejected by family and friends, pray that God would surround them with a new Christian "family" who loves them and supports them emotionally and physically.
- Pray for God to be an advocate for women who are socially vulnerable or have lost the custody of their children because of their faith.
- Please pray that God would provide persecuted believers with jobs and safe places to live.

CHRISTIAN AID

- Christian Aid works with local partners and communities to fight injustice, respond to humanitarian emergencies, campaign for change, and help people claim the services and rights to which they are entitled.
- God of reconciliation and grace, You promise us a world where all is new, where love is born when hope is gone, where broken relationships are restored to wholeness.
- May we live as people who know your story of love, and ensure we have the vision to imagine what could be possible if we dared to live this story.
- God of abundant life, may we be witnesses of love, hope and peace, and co-creators of your life in the world. Amen.

FOR THE DIOCESE OF CHESTER

- Pray for
 - Bishop Mark of Chester
 - Bishop Keith of Birkenhead
 - For the new appointments of Bishops for Birkenhead and Stockport
 - For Archdeacons, Mike (Chester) and Ian (Macclesfield)
 - For wisdom in discerning new vision and strategy
- For all who serve the diocese as officers of departments
- For the cathedral and its witness in Chester and beyond

BUSINESSES IN BRAMHALL

- Bramhall is also home to a thriving and wide-ranging business community made up of trades, retail, commercial, hair and beauty, and hospitality businesses, not forgetting our General Medical Practices. Bramhall is also home to many people who commute elsewhere for employment – within Greater Manchester, Cheshire and some further afield.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Lord, we thank you for the community of Bramhall and the way that it has come together and responded positively to the current situation. We pray for the vulnerable who have had to remain in isolation and those who live alone – that they have experienced your love as they wait for the time when they are able to see family and friends once again.
- We pray for families who have had to adapt to home schooling followed by the uncertainties of the return to school and the worries that those sitting exams have had to navigate. Lord, guide them and reassure them in their time of need to feel confident in their abilities moving forwards into the future. We pray for the teachers who have adapted to new ways of teaching and have now returned to the classroom and all school staff as they support our young people going forwards.

PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY

- Lord, we pray for everyone that is suffering from the economic impact that the Covid-19 virus has wreaked upon them – those who have lost their jobs, those who have been furloughed and are still uncertain as to their future, the self-employed. We pray also for our local medical teams, that they continue to be able to serve our local community. We understand that these are difficult times for our health services and we pray that they are able to continue to respond to local needs and keep themselves safe and well both physically and mentally considering the additional stresses and strains this places on all health workers.

PRAYERS FOR OUR SCHOOLS

- Pray for:

- Moss Hey School
- Pownall Green School
- Queensgate School
- The Valley School
- Bramhall High School
- Nurseries in the Parish

We pray for all those involved in the shaping of young lives. We give God thanks for the sacrifice and commitment of teachers and all those involved in serving children and young people in education.

We pray that all might be nurtured and cared for and that every needful resource would be made available – that all lives can flourish even in these difficult times and that no-one would be overlooked. Amen

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM CORONAVIRUS

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen.

THE ENVIROMENT



“for everything, in all Creation,
give thanks to God”.

THE ENVIROMENT

In the beginning, God created ... and it was all good. We, communally and individually, are stewards of creation.

Thank God for all the wonders of the natural world. Think about what it means to you, what it should mean, and how that should influence what you do.

In the Celtic Church, living as part of the whole of the natural world, working as part of it, seeing God in all of it, was understood and constant.

Pray about how we at St Michael's can learn to live day-by-day as stewards of the natural world, and see God in all of it.



THE ENVIROMENT

Some in the Church take a clear lead. St Francis of Assisi was famously at one with the natural world. Today, the Ecumenical Patriarch, Batholomew I, has for many years strongly advocated on “green” issues.

Pray for the leaders of the Churches, for them to have the understanding and the will to inspire and to act.

Evidence of the failure of our stewardship is all around us, changes accelerate towards catastrophe. Yet some still deny or ignore, intent on holding on to their power and wealth.

Prayer that those in authority at whatever level may use their power and wealth to aid the environment.

THE ENVIROMENT

With the scale of the problems, the need for nations and global corporations to act, anything we can do may seem insignificant.

Ask God to help you and strengthen you in your personal commitment to be a steward of creation. Think about what that means.

Sometimes, we don't think, an action seems too small, we're too rushed, "it's only once ...".

Ask God to help you be aware, like members of the Celtic Church, of the environment every day, each day, in every action, in each action.

Think about what that means.

THE ENVIROMENT

Finish your thoughts and prayers, here today, about the environment, by looking at a flower – one of these, one in church, in your home. No words, no thoughts ... God created it, feel Him in it, wait in His presence.

