



## Prayer Diary October 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**  
**Create in me a pure heart, O God, and  
renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

### Psalm 51 v 10

Tuesday 1st- We pray for the **Friendship Club** meeting this afternoon. Give thanks for Ian and Kathleen who make the practical arrangements for the monthly programme and for those who prepare and serve teas. Pray for today's speaker, Michael Fryer from the NI War Memorial Museum. We also pray for those who will attend, that a good afternoon of fun and friendship might be enjoyed by all and that God's presence would be felt in this group

Wednesday 2nd - The **Ladies Bible Study** recommences today at 10.15 a. m. We will be studying a Life Builder study book entitled "Peter - Learning to be like Jesus." All ladies will be made very welcome. Please pray that all who attend will enjoy fellowship together. Also pray that as they study God's Word together they will grow in their faith and know God's presence as they learn from each other and from what God has to say to them.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>- Please pray for **Mark and Zoe Proctor in Naas PC** and the new session ahead. Please ask the Lord to be powerfully at work in the lives of each person connected to the Naas congregation and that relationships can be built and deepened in this community. Please pray for the vacancy in Corboy & Mullingar congregations, which Mark is helping to look after and that the open-mic events held for young people will continue to open up gospel opportunities.

Friday 4th- The **Israeli-Palestinian conflict** continues to dominate the news , especially with recent attacks on **Lebanon**. Figures are reaching the total of 50,000 killed and 100,000 wounded. Pray for the people of that region; for those who have lost family and their homes and those huge numbers who have been displaced and searching for shelter. The countries are virtually bankrupt and have no money to support their people.

Saturday 5th -Give thanks for **Lynn** who has served faithfully as our Pastoral care worker for many years. Pray that she will be able to enjoy her retirement, and that God would richly bless her in this new chapter of her life.

Sunday 6th –Give thanks for Muckamore congregation, and for the **number of new people attending** or joining the church recently. Thank God in particular for the 'Connected' classes which took place in September. Thank Him for all who attended to learn more about what it means to be a full member of the church. Pray for those who have recently committed their lives to Christ and have decided to join the church and serve Him.

Monday 7<sup>th</sup>- This is **Child Health Day**. This observance serves as a reminder of our collective responsibility to protect and nurture the health of our youngest generation. Pray for ways in which we can be proactive in this area, such as donating or volunteering with organisations dedicated to children's health and well-being, encouraging children and families to engage in physical activities and promoting a healthy lifestyle in our own families.

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>- Give thanks for our **Church Committee**. Pray for each member and thank God for the particular area of expertise that they bring. Thank God for the office bearers, Denise (Treasurer), Marshall (Secretary) and also Elaine (Church Officer). Pray for committee members as they meet tonight to discuss and make decisions about the property, finances and other practical aspects of church life.

Wednesday 9th- Give thanks for our **Midweek Gatherings** and the opportunity they provide for teaching and fellowship. Pray especially for Rev. Brian Boyd as this evening he concludes his series on "Revival – in the Bible and in our local area." Pray that today we would gain a new awareness of the reality of God's holiness, our sin, and Christ's love.

Thursday 10th - **World Mental Health Day** is celebrated every year on the 10th October. This year's theme is, "It's time to prioritise Mental Health in the Workplace." The theme highlights the importance of addressing mental health and well-being in the workplace, for the benefit of people, organisations and communities. Work can have a huge impact on our mental health. It can be positive, boosting our self-worth or it can be a source of stress and anxiety. Please pray for all who suffer stress because of work and also that they will be given any help needed to deal with any pressures.

Friday 11<sup>th</sup>- As we prepare for Harvest, **farmers** are experiencing high costs and difficulty maintaining their livelihoods. UK cereal output is expected to be more than 3m tonnes down on the five-year average this season, making 2024 one of the worst harvests in decades. The wet weather has contributed to a low yield this year. Ask that farmers may find strength and resilience in these times and may we be thankful to God for their hard work, provision and endurance.

Saturday 12th – The **Irish Women's Convention** this year takes place today in the Assembly Buildings Conference Centre, Belfast. The title is "10 words to live by." The speaker Jen Wilkin is an author and Bible teacher from Dallas, Texas. Jen will teach us how the Ten Commandments come to bear on our lives today. Please pray that the speaker will know God's presence, safe travel for all attending and that all present will be richly blessed.

Sunday 13th— Today is our **Harvest thanksgiving service**. As we look around the church may the visual reminder of fresh produce and flowers help us appreciate God's good gifts to us all. Praise the God of the harvest that we have an abundance of food in our country and may we never take this for granted. Pray for those less fortunate than ourselves who struggle to get enough food and water.

Monday 14th- Yesterday was **Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)**, the holiest and most solemn day in the Jewish calendar. The focus of Jewish hearts is on repentance and seeking God's favour for the year ahead. Give thanks for the fulfillment of the hope of Yom Kippur offered to all through the blood of Jesus the Messiah. Remember in prayer Messianic Jews as they bear witness to Jesus, our only hope of forgiveness and eternal life.

Tuesday 15th - Pray for anyone known to us who is suffering from an **addiction**. Pray that we may be open and accepting towards them and be channels of God's love wherever possible. Give thanks for those working with people struggling with addiction. Pray especially for the staff at Carlisle House, PCI's centre, providing help and support.

Wednesday 16th- **World Food Day** takes place every year on the 16th October. The theme this year is " Right to foods for a better life and a better future. " We are told 783 million people don't know where their next meal is coming from and 70% of the world's hungry people live in areas affected by war and violence. Please pray for the efforts to end the world's hunger, improve food security and improve global nutrition. Pray also for a resolution to conflict which is causing devastating suffering and increasing the cost of living.

Thursday 17th -The Bible tells us to love our neighbours as ourselves. Sadly **racism** exists in a variety of forms - blatant and some more subtle. We live in a world where injustice happens. We need to pray for God's presence and power to change what is happening in the world today. Please pray for the Government as they try to resolve the issue of over 25,000 illegal immigrants already arriving this year. Pray also for people to accept the various cultures in our society.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>- Pray for **Scripture Union NI** and its Director Damian Wharton as he leads and manages staff throughout NI committed to making God's love known to children and young people. Pray for the eleven Schools Workers as they deliver assemblies and RE classes in schools and many other projects in local communities, summer camps and church halls. Pray for the local Worker Joshua Sanderson, that he may build up strong relationships with schools, churches and the SU groups he works alongside.

Saturday 19th – Think of all those in PCI and other organisations providing **pastoral care** eg hospital chaplains, deaconesses and church visitors. Ask that they may be a source of comfort and help for patients, residents and their families. There may be staff shortages at times and staff feeling under pressure - ask for rest and support so that they may bring the best standards of care and compassion to those they come in contact with.

Sunday 20th. – Today is our **GB and BB Enrolment** - Praise God for all the boys, girls, young people and leaders in our GB and BB companies in Muckamore. Pray for God's blessing on them today as they renew their promises and recommit themselves in their service to God. May we as the church support them and their parents in leading, guiding and encouraging their daily Christian walk.

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> – **Open Doors** tell of Pastor Barnabas who lives in a **displacement camp in Nigeria**, where Christians have fled to escape Islamic militant violence. The camp lacks adequate hygiene facilities and there is not enough water. Sadly, many people are dying. Please pray for Pastor Barnabas to remain confident in God's love, and that he would receive wisdom as he cares for Christians in the IDP camp. Pray that persecuted believers in IDP camps across sub-Saharan Africa will be able to return to their homes. Also pray for decision-makers and those in power around the world to recognise the displacement crisis and work to tackle the problem.

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>- **.Genesis 8 v 22** "As long as the Earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease." Give thanks for this promise of provision for Noah, and for us too, in Jesus.

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>- Give thanks to God today for the practical support of **Community Care Assistants**, as they visit people in their own homes, helping them to get up, wash, dress, prepare meals, take medication and go to bed. Pray that they will show kindness and patience and know safety during their many daily visits. Pray that will know they are valued in their work.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>- Give thanks for the many organisations, such as **Tearfund, Christian Aid, World Vision, Unicef** etc who are creating change and making such a great difference in developing countries. Through providing practical and educational help in nutrition, child protection, water, sanitation, education, farming and business advice it allows communities to begin supporting themselves. In the world's most dangerous places they are helping people (especially children) to survive, recover and build a future. Praise God!

Friday 25th –**Knife crime** has become an increasingly pressing concern with recent data revealing a 7% rise in offences involving knives or sharp instruments in 2023 compared to the previous year. The recent deaths of 3 young girls in Southport was a horrific event that has shocked the nation and underlined the urgent need for effective solutions. Please pray for the Government as they bring in legislation to control the carrying of offensive weapons and that young people will see it is not necessary to carry dangerous weapons like knives for protection.

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> - Pray today for **older people living alone** who can feel isolated and lonely. Pray for their safety at home and as they go outside. Give thanks for local church fellowships, clubs and other social groups, where they can meet with friends and neighbours. Pray that as a church family, we will be attentive and look out for the older people in Muckamore who contribute so much to our fellowship.

Sunday 27th- The **HUB weekend** will finish off this evening with a Praise and Pudding night!!! Give thanks for all the events which have been organised and that the sessions from Chris Boucher (The Big House) will have made an impact on the young people. May they reflect on the bible teachings and use this time to find out more about God, themselves and each other.

Monday 28th –For some Christians the workplace can pose **difficult ethical decisions and choices** eg. doctors, surgeons, teachers, nurses, information technology/AI, media, social care etc. Employers may be legally bound or subject to regulations which require certain procedures/teaching/practices to be performed which are not in line with scripture. Please pray that God will give strength and guidance to those in such dilemmas and that they know He is working through them and for their good. Colossians 3 v23.

Tuesday 29th- Pray that God will help us to **love one another well**, wherever we are and whoever we are with. Ask God to help us never to give up spreading the news about Christ, like a sweet perfume (2 Cor 2, 14-15). As Christians, we believe that the gospel can change lives, and so we go in God's strength and not our own when we witness for Him. Ask God to help us love to His glory, serve with His joy and hope with His promise.

Wednesday 30th- Pray for **SASRA** today - Praise God that He is keeping the door open for Scripture Readers to do what they do and that the relationship with Chaplains and Command is generally very good. Thank God that men and women are hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Scripture Readers and for armed forces personnel who are putting their trust in Christ for their salvation.

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> -As many people celebrate **Hallowe'en** today, pray that God's light will shine brightly in the darkness. Pray that God will protect His children on this night that celebrates evil. Pray that as Christians we will celebrate the fact that "He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves" (Col 1 v 13) and that we will share this Gospel message with people we meet.