



## Prayer Diary November 2024

This diary is designed to help you to pray for the life of our congregation. We would encourage you to take it and use it on a daily basis, asking God for His hand in all that we are and do.

### Scripture Reflection

**Faith comes from hearing the message and the message is heard through the word of Christ.**

**Romans Ch 10 v 17**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> –Remember in prayer today those who have been **bereaved**. Pray that the Lord will surround them with His loving care and peace, fill the emptiness with His love, and take away their deep sorrow and overwhelming loneliness. Pray that Psalm 34v18 will be a comfort: "The LORD is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Continue to pray for all **Deaconesses** working in various settings where they share the love of Christ with those they meet. Give thanks for the work they have done in the past and continue to do for God's glory. Pray especially for Heather Healy, giving thanks for her time spent in Muckamore and asking God to be very near to her as she looks forward to working full time in a ministry setting.

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Give thanks for **Thompson House**, which provides temporary accommodation for released prisoners and others under statutory supervision. Praise God for the Life Group/Bible Study that has been taking place with seven residents, which is a huge encouragement for the staff and a great blessing to the participants. Pray for David, the manager, along with Tim, Sarah, Declan, Neil and Vicky as they oversee the daily running of the house. Thank God for the supportive role we play through providing monthly donations of food and toiletries.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Please pray for continuing and new events which the **Naas congregation** will be involved in, such as the Soul Works music based youth outreach on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The Tuesday morning school classes in a local primary school have restarted and are going well. There may be a local café willing to hire their premises out for a Christianity Explored course and ask the Lord to bless the New Members course, which will hopefully be starting soon. As it is a small church building some Sundays they are almost at capacity. Please pray for wisdom as the church Committee consider how to manage this very welcome challenge. Work has also been done to produce a church website. Please pray that the remaining work can be completed to enable it to 'go live'.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>- Remember in prayer today our **Muckamore Tots**. Pray for Sarah Campbell, Sarah McNie, Ruth Kelly and the other volunteers as they plan the activities and interact with the children, parents and other carers who attend. Give thanks also for the ladies who provide tea, coffee and snacks. Pray that friendships will be formed and support offered, and especially that those who attend will find a genuine welcome and feel comfortable to engage in conversations about faith.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>– **Tearfund's** aim is to tackle extreme poverty and injustice around the world. Thousands of people needlessly suffer and die every day because of poverty. Tearfund's vision is to see people freed from poverty, living transformed lives and fulfilling their God given potential. Tearfund has four main focuses to their work; meeting emergency needs, mobilising churches, transforming communities and changing society. Prayer is at the heart of everything that is done at Tearfund. Please pray for an end to extreme poverty and injustice.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> - Give thanks today that in NI we have **strong laws to defend people from verbal and physical abuse**. Pray that politicians at Stormont and Westminster will not confuse abuse with the ordinary work of churches, and that new laws will not be introduced to interfere with people following orthodox Biblical teaching. Pray that Christians remain free to pray and care for people, church leaders remain free to preach God's Word, and Christian parents remain free to bring up their children in the faith. (letuspray.uk)

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – Pray for **Youth Club** which commences tonight in Muckamore PC. Pray that there will be a good turn-out of young people from the wider community. Pray that friendships will be established amongst the young people and that the leaders will get opportunities to share their faith with those who attend. Pray for Steve as he leads this new outreach.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> – **SASRA scripture readers** live and work among the men and women of our Armed Forces. They offer friendship, support, a listening ear but above all, the Good News of Jesus Christ. Pray that, as we remember the men and women who gave their lives for our King and country, give thanks to the One who made the ultimate sacrifice on the cross at Calvary. Pray that Scripture Readers could proclaim the gospel with all boldness and without hindrance to those they meet. Pray that the Sunday video and other activities of Scripture readers this week would provide many gospel opportunities.

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>- Today is **Remembrance Sunday**- we give thanks for the sacrifice of so many servicemen and women throughout the World Wars and modern conflicts. Pray for all those suffering as a result of conflict around the world now and that God will bring peace to those situations. Through our act of Communion today we remember Jesus' sacrificial gift to all believers and through the cross we can now experience his deep and saving love, grace and forgiveness.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup>-The **Badminton and Bowling clubs** allow members to enjoy fun, sport, chat and friendship in an informal and safe environment. They are open to everyone so especially pray that people who have no church connection can feel welcome and relaxed and that there will be opportunities to talk about our church and faith to them. Pray for the leaders Evelyn and Grant as they organise club nights and matches. Give thanks for the recent Gospel Country night which was organised to fundraise for the Bowling Club.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – **Anti-Bullying Week** takes place this year from 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> November. This year's campaign theme is "Choose Respect" and hopes to empower children and young people to not resort to bullying but to find other ways to handle disagreements and differences of opinion. Pray for those in our church family who may be negatively impacted by bullying. Pray that as adults we will by example and champion kindness, gentleness and self-control as signs of strength. (Gal 5v22-23)

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> - **Street Pastors** are trained volunteers from local churches who care about their community. They patrol in teams ,usually from 10pm to 4am on a Friday and Saturday night, caring, listening and helping people who are out on the streets. Please pray for new recruits as ,since Covid, numbers have almost halved. Pray also for Rev. Les Isaac ( founder of Street Pastors ) as he has been invited to N.I. for a time of fellowship, prayer and worship. Pray for continued support from churches in local areas and safety for all volunteers who go out in all weathers and all hours.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> - **World Diabetes Day 2024** is a global awareness campaign that aims to raise understanding about Diabetes, advocate for improved care and prevention and support those affected by the condition. It focuses on raising awareness about diabetes, risk factors and the importance of early diagnosis and effective management. Please pray for those involved in our health service and that those who suffer from diabetes will receive the best treatment available.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup>- In central Kaduna state, **Nigeria**, terrorists believed to be armed Fulani attacked 2 churches during Sunday morning worship services and killed 3 Christians and kidnapped 30 more, including Rev Bernard Gajere. Pray for healing and hope for affected families and the safe release of those kidnapped. Pray for an end to violence against Christians that has ravaged North Nigeria for many years.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> – Remember the P7 children in our church family, who will be sitting the **SEAG Transfer Tests** today and on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. Pray that they will be healthy and strong, and that God will help them to stay calm and do their best. Pray that they will know God's peace and strength in their young lives. Pray too for their parents and teachers as they encourage and support them.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>- **Life Groups** continue to meet on the third Sunday evening of each month. Please pray for the Elders sub - group as they review the various topics raised during the September meeting and form a programme for the months ahead. Pray also that many will attend these Life Group evenings.

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – **Road Safety Week** is from 17-23 November. The campaign is organised by Brake, a road safety charity. One of their aims is to be able to raise awareness of the devastating toll of road crashes and their focus is on road victims. Give thanks for the work of the incredible number of people who come together every day to support families after a road death or serious injury. Pray that those who drive on the roads would allow greater time for their journeys especially as the weather conditions deteriorate. Pray that there would be an increased awareness for cyclists and pedestrians on the roads.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>- Pray for the members of **Kirk Session** as they meet tonight. Pray particularly for guidance as they seek to replace Lynn Falls with either a Deaconess or a newly appointed Pastoral Visitor. Pray also for wisdom as the Session review the possibility of refurbishing our church halls or the possibility of new buildings being erected. Finally pray for the plans that are being made for our Mission 2025 outreach within the community around our church in Muckamore.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>- Thank God for **“Woven”/PW** which meets tonight. Thank God for all the ladies who attend, and for Sarah and the committee who organise the programme. Pray for the speaker at our meeting tonight, as we hear the story of Jackson Roze Ginger Wine. Be with Nicky as she shares her story of faith and tells us about this growing business that she has set up along with her husband.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> - As winter approaches and **when flu and other seasonal viruses** become more prevalent, we pray for hospital and other medical staff working on the front line. Grant patience and stamina to all staff when pressure builds up and when resources are stretched to the limit. Ask God to be with those who make big decisions about the health service, and to help them to be discerning and wise as they wrestle with many ongoing problems.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Bring before God in prayer today **those leaving prison** after having completed their sentences. Pray that they will find suitable accommodation, employment, statutory support and a community of advisors and friends during this time of transition. Pray for more employers to give someone with a criminal record the chance to make a fresh start. Give thanks that God in Christ has given us a chance to make a fresh start! Pray that many ex-offenders will find a warm and gracious welcome in local churches.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> -Pray for those in our congregation who are suffering from **mental health difficulties**. Many are waiting for NHS support, and this is an issue that is affecting young and old alike. Pray for those who are struggling, that they would reach out and get the help they need. Give thanks for the recent “In House Weekend” and the focus on mental well-being for our young people. Pray that they would be able to put into practice the strategies that have been suggested.

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> – We give thanks for all those **leaders in BRJ** and for the biblical teaching they provide for children each week. Ask the Lord to bless each leader and helper, especially Sandie as she organises the annual programme and all practical aspects of children’s ministry. May the Bible stories and other activities teach children who Jesus is and help and enable them to know Jesus as their King and be citizens in His kingdom.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup>- We give thanks for the many people **servicing throughout the week** in church organisations, behind the scenes and for other Christian organisations. Some examples are catering for events, funerals or weddings; maintenance, cleaning and setting up of church premises and equipment; preparing rotas, designing programmes and printing literature; paying visits to others; ordering supplies and safety checks etc. This requires time, planning and commitment and we ask that God will bless this work of all hands. May every action be for and to the glory of God.

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> -Sadly some elderly people are unable to continue to live in their own homes due to mental or physical needs. In some cases family are unable to cope or provide the necessary help and have to agree that their elderly relative would be better cared for in a **nursing or residential home**. Please pray for families having to make this difficult decision. Please also pray for those who work in nursing and residential homes, that they will be filled with compassion for those they care for.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>- Pray for the work of the **International Meeting Point** in Belfast as they aim to reach out to asylum seekers and refugees. Pray that they will be able to provide support to those in need and that this practical assistance will demonstrate the love of Jesus to all who come to the centre for help. Pray that as families attend for the lunch, drop-in sessions or English classes, that they will be interested in attending the bible study classes as well and that through this ministry many will come to faith in Christ.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> – “Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen”. **Ephesians 3: 20-21**. What wonderful and powerful verses to commit to memory, giving God all the glory!

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> –As we approach Christmas we pray that people will **remain within budgets and spend wisely**. Poverty and debt can also create many other problems such as physical and mental health issues, relationship breakdowns and homelessness. Christians Against Poverty (**CAP**) offers a totally free, accredited debt help service to allow people to take back control of their finances and support them on the way to becoming debt free. Churches across the UK are committed to tackling the causes of poverty in their local area by partnering with **CAP** and providing free debt help and community groups.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>- Thank God for the privilege of being deeply loved by Him. Pray that God would help us to love well, wherever we are and whoever we are with. As we spend time with family, friends, work colleagues or neighbours, we are aware that some will accept the gospel, while others will not. Ask for God’s help as we attempt **to share our faith** with those we meet.