



# PRAYING ALWAYS

This edition of Praying Always has been written by Derek Balsdon as an interim measure. We are grateful to Kevin Jones for his inspiring work with Praying Always over the past few years. Kevin continues to organise and host Revive: The MET Prayer Weekend. Roz Addington, the new Prayer Secretary will be writing for future editions.

This edition of Praying Always is being created just after Easter while COVID-19 is at its peak. Even if by the time you are reading this it has greatly decreased, there will still be many effects from it being experienced across the UK and around the world, so still plenty to pray about. With the topics I have given for each day, I encourage you to seek things to thank God for as well as to intercede over. I haven't been able to list everything / everyone, so as other things come to mind, please bring them into your prayers.

- 1  **Matthew 10:8** Pray for doctors and nurses on ambulances and in hospitals and health centres; giving thanks for the great work that they do, praying for their protection and effectiveness.
- 2  **James 5:14** Pray for all those who are ill, including those whose other treatments have been delayed because of COVID-19, and those with the virus.
- 3  **Genesis 9:16** Pray that people's anxiety and fear will decrease, and that more people will find hope. The rainbow is being used as a symbol of hope; pray that people will find hope in God.
- 4  **Luke 10:35** Pray for the staff and residents in hospices, care homes, and mental health facilities, especially where many have suffered from COVID-19.
- 5  **1 Corinthians 12:4-6** Pray for those working in local pharmacies, providing medications throughout this difficult season. Pray also for scientists working on treatments and vaccines, that God will inspire them and enable solutions to be found in shorter time scales than usual.
- 6  **Luke 10:38-42** Pray for households where it has been difficult to all live under the same roof, and for those who are struggling with loneliness.
- 7  **Acts 2:37-39** Give thanks for the increased interest in faith and for all those who have become Christians. Pray that our evangelism and nurture will facilitate disciple-making disciples.
- 8  **2 Corinthians 1:3-5** Pray for the bereaved, those who have lost loved-ones from other causes as well as from COVID-19, especially for those who have not been able to 'say goodbye' as they would like to have done. Give thanks for each life that has been lived.
- 9  **Mark 10:14** Pray for the occupants and staff of children's homes, safe houses, rehabilitation centres, young offender centres, prisons and probation centres.
- 10  **John 2:1-11** Pray for those whose special occasions have had to be postponed, including marriages, baptisms, and significant birthdays, anniversaries and retirement parties.
- 11  **Mark 12:31** Pray for all those working within Care in the Community and Social Services, that they will be able to cope with the increased stress, and to effectively care for those in need.
- 12  **Romans 8:26** Pray for all those who have been left feeling hurt and angry, that they will find wholesome and effective ways to express their feelings, and experience healing calm.
- 13  **1 Timothy 2:1-4** Pray for those in government (local, national and international), giving thanks for all they have done to help get us through this difficult season, and for the Lord to help and guide their ongoing decisions.
- 14  **Acts 6:1-7** Pray for your church and other churches, giving thanks for all that has been done to help brothers and sisters in Christ as well as serving the wider community. Pray for the Methodist Church, both locally and Connexionally, in seeking to discern the way forward following the pandemic restrictions.

- 15  **Daniel 2:1** Pray for all those whose mental health has been badly affected over these past few months, and for mental health charities, accommodation units and counsellors.
- 16  **1 Peter 4:10** Pray for all the non-medical staff in hospitals, hospices and health centres; giving thanks for the behind-the-scenes work that they do, and praying for their safety and wellbeing.
- 17  **Matthew 6:33** Pray for a gradual recovery to the economy, for business owners and those self-employed, and that many of the unemployed and furloughed will soon be able to get back into work.
- 18  **Galatians 2:10** Pray for individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet, that they will seek and find the help they need, and that Universal Credit will work more effectively.
- 19  **Acts 7:20-22** Pray for those who have been deprived of visits with family and friends, and give thanks for all those who have gone the extra mile in supporting others. Also pray for households where family members are full-time carers.
- 20  **Colossians 3:5** Pray for those who have experienced abuse, especially due to being largely confined at home, that both the abused and the abusers will get the help and support they need. And pray for abuse and addiction support services.
- 21  **2 Chronicles 7:14** COVID-19 has brought people and nations to their knees physically, pray that people and nations will be brought to their knees spiritually, and that millions will become Christians.
- 22  **Ezekiel 47:22** Pray for those in asylum centres and refugee camps, especially where COVID-19 has affected many lives.
- 23  **Lamentations 5:15** Pray for funeral homes and crematoriums, and all their staff, for coroners and registrars and all those who lead funeral services, especially where they have received the anger of grief.
- 24  **Matthew 25:44-45** Give thanks for Food Banks, and pray that they will get the supplies of food and other goods which they need week by week.
- 25  **Acts 16:9-10** Pray for ministers and lay workers along with their family members who are due to move this summer, those going through the re-invitation process and those entering Stationing at these uncertain times.
- 26  **John 13;14-15** Pray for charities (local, national and international) known to you who are continuing to offer their support and services. Pray also for the massive army of volunteers serving others in many different ways.
- 27  **1 Timothy 2:2** Give thanks for the work of the police, the armed forces and the reservists, and ask God to guide their ongoing work in this country, and in ways they can help the recovery in other countries.
- 28  **Mark 10:21-23** Pray that this pandemic will lead to more people realising that there is more to life than the pursuits of wealth and pleasure, and that people will value life, health, serving others and God more highly.
- 29  **Proverbs 22:6** Give thanks for the ways in which educational establishments have been able to provide remote learning. Pray for those students who are not satisfied with their final results, and that those leaving education will find suitable work.
- 30  **Matthew 25:21** Give thanks for all those who are working to produce, transport and sell essential supplies of food, medications, personal protection equipment, ventilators, etc.
- 31  **Philippians 4:4-6** Spend a few moments letting God guide your thanksgivings and intercessions.