



Prayer Diary February 2025

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

**The Lord watches over you- the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
Psalm 121 v 5**

Saturday 1st - The **Presbyterian Herald** is a monthly magazine. In any year around 10,000 copies of the Herald are distributed throughout Ireland. This monthly magazine provides updates on home and overseas missions, topical articles, the various vacancies in our churches, as well as book reviews and an update on the work engagements of our current Moderator. Please pray that more people will avail themselves of this excellent magazine.

Sunday 2nd - Today, give thanks for **Brian, Jane, the choir and musicians who lead our praise** each Sunday. Thank you for their musical ability which helps us to worship God more meaningfully. Pray for each one as they prepare for Sunday services, that they would know God's presence as they play their part in the musical team. Pray that God would help each one of us to worship Him as we should.

Monday 3rd – **Compassion** is an International Children's Charity. They work in 29 countries partnering with 8,600 local churches within communities experiencing poverty. Worldwide more than 333 million children live in extreme poverty. Their sponsorship programme empowers children by providing educational opportunities, nutritional support, medical check-ups and the support of their local church. Please pray that many more children will receive sponsorship soon and that they will be given hope and a future.

Tuesday 4th- This is **World Cancer Day**. The new campaign for the next three years is called "United by Unique". Cancer is more than a medical diagnosis, it is a deeply personal matter, as behind each diagnosis is a unique human story - of grief, pain, healing, resilience, love and much more. World Cancer Day aims to place people at the centre of care and will explore new ways of making a difference. Pray that this may be so, and pray particularly today for any individual or family we know who is affected by cancer.

Wednesday 5th- Over the Christmas period, 46 people were killed in various **attacks across Nigeria and DRC**. A number of these attacks happened while they were preparing meals at home after Christmas services. Please pray for the Lord to be near to all those who lost family in these attacks. May God's comfort be their strength. Pray that God will confuse all who plot to destroy and kill Christian communities – and, instead, they will come to accept Jesus as their Saviour. Pray for the local churches to be agents of peace and continue to boldly proclaim the gospel.

Thursday 6th – Please pray for the **congregation in Naas** and the ministry being carried out there, such as the invitation services (Sun 12 Jan – 9 Feb) which will be quite evangelistic and a great opportunity to bring along unsaved friends and family. Also pray for the home group/Bible studies in Naas and Newbridge, that those who attend will benefit greatly from time together in God's Word. Pray for the upcoming Session & Committee meetings, that they will be able to navigate possible changes to the church seating arrangements.

Friday 7th- **Emergency services** respond in the most traumatic of circumstances. Give thanks for services such as police, ambulance, fire fighters, coastguard, mountain rescue and search teams who often put themselves into danger to protect others. There are also many organisations trained to deal with large-scale response, such as in war zones, earthquakes, flooding, fire and major disasters. Pray for full-time personnel and volunteers who provide support practically and emotionally for those suffering in these terrible circumstances.

Saturday 8th- **SASRA** - Paul Somerville and Scott Witherick, our N.I. Scripture Readers, are currently building relationships behind the wire through bible studies, Hope Explored course, the Long Table event and informal gatherings. Pray that doors will be opened to proclaim the Gospel and that the Holy Spirit will work in the hearts of serving personnel bringing them to saving faith.

Sunday 9th – Please pray for our **Elders** as they lead us in our morning Worship today. Some will be reading from God's word while others will be leading us in prayer. Please pray for Alan Ashenhurst as he brings us a message from God's word and that he will feel God's presence with him. Pray for a good attendance and that those who attend will feel blessed by the Worship service.

Monday 10th - We pray for the **older adults** in our families, church and community. During the cold weather and darker evenings, falls are more likely and some of the older people we know can struggle to keep safe. Pray for people's safety as they go out in the icy conditions, or as they try to keep warm in their own homes. Pray that we would be vigilant and helpful to older people who live around us and may need our support, either through a telephone call, text or a visit.

Tuesday 11th- Although the internet brings many positive aspects it also brings challenges and danger, particularly for young and vulnerable people. **Safer Internet Day UK** will be focusing on using the internet to make change for the better. Recent research and tv programmes have highlighted significant developmental, emotional and mental problems experienced by young people arising from online content. Pray for our young people, that they will have discernment when using their devices and ask for God's protection over them.

Wednesday 12th – At **half term** we pray for school Principals, teachers, classroom assistants and ancillary staff as they get a well-earned break from the demands of school life. Help them to enjoy some rest and refreshment. Pray for children and their parents, that they would enjoy some quality family time and keep safe as they are out and about on trips and visits.

Thursday 13th – Today is "**World Radio Day**". Pray for Christian radio stations in the UK, such as Premier Radio and UCB Radio. Give thanks that people can be inspired, encouraged and taught as they listen while going about their daily lives. Pray especially for those who hear the Gospel message as it reaches them in remote places across the world. Pray that they will be blessed by it.

Friday 14th- Whatever the true story of **St. Valentine may be, love is celebrated today!** Pray that God will help us to "follow the way of love" that Paul talked about in 1st Corinthians 13. Pray that with Christ in us we will be patient, kind, not envious, not boastful, not proud, not dishonouring others, not self-seeking, not easily angered, not keeping records of wrongs, not delighting in evil but rejoicing with the truth. Pray that God will help us to live this way and in so doing, provide an amazing witness to His love.

Saturday 15th – The official **homeless** statistics for N.I. stand at 55,000 people, with claims that it is 25% higher in reality. Severe weather conditions in the Winter can make the situation so much worse for people sleeping on the streets or in temporary accommodation. Pray for organisations like the Simon Community and the Salvation Army, as employees and volunteers work tirelessly to provide and source help for the most vulnerable.

Sunday 16th- Pray for Rev Stephen McNie today as he commences a **new series on the book of Jonah**. Pray that as a congregation we would prepare ourselves for worship expecting to meet with God and learn from His Word. Pray that God would use Stephen to challenge us and that we would continue to reflect on what we have heard throughout the week ahead.

Monday 17th — Praise God that He has placed us in families, and thank Him for the security that is to be found in family life. Thank Him for all the **new babies** who have been born recently. Pray that all new parents will soon adjust to the different routines and busier days. Ask God to be with brothers and sisters as they welcome a new little life into the family. Ask for God's special touch upon the lives of parents who have lost a baby or who have a sick baby with a long-term condition. Pray that God would be their strength when it is most needed.

Tuesday 18th- Remember the Elders as they gather tonight for the **Kirk Session meeting**. Pray that they will know God's leading and guiding as they make decisions that will affect the life and witness of our congregation. Pray for them as they pray and study together and as they further seek God's guidance in creating a Gospel culture here in Muckamore.

Wednesday 19th – Please pray for **tonight's PW**, that there will be a good attendance of ladies. Pray for the speaker, Judith Hooks, who will be sharing about her journey with cancer and how the Fire Lily charity developed. Pray that God will use her story to inspire those who attend the meeting. Pray that good fellowship will be enjoyed amongst the ladies and that God's presence will be felt.

Thursday 20th- **Loneliness** can be experienced by all age groups and may lead to other health problems if it continues long term eg. stress, depression, anxiety, low self-esteem and sleep problems. Pray for those, particularly in our own church family, who may be alone or others who may have a real feeling of loneliness even when surrounded by others. Ask that they may use support agencies, advice and contact groups to build up confidence, social interaction and interests that will enable them to experience better well-being and a more positive outlook.

Friday 21st – The **Presbyterian Church in Ireland's Chaplains** are part of the mission and ministry of the Church and include full or part-time chaplains (and Deaconesses) in hospitals, hospices, prisons, forces, universities and colleges and rural communities – all of whom have opportunities to serve tens of thousands of students, patients, forces' personnel and prisoners in Jesus' name. Pray for chaplains as they provide emotional and physical support and guidance to individuals and families and be there to intervene when crises may occur.

Saturday 22nd- Continue to pray for our **ministry team** led by our Minister Rev. Stephen McNie. Give thanks for our Youth Discipleship Worker Steve Glegghorne as he continues to work with our young people. Also pray for and give thanks for our Congregational Secretary, Marshall Humphries, our Treasurer, Denise McNeilly as well as our church caretaker Elaine. Give thanks also for our church Organist Jane and her husband Brian who is Clerk of Session.

Sunday 23rd- Today we will be holding our **annual Tearfund Lunch** after church. Tearfund is a Christian charity that partners with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest countries. They tackle poverty through sustainable development, responding to disasters and challenging injustice. Please pray that many will stay behind after the service this morning to share fellowship together

and donate generously. Tearfund are committed to making sure your donation has the biggest possible impact for those in greatest need.

Monday 24th – Remember **P7 children** at this time as decisions are made regarding their secondary school choices. Pray that God would guide them and their parents to make wise choices. Pray that above all the children and their families will know that their worth does not lie in grades and achievements but in how much they are loved and valued by God.

Tuesday 25th - Pray for our **adult children** today. Ask God to keep them close to Him, as they live out their lives as men and women after God's own heart. Pray that God would help them to surrender to Him as they make decisions concerning matters of family, work and leisure. If their faith has grown cold, pray that God would bring them back to Himself. For those who are not yet Christians, pray that God would speak to them through His word or through Christian friends.

Wednesday 26th – **Mission Aviation Fellowship** believe every community, however remote, should have the essentials for life-school books, food, medicine and their role is to transport these safely and speedily by air to some of the remotest places on earth. Their mission is 'serving together to bring help, hope and healing through aviation' and their vision is to see isolated people changed by the love of Christ. Please pray for safety for the pilots and all involved in delivering relief- workers, doctors, pastors etc.

Thursday 27th – Pray for Steve, Louise and all leaders in **HUB and Youth Club**. As they plan for the upcoming weekend away may God lead and direct them as to the practical arrangements to be made and how they might teach, instruct, support and lead young people in Christian daily living. May God provide opportunities for real and important discussions that will open hearts and minds and change lives. Pray especially that our Mission may encourage young people in the area to come along and join HUB and Youth Club, so they may hear the good news of saving grace.

Friday 28th- Today is "**National School Governors Awareness Day**". Give thanks for the school governors in our local schools, who give their time, energy and expertise to help make our schools thrive. Pray especially for Christians in these positions, that they would have a Godly influence on the ethos and vision of the schools they serve.