Bromsgrove Parish Prayer Diary for May

*God is our refuge and strength,
    an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46.1*

**Sunday 1st August- Holidays**

We give thanks that people have been able to take holidays and we pray for all of those fortunate enough to have holidays booked in the coming weeks

**Monday 2nd August – Clergy**

Father we pray for our clergy at this trying time as they attempt to keep the parish working and worshipping. We give thanks for the work they continue manage meeting in church. We give thanks that they can meet every Wednesday online to discuss the way forward for the Parish.

**Tuesday 3rd August – Weddings**

With the change to rules covering weddings, we pray for all couples preparing for their weddings over the coming few months.

**Wednesday 4th August - – High Street shops bars restaurants and cafes**

For so long we have taken for granted our ability to shop, eat and drink where we like at almost any time we want. These establishments have faced unprecedented strains on their ability to survive this storm. Perhaps we can take this time to appreciate what we have, cherish it, and invest our money in these businesses to help in their recovery. We give thanks for a loosening of the restrictions around these businesses, and we pray for their survival and growth

**Thursday 5th August- Baptisms**

As with weddings rules covering baptisms have now relaxed and we pray for all families who are preparing for baptisms in the coming weeks

**Friday 6th August – Transfiguration**

Today we celebrate Christ's appearance in radiant glory to three of his disciples (Matthew 17:2 and Mark 9:2–3)

**Saturday 7th August – Parish Administrator**

We give thanks for the work of Heather who has left the above post and we pray that we can find a suitable replacement

**Sunday 8th August- Dodford**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Monday 9th August – Finances**

Over the coming indefinite period money will continue to be an issue. On a personal level jobs will be lost incomes will be lost or at best reduced. Churches and the Diocese of Worcester will not be immune to this, and we pray that severe hardship in all areas can be avoided.

**Tuesday 10th August- Listening Service Monitoring Group**

We pray for the valuable work that is being done with the teenagers of the Parish.

**Wednesday 11th August - St Godwald’s**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Thursday 12th August – International Youth Day**

International Youth Day is held each year on the 12th of August and is an initiative that gives us the opportunity to celebrate the qualities of young people and that recognises the challenges that today’s youth can face.

**Friday 13th August – Those who keep our community functioning.**

We ask God to bless all those who must work at this time for the good of the whole community.  Especially we remember those who deliver milk or post and those who collect our rubbish and our recycling materials.   We remember the lorry drivers and van drivers who keep our supermarkets and homes stocked with essential goods. May they realise how we value their work. Thank you for those who have continued to work to stock supermarket shelves, serve on deli counters, work on the tills, and generally help around the stores. Without their selfless attitude and commitment to turning up to work in conditions that see them exposed to the Corona Virus to a greater degree than any of us, except for the NHS, we would not have the ability to feed ourselves and our families.

**Saturday 14th August– Pharmacies/Doctor’s surgeries**

We thank you, Lord, for all the people working on the front line in pharmacies and surgeries.   We pray for their safety as they serve others and for their anxious families at home.  We pray that the people who visit these places seeking help will be responsible and avoid putting these dedicated people at risk.  May their religious faith sustain and inspire them?

**Sunday 15th August – Refugees**

Our community has been assisting the work done by a local charity to provide much needed clothing and toiletries etc to this group of people, strangers to this country, a number of which are fellow Christians. They have been hosted at St Luke’s and we pray that people in the community will be able to help with the supply of such materials when the current restrictions are relaxed

**Monday 16th August– Sidemoor**

Pray for all people in Sidemoor that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Tuesday 17th August- 16-50 group**

This group are meeting at the Bird Box, and we pray that they have a fulfilling and positive time together

**Wednesday 18th August – Aston Field**

Pray for all people in Aston fields that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve.

**Thursday 19th August– Care Homes**

There are a few care homes throughout the parish for which we would ask you that you wrap your arms around. Enable the carers in those places to have sufficient protection to be able to provide the level of care that is needed to ensure the residents maintain a level of physical and emotional wellbeing. We give thanks that people living in these homes are now allowed to see one of their loved ones.

**Friday 20th August– Rock Hill**

Pray for all people in Rock Hill that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and a loving caring community will evolve**.**

**Saturday 21st August– Catshill and North Marlbrook**

Pray for all people in Catshill and North Marlbrook that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Sunday 22nd August– Lickey End**

Pray for all people in Lickey End that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve.

**Monday 23rd August - Christ Church Catshill**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Tuesday 24th August – Local Hospitals**

For the sacrifice and work undertaken by Nursing staff, paramedics, porters, cleaners, catering staff. Keep them safe and make sure they have all the protective equipment they need and give thanks that they are working to keep us all safe. Now that the number of Covid related patients is decreasing we pray that you will be with them as they cope with the high number of procedures that have built up.

**Wednesday 25th August- Farmers**

We give thanks for those who continue to work tirelessly to produce food that makes its way onto our supermarket shelves. Once again this is a group of people who we have tended to take for granted because somehow the food we eat continues to arrive on our table. Once we are through this time of struggle lets ensure that we place buying from our own farmers ours, and this country’s priority. Please ensure that there are sufficient hands to pick all the produce that needs to be harvested.

**Thursday 26th August- Charford**

Pray for all people in Charford that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Friday 27th August– St John’s and St Andrew’s**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet safely in this cherished place of worship

**Saturday 28th August- Food banks**

An increasing number of people have come to rely on these establishments as we have had to come to terms with the period of austerity that the country has had to live through. Please ensure these priceless community assets continue to receive the support that is vital to the work they do. We also give thanks for those who have been moved by the plight of people struggling and have contributed financially or by providing items of food.

**Sunday 29th August- Team Service**

We give thanks for the opportunity to meet and worship together as a parish family

**Monday 30th August – All Saints**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Tuesday 31st August - Those living alone.**

Lord we think today and pray for those people who have had to self-isolate and who hunger for the touch of a hand or to see a friendly face in their homes. We pray that there will be people who will give some solace by making a phone call or some form of social media to let them know they have not been forgotten. Thank you for the kind generous souls who have volunteered to shop for essential food items. We give thanks for the loosening of restrictions which mean that more people can receive the reassurance that only a hug from a loved one can give

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