

Tuesday 1st-Today is **International Children's Day**. Give thanks for the babies who have been baptized in our church over the years. Pray for faithfulness and perseverance for the parents and us as a congregation as we teach our children "the truths and duties of the Christian faith". Pray that we will accept the challenge, through prayer, teaching and example, to show the children among us what it means to live our lives for Jesus.

Wednesday 2nd - Please pray for the **Northern Ireland Government Executive** as they plan to lead us out of lockdown and into more normal times. Continue to pray that people will be sensible in their behaviour so as not to allow the coronavirus to reappear in any intensity. Pray also for both Unionist Parties as they now have new leadership and that some form of harmony would be found.

Thursday 3rd- **PCI will host four webinars** this month called "Fanning the Flame". Ministers, leaders, youth and children's workers will discuss and share ways to creatively reconnect with their congregations post lockdown. Pray for those who host and those who attend that they will be equipped and excited as they re-establish relationships and activities within their fellowships.

Friday 4th- Pray that the **Blossom ladies** who signed up to take part in the walks during the month of June would enjoy fellowship with one another and reconnecting with different ladies from church, who they may not have had the opportunity to see or chat to in a long time. May new friendships also be formed. Pray too that the Blossom ladies would come up with great ways to help other people in the church and/or in the community, while out on their walks.

Saturday 5th- Today is **World Environment Day** which will concentrate on ecosystem restoration and focus on resetting our relation with nature. Pray that governments worldwide will help address climate change by passing legislation to reduce carbon emissions and introduce other initiatives to improve the environment. Pray that we never forget that God created the earth and it is our responsibility to connect with nature and to preserve it.

Sunday 6th -Please pray for the **Elders** as they work with the Convenor appointed by the Templepatrick Presbytery to oversee our vacancy. Pray for guidance as they seek to find a suitable replacement for Peter and that over the next weeks and months God will give them guidance and help as the process commences to call a new minister. Ask God to be with them as they follow governmental pandemic rules and guidance from the Presbyterian Church in Ireland in the organisation of all church activities including Sunday Worship.

Monday 7th - This would normally have been the opening night of the **General Assembly in Belfast**. Instead, the Council for Training in Ministry is inviting all PCI Ministers to share in a special "Refresh Week (7th-11th June) by stepping back from the normal round of ministry duties to be refreshed through a half-day conference on Wednesday and personal reflection, study and prayer. Pray that all serving Ministers will benefit from this week mentally, physically and spiritually as they reflect on the past year that has brought about so much change in life and ministry and look to the future.

Tuesday 8th- Give thanks for the young people and leaders of Hub who are taking part in the **Moving for Mission** challenge. Pray that many members of the congregation will be encouraged to walk, cycle or swim for these very worthy causes and that much needed funds will be raised for the 5 missionary projects involved. Pray that through information provided from speakers this session the young people will gain knowledge of the mission field and will develop a heart for mission at home and abroad.

Wednesday 9th- In **1st Peter 2v9**, Peter reminds believers that we are "a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession". Pray for grace and courage to live up to this calling and to boldly share the Good News of salvation with those we meet.

Thursday 10th - Pray for all those involved in "**Life Beyond**" a programme which coordinates bereavement support services and activities for the farming community of Northern Ireland. Remember families in our farming community who have lost loved ones through farm accident, suicide, and sudden or expected death. Give thanks for the way in which "Life Beyond" not only supports the mental and physical wellbeing of families but offers business and financial mentoring to those family in distress after the death of a loved one.

Friday 11th – **Open Doors** helps Christians in over 60 countries, from training leaders to raising awareness about global persecution. Across the World, the spread of Coronavirus is having a devastating effect. Lockdown means many Christians no longer have incomes and can't buy food. As well as this, Christians are often ignored when official aid is distributed. They desperately need help. Please pray for these Christians who are persecuted for their faith and that help will be made available.

Saturday 12th - In 1st Timothy 2v1-2, Paul urges believers to pray for "kings and all those in authority". Remember **Queen Elizabeth** today in prayer. This is her official birthday, but the usual celebrations have been cancelled as she continues to mourn her husband, Prince Philip. Pray for a continued sense of God's love and grace for her in her grief.

Sunday 13th- Thank the Lord for **Bubbles, Rainbow Club and Jump**. It has been great that Zoom has enabled Sunday School to take place during the past few months. Pray now that God would protect the boys, girls and Sunday school teachers as they move forward to make it possible to meet in person, each Sunday in the church hall, during the church service. Pray that Sunday school would run smoothly, that everyone would stay safe and that all those taking part would find it very enjoyable and continue to grow closer to God.

Monday 14th- Child sponsorship means more now than ever before. **Child sponsorship with Compassion** is an opportunity to provide a child with food, clean water, shelter, clothing and medical care during the Coronavirus crisis. You can receive more prayer topics on line. Please pray for children in poverty around the world and that every single child supported by the Compassion projects will know the presence of God and that He will protection and comfort them through these difficult times.

Tuesday 15th - Take time out of your day to be still and to be present in the moment. Ask God to free your mind of all distractions and to focus on His precious word. May God speak to you today. **2 Corinthians 4:16-18**

Wednesday 16th- For many years now, the congregations of our local Presbytery have provided **Marriage Preparation classes** for couples getting married through the Bangor-based organisation "Christian Guidelines". Sadly, these classes have become another casualty of Covid-19 and have had to be postponed, at present. Please pray for CG's staff and volunteers who provide these classes and that it won't be long until they're able to resume once again. Pray, too, that they will also be able to offer in-person counselling services again to help with the many mental health issues people are experiencing.

Thursday 17th - Pray for families who are finding it harder and **harder to care, by themselves, for someone with physical or mental ill-health, dementia or severe learning disabilities**. Give thanks for the support from Health and Social Care agencies and ask that those who work with such families will do everything they can to alleviate the burden they carry by ensuring they do their work as compassionately and efficiently as they possibly can. Pray that Day Care and Adult Centre services will be restored to what they ought to be as soon as possible.

Friday 18th- Pray that God will help Christian churches and organisations working with governments and international bodies to bring an end to the appalling trade in **human trafficking** that ruins millions of innocent lives all over the world. Pray that

campaigners will be courageous and effective in highlighting the plight of victims and that new strategies and technologies will help to identify and rescue victims, and prosecute the criminal gangs involved.

Saturday 19th –Take time to pray for the **P7 boys and girls** who find out what secondary school they have got a place in. They have been through a lot of uncertainty and change during this academic year. Pray that God would direct their paths and that each child would receive peace and grace to trust the plans He has for their lives (Jeremiah 29v11).

Sunday 20th. Give thanks for the nation's fathers as we celebrate **Fathers Day**. Remember the influences fathers have made in our society and in our personal lives. Give thanks for our heavenly father who guides us, loves us and will never abandon us. Psalm 136 V 26 " Give thanks to the God of Heaven. His love endures forever " NIV

Monday 21st - Give thanks for the work of **Evangelical Alliance in NI** as they serve and represent churches, organisations and individuals, and encourage churches to work together in evangelism and social action. Pray for David Smyth who heads up the team in Belfast as they take a leading role in campaigns for Christian unity, religious liberty and social transformation. Ask for courage, wisdom and clarity as they speak in public forums, lobby public representatives and present a Christian viewpoint on radio and television debates and programmes.

Tuesday 22nd- Many people may have or are going to book a **holiday this summer**, somewhere in the U.K. or in countries on the green list. Pray that those people would enjoy their time away and feel a sense of refreshment. Pray too that everyone travelling would do so safely and continue to obey all the laws and restrictions that are in place wherever they go. Pray that new variants would not spread and that travel can be a positive, safe experience for everyone involved.

Wednesday 23rd — Today is **International Widows' Day**. Pray that we may become more aware of the plight of millions of women all over the world who face tremendous hardship following the death of their husband. Give thanks for churches and Christian organisations who campaign for justice on their behalf, provide financial support and help them rebuild their lives and families in a way that brings comfort and hope to them through Gospel witness, prayer and practical support.

Thursday 24th— It is now quite some time since many of the **elderly** have been able to venture out. Now with the success of the vaccination programme and many people having had both doses, this may be possible but many are very nervous and anxious. They may feel unsafe even though they miss spending time with friends. Please pray that their fear will disappear and they can once again enjoy friendship and fellowship with others.

Friday 25th – As **restaurants reopen** and activities can take place indoors again, take time to pray for everyone's safety as they start to socialise/mix in an enclosed environment. Pray that the virus would not spread and reach a high transmission level again. Pray that indoor activities would get to remain open indefinitely and that everyone would continue to follow Covid-19 government guidelines.

Saturday 26th As we celebrate **Armed Forces Day in the UK**, remember those men and women who make up the armed forces community. Pray for current serving personnel, service families, veterans and cadets. Give thanks for the men and women of the Armed Forces who are working around the world to promote peace, deliver aid, tackling drug smugglers, providing security and fighting terrorism. Ask God to be with Armed Forces personnel wherever they are serving whether at home or abroad.

Sunday 27th- Pray for **Peter, Sandra and Aaron** on their last Sunday at worship in our church. May God bless them richly in the months and years ahead and pray they will feel His presence, love and protection daily. Through the three services today may we be able to demonstrate our love, gratitude and appreciation for their dedication, witness, pastoral care, encouragement and the biblical teaching Peter has given to our church and community over the past 24 years. Pray for the elders and congregation as we commence a new chapter without Peter.

Monday 28th – **Joshua 1 V 9** "Remember that I have commanded you to be determined and confident! Don't be afraid or discouraged, for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go" GNB .Pray for people who are facing disappointment and despair and can only see unhappiness in their lives. Remember Jesus is our guide and will go ahead of us to lead the way through life's journey.

Tuesday 29th - We are all aware that at the present time many have **lost jobs** or are very unsure of how secure their jobs are. With many young people finishing their education and needing a job it makes the situation at present even more difficult. For those who have lost jobs and are a little older, finding a new job is going to be more difficult. With all the extra concerns of paying bills, supporting and feeding a family it is a very worrying time. Please pray for those who have no job or whose job is unsure at this time. Please pray that help and new jobs will be available.

Wednesday 30th- As **schools break up for the summer**, pray for rest and refreshment for pupils and staff. Give thanks for how schools have adapted this year to help children to continue in their learning. Pray that children may enjoy the summer months and the freedom they bring, while still staying safe. Pray that many will have opportunities to find and grow in faith as they take part in missions and Bible clubs.



Prayer Diary June 2021

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

Proverbs 3:5-6

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will make your paths straight.