



Prayer Diary May 2026

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

Psalm 55 v 22

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you; He will never let the righteous be shaken.

Friday 1st –Remember in prayer today our young people who are taking **GCSE, AS and A2 exams** this summer term. Pray too for those at college or university, as they finish coursework, write dissertations and sit exams. Pray that they will study well and be rewarded for their hard work. Pray for guidance for them as they choose future courses or try to gain employment. Pray that they will know God's love for them and their worth to Him.

Saturday 2nd - Give thanks for the fellowship and blessings we enjoyed in MPC during the Easter week of services and rejoice in the fact that we have such freedom to worship in this way. Please pray for those caught up in violence in **Nigeria and DRC** during the same Easter period. Around 100 people were killed and many kidnapped in attacks by militants in villages and churches. Pray that the bereaved families will know God's comfort and healing and that the authorities will take appropriate action to ensure those kidnapped will be returned.

Sunday 3rd – **United Christian Broadcasters** is a Christian media charity that exists to offer opportunities to hear, watch or read the Bible. UCB Ireland strengthen churches across Ireland to spread the good news of the gospel through their radio stations, the Word for Today devotional, prayer line and social media. Please pray for the work of UCB as they reach out to churches across Ireland.

Monday 4th – Within PCI there are currently **sixteen Deaconesses**, and another two in training. They are called to serve in churches, hospitals and the community. Three years of training at Union Theological College prepares them for their specialised ministry roles of pastoral care and discipleship. Please pray for the work and witness of all our Deaconesses, and specifically for the two trainee Deaconesses, Sonya Boal and Olivia Smyth as they study and carry out their practical placements.

Tuesday 5th- A Supreme Court judgement in November 2025 found that the **current syllabus** in Northern Ireland did not teach RE in an objective, critical and pluralistic manner. Critically, this judgement also clearly affirmed that "historically and today, Christianity is the most important religion in Northern Ireland". Help us not to be fearful, but to have confidence that God's word is always true, good and beautiful and will not return empty when it is proclaimed. May the opportunity to shape a new syllabus enable genuine Christian religious education and transformation to be evident. Pray that this will be embodied in the lives of children and young people inside and outside of the classroom.

Wednesday 6th – As we prepare ourselves for the Lord's Supper in our **Pre-Communion Service** tonight, pray that we will come with open and repentant hearts. Pray that we will focus on putting things right with God and with each other. As we obey Jesus in celebrating the Lord's Supper, pray that we will do so with reverence, humility and hearts overflowing with gratitude for the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for us.

Thursday 7th - **Tomas Henzel** is one of the new missionaries that our church is now supporting. He is based in the Paradox church, Bratislava in Slovakia. He is married to Silvia and they have 3 children, Oliver, Karolina and Ruben. His main purpose is to plant new churches throughout Slovakia and he is keen to establish a team of trainee church planters. Please pray for him and his family in this very challenging work.

Friday 8th –Please pray for all our friends in **Naas and Newbridge**, especially for the planning application decision on changing the furnishings in the meeting house, which is due in early May. The Christianity Explored course has been completed in Naas and an Explore the Bible group in Newbridge restarts on 6th May. Pray for the fruitfulness of God's Word in the lives of the congregations, that they will be transformed and grow to love and serve Jesus more.

Saturday 9th –Today, P7 children and their parents will receive a letter notifying them which **Secondary School they will be attending**. This can be an anxious time for all concerned, so please pray for them today. For some, there will be great excitement and relief, but for others it may be a time of disappointment. Pray that all these precious young lives will know that God has a plan for them wherever they go and that He will be with them in the coming days.

Sunday 10th- At our **Communion Service** this morning we obey Christ's command, remember how He died for our sins and rose again and confirm our faith. Communion, or the Lord's Supper is one of the 2 sacraments that are held in the Presbyterian Church. Please pray for those taking part, that they will examine their faith and give thanks for what Christ has done for them.

Monday 11th- This year, **Mental Health Awareness Week** will take place from 11th to 17th May 2026. The theme for 2026 is 'Community'. Being part of a safe, positive community is vital for our mental health and wellbeing. Pray that those experiencing difficult times will seek out and maintain strong connections with other people and supportive communities to remind them that they are not alone. Pray that they may find a sense of belonging and purpose, safety and support.

Tuesday 12th – **National Nurses week** runs from 6th to 12th May. Praise God for International Nurses Day which is celebrated today to mark the anniversary of Florence Nightingale's birth. Pray for the empowerment of nurses and that they would realise their vital role in healthcare. Pray for fair working conditions for them and praise God for their resilience in the challenging situations in which they work.

Wednesday 13th -The 157th **Balmoral Show** takes place from today until Saturday. This is Northern Ireland's largest agricultural event attracting thousands of visitors from all over Ireland. Please pray that farmers will be able to renew friendships and for safe journeys to and from the show. Pray for safety for all who attend and that events will run smoothly despite the difficulties farmers are facing at present.

Thursday 14th - Today, many Christians all over the world are celebrating **Ascension Day**, remembering Jesus returning to Heaven 40 days after His resurrection. He promised to go to prepare a place in Heaven for those who will trust Him for salvation (John 14v3). Praise the Lord that believers will one day go to be with Him!

Friday 15th- Praise God for all that has been done in His name in the ministry of **SASRA** to the armed forces during the last 189 years. Pray that He will equip the current Scripture Readers to go above and beyond all that we ask or think as they minister to serving personnel in 2026.

Saturday 16th – Pray for our Men's ministry and the activities arranged with **Forge**. A barbeque and walk are planned for June. Pray that the men in our congregation will be encouraged as they enjoy each other's company and build new friendships. Pray for opportunities for conversations about faith in Jesus.

Sunday 17th- Praise God for all the **organisations within MPC**. Many of these will be having a break over the summer months. Pray that this break would provide refreshment for the leaders. Pray that those who normally attend will continue to receive spiritual input at weekly church services.

Monday 18th – **Dementia Action Week 2026** run by the Alzheimer's Society runs from today to Sunday 24th. This event aims to improve the lives of those affected by dementia through awareness, fundraising and campaigning for better care, as the number of people living with dementia in the UK increases. The campaign continues to raise awareness of dementia as the UK's biggest killer. Please pray for comfort, dignity and peace for those living with memory loss and strength and patience for their caregivers.

Tuesday 19th- Pray for the **planning and preparation** for this year's **Holiday Bible Club**, 'My Lighthouse' which will take place at the end of July. Thank God for Steve and the team of Volunteer leaders as they put together the programme and publicise it in the local area. Pray for wisdom, energy, vision and guidance as they plan and prepare. May they be very conscious of God's presence and leading in all the decisions made over the next few weeks.

Wednesday 20th- Poverty and exploitation, climate change and economic crisis have a devastating impact on the world's most vulnerable populations. Pray for **Fairtrade** as it tries to redress this imbalance campaigning for social, economic and environmental justice. Pray that farmers and workers in developing countries will be able to strengthen their position and achieve sustainable livelihoods through better prices and decent working conditions.
Thursday 21st – Think of Jane, Brian and all the children who will be involved in **preparation for Children's Day on Sunday 14th June**. The theme is "God of Miracles" and may the songs, speaking parts and bible verses remind us all that our God can do anything Matthew Ch 19 v 26. May the children be enthusiastic to learn and enjoy this opportunity to shine for Jesus.

Friday 22nd – Today, pray earnestly for **those who are drifting from church** or who have turned away from God. We all know family or friends in this situation, and it can be heartbreaking. Pray that we, as Christian family members, friends or colleagues, will have a positive impact on these dear lives, and that those who have fallen away will once again become aware of their need of a Saviour and turn back to Him. Pray to our Sovereign God with boldness and with confidence.

Saturday 23rd - Big changes are planned in the way that pupils with **special educational needs** in NI are supported. There are concerns that these changes will lead to fewer classroom assistants in schools and greater pressure for teachers, especially those who co-ordinate the special educational support in schools. Please pray for wisdom for the Education Authority during the consultation process and that concerns raised by organisations such as the Children's Law centre would be considered.

Sunday 24th – Give thanks for **Stephen's ministry in Muckamore**. Give thanks for his gifts, his warm personality, diligent preparation and his willing service in pastoring this church. Pray that he will know support and encouragement from the Session members. Pray that above all that he will continue to faithfully and boldly preach God's Word to us (2 Tim 4v2).

Monday 25th- Pray for all those taking a break this **Bank Holiday weekend**. May the weather be kind so that families can get outside in the fresh air and enjoy God's beautiful creation. Pray for safety whilst travelling, good health and fun. Pray that the break from work allows individuals to be refreshed and have quality time with family and friends enjoying God's goodness.

Tuesday 26th – Pray that God would raise up godly influences on all sides in the **Iran war**. Praise God for the recent ceasefire and pray that diplomatic mediation would continue to take place. Pray for a complete end to this war and for lasting peace.

Wednesday 27th- **Joshua 1:9** - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go".
What an encouraging verse for us today! A prayer for today - Heavenly Father, as I go out into this new day, may I live life to the full, overflowing with Your love. Help me to follow the example of Jesus in serving others, being kind and compassionate to those I meet. Help me to be intentional in reaching out in love to the lost, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Thursday 28th- **World Hunger Day 2026** is today and is aimed at raising awareness and taking action against global hunger. The theme this year focuses on actionable steps - planting seeds, building local solutions and empowering women / farmers. Hunger remains a devastating reality for many people. Give thanks for food that sustains life and pray for a world where everyone has enough; not just to survive but to thrive. Pray for God to move hearts to stand with the oppressed and overcome greed.

Friday 29th – Please pray for all those who will lead and take part in **Summer Outreach Teams** this year being run by PCI, SU/CSSM, Exodus, Spark and many other Christian organisations. Give thanks for those who are taking on this role for the first time as well as those who will return to teams. Give thanks for the opportunities these provide to share the gospel, deepen faith, and establish new and renewed relationships. Pray that all practical arrangements will go smoothly, such as travel, accommodation, healthcare and resources, particularly for those on Mission Teams abroad.

Saturday 30th- Give thanks that over the next couple of months, **our BB & GB members** will have the opportunity to connect with each other and with others in the area through Company outings and Battalion events. Pray for safety on the trips that have been organized. Pray that the young people would remember the aims of both organisations and be encouraged to put their faith into practice and live for Jesus wherever they are over the summer months.

Sunday 31st – Pray for Andrea in her role as **Pastoral Worker**. May she be a comfort and encouragement to those who are lonely, unwell, awaiting results, undergoing treatment or operations and those individuals in nursing and residential homes. Pray that she can draw on God's strength in these circumstances and show His love and compassion to those who are feeling weary or fearful. Psalm 61 v 2.