



Christ Church SELLY
PARK

making | growing | sending | **disciples of Jesus**

Prayer Guide

February 2025

How to use the Prayer Guide

In our prayer calendar we pray for each other as individuals and families. This is an opportunity to pray for the various groups and ministries at Christ Church as well.

Requests are grouped by the day on which they *normally* meet, though many don't meet weekly. Irregular groups and Overseas Mission Partners are listed at the end. We suggest that each day you pray for groups meeting that day, and pick one of the 'other' groups or mission partners.

On the back you will find information about upcoming prayer meetings, and more information about the Prayer Team.

But my group isn't in the Guide!

If your group is not in here – sorry! It is not deliberate – please contact a member of the Prayer Team (back page) to be included in the next one.

Sunday

Scramblers

...give thanks that we have 4 children on a regular basis and that they work well together and are a delight to teach.

...pray the leaders and helpers have the wisdom to implement stimulating, bible-based activities and that we teach with enthusiasm and love.

...pray that in our group time, both children and adults will grow in their own personal relationship with God and in their understanding of what it means to follow Jesus

Renew

...praise God for our 20 or so young people - for their eagerness to grow in faith, to support each other and in bringing their friends to the group.

Please pray for a continuation and growth in these areas.

... pray for the 7 young people sitting GCSEs this year. Pray for them to know God with them in the pressures this brings, and for decision making for their next steps (college/sixth form/apprenticeships/jobs).

... pray for the youth team and mentors in putting together and leading weekly sessions and monthly mentoring times, for continued wisdom, inspiration, and energy. We have a great team, and praise God for them!

Prayer Ministry Team

...that we will be good listeners, to God and to those to whom we minister.

...please pray for a growth in church members praying for one another.

...give thanks for new team members, pray that they will be blessed and be a blessing to those they pray with.

...give thanks for moving to weekly prayer ministry at morning services.

Young Adults

...praise God that the group has continued to grow, in both numbers and in stability of attendance.

...please pray for our fortnightly Bible studies, that these would be spaces where we are growing in our love for Jesus and where we pray for each other.

...please pray for our monthly lunches, that these would be times of fellowship and fun, and that we would have a vision for how to use the time and space well.

Monday

Toddlers

...thank God that there are now a few more volunteers to help on Mondays.

...pray for two special events this term - World book day and Easter Toddler Specials - that they will be well attended and well received.

...that we will get enough volunteers to help run the Easter Specials.

...that the parents and children will learn more about the Christian Faith at the Easter Specials.

Operations Team (previously Ministry Team)

...praise that the pattern of meetings and the way of communicating is helping the team work well together.

...pray for wisdom and discernment as Easter plans are made.

Prayer Team

...praise for the success of the prayer course. Pray that it will have ongoing benefits to people's prayers.

...pray for wisdom as the team considers the responses of the questionnaires and endeavours to build our corporate prayer.

Tuesday

Bereavement Support Group

... please give thanks that as members move on from the group, new members join. We praise God that the group listen, care for and support each other so well.

...please pray that members will find strength and encouragement from meeting together and that we can signpost them to other help and support if needed.

...please pray for creativity and inspiration for the leaders in choosing appropriate resources and activities for the group.

Warm Welcome

...thank God for the people attending from outside the church family.

...pray that we will develop relationships with them and be able to share our faith in appropriate ways and that they will respond.

...thank God for all the volunteers who make Warm Welcome possible.

Eco and Gardening Group

...we received an Energy and Carbon audit of the church from an outside consultant. Pray for wisdom about what actions we need to implement.

...as the recycling scheme comes to an end, we thank God for Andy Wheeler's work in establishing and maintaining the scheme over the years. Many have benefited from the funds raised through the programme.

...we wish to re-energise the Lent Eco-challenge this year. Pray for wisdom as we plan this and for a good uptake for the challenge.

...please pray for new members for the Eco Group and for new volunteers for the monthly church gardening team.

...pray for wisdom for us as we seek to generate and implement other environmental initiatives over the coming months – for example the review of our Eco Church accreditation.

PCC (including sub committees)

...give thanks for those who serve on the PCC and the various committees whose work feeds into it (Finance, Site committees, the Eco Group and Deanery Synod Reps). Ask God for wisdom in decision making and grace in discussions. Pray that their work would serve our mission well and steward our resources wisely.

...pray for individuals currently on the PCC: Miriam Banting, Sarah Crooks, Janet Chalmers, Peter Frere, Ben Green, Adrian Jones, Jo Mason, Kate Routley, Steve Thomas, Tony Ward, James Williams.

...pray for good candidates to take on the roles of a new warden and replacement PCC members at the APCM.

...please pray especially on these PCC meeting dates: 18th March and 11th May (APCM).

Wednesday

Lunch Club

...we give thanks that the numbers are consistently strong, and we are seeing a diverse group of people each week. We are very grateful to those who come regularly and give so much to support lunch club.

...please pray for wisdom as we seek to support younger people from our local community who have specific needs. Please pray they might become more involved with all the activities at lunch club.

...please pray that volunteers will come forward to help with washing up and serving refreshments.

Renew – see Sunday

Thursday

Toddlers

...see Monday's prayer requests, and

...pray God may draw a few more families to the Thursday session and that good relationships will develop between families that attend both groups.

Walking Group

...thank God that members of the walking group are in relatively good health, and that they can enjoy walking with their friends.

...pray that God will keep members of the walking group healthy and safe to enjoy the walks.

...thank God that members of the group can enjoy the beauty of creation.

Scouts

...give thanks for Alan Haynes joining our Trustee Board as the church representative. He brings a lot of scouting expertise but also comes to represent the church to us, and us to the church.

...our treasurer is stepping down at the AGM in the summer, we have just emailed parents in search of a replacement who could work alongside him for a few months before he finishes, please pray we would find someone.

...please pray that God would help Bobbie in her role as she leads the group, that God would help her to love, encourage, and support the volunteers and that they might see something of God's love in her.

Friday

Coffee Mates

...praise and thanks - both to God and our splendid team of regular helpers and volunteers without whom Coffee Mates would simply not exist.

... please pray for more volunteers to join us, to help cover the effects of unpredictable events.

...pray that we will widen the impact of not just Coffee Mates but of the church as a whole within the local community in terms of the people who we are attracting.

Warm Welcome

...thank God that relationships have grown over the months. Pray that the new inclusion of a 'Prayer Box' would turn people's thoughts more to our God and give opportunities to chat together about faith.

...thanks that, after a gap, many regulars have returned as well as new people joining in.

...thanks that having specific activities for the children after the meal is working well.

...thanks for the volunteers who work very hard. Pray we will have enough every week especially for preparing the meal.

...Friday WW finishes at the end of March and aims to restart late October. Pray we will be able to keep contact with people and build good relationships that demonstrate God's love and grace.

Other Groups

Life Groups

...most groups are following the sermon series 'Who is Jesus?'. Pray we will grow in seeing Jesus more clearly and in confidence to share him with others.

...please pray that Life Groups will deepen their relationship with God and each other as they seek to grow in prayer and understanding his God.

...pray that those involved in a Life Group will be supported, encouraged and challenged as they seek to follow Jesus in their everyday lives.

Pastoral Care Team

...please continue to pray for new members to join the team with a heart for listening, caring and walking alongside others in need. Please pray for people to come forward who can provide lifts and other practical support.

...please pray that we would share and reflect Jesus' life in us as pastoral carers.

..please pray that each member of the team will know God's leading, love and equipping and that the Holy Spirit will help us to pray for those in need.

Kings Norton, Moseley and Shirley Deanery Synod

...praise for Church of England Birmingham's 'Pathways' online learning platform, which offers resources and training to equip lay people for ministry and service <https://birmingham.learn.anglican.org/>

...please pray for the effective use of 'Pathways' resources and the new 'Growing Gifts' programme (lay training for worship leading and preaching), for participants and for the parishes in which they serve.

...please pray for Ven. Gordon Steele, our Interim Area Dean, as he prepares to lead our next Deanery Synod gathering on 1 March, focusing on the interplay between diocesan, parish, and oversight area strategies.

Overseas Mission Partners

Amani

...give thanks that in 2024 Amani managed to reach out to about 400 children on the streets. They rescued more than 300 children including young girls who have been the victims of abuse and sex work. More than 150 children have been reunited with families.

...please pray for the staff that they will have energy and motivation to keep going in this challenging ministry. Pray that many more children and teenagers will be rescued and given hope.

...as always pray for the necessary finances to maintain the work.

Bolivia

...thank God for the faithful ministry of the clergy and their families, despite most of them working without payment.

...pray for unity in the Vision of the Diocese, that the clergy in their cities and at national level will work as a team.

...pray for a pastor for the church in Tarija. Pray too that they can find a new church building as they have to vacate the current one this year.

...pray for health, strength and wisdom for Bishop Walter as he leads the Diocese.

Cyprus

... give thanks for Richard and Sue Fairhead and for God's continued provision for their outreach.

...they put material on the web throughout the year, following the seasons in the Middle Eastern calendar. Pray many will look at this and that the Spirit will open their hearts and minds to the good news of Jesus.

...ask that new upscale software, which improves the quality of films by changing them to HD, would work properly on two films that have already been created and shown on YouTube.

Kenya

...give thanks:

for the weekly Bible study on Tuesdays

for the formation of widow & orphans department and its assistance from Christ Church.

for ever-growing unity among the leadership and its members.

that more clergy have received training under the Covenant Bible College and Seminary.

...please pray:

for a vibrant youth ministry.

for a visionary, well-coordinated Education Board to run kindergartens.

that if appropriate a team from AIC may visit Christ Church.

Save the Dates! Upcoming Prayer Meetings

Anyone can join in... just turn up.

Whole Church Prayer Meeting – at Church

5pm – 6pm on Sunday 6 April

Prayer for our Country – on Zoom (Peter & Bobbie Frere)

6pm – 6.30pm every Monday

Prayer Breakfast – at Church

Saturday mornings with coffee and pastries

8am – 8.45am on 22 February, 29 March, 26 April, 31 May

Overseas Mission – on Zoom (Allan Bartlam)

6.30pm – 7.30pm on 2 March, 4 May, 6 July

What is the Prayer Team?

This team was formed in February 2024.

Our purpose is to encourage and equip Christ Church in prayer, together and as individuals, by:

- Sharing information about what to pray for*
- Providing training and resources on how to pray*
- Identifying and organising opportunities for prayer*

If you'd like to find out more please speak to any member of the team:

Miriam Banting

Ann Fasham

Ben Green

John Lanchbury

Jane Clarke

Peter Frere

Elsie Lanchbury

Chris Turner