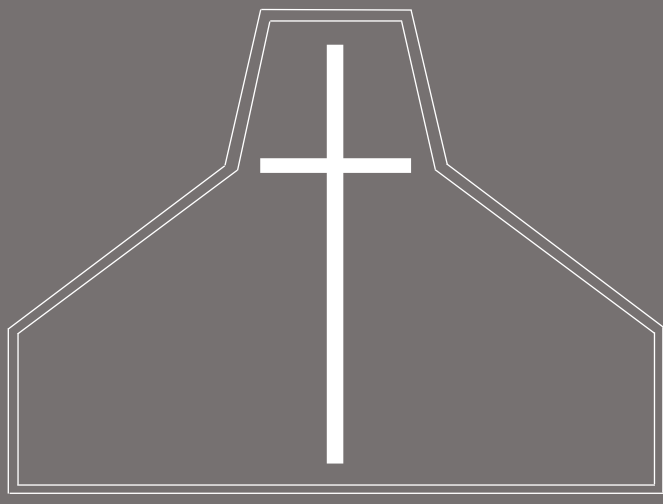


# Prayer Diary

## July 2021

Devote yourselves to prayer,  
being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4: 2



St Columba's  
Parish Church

### Thursday 1

Scripture Union: SU Scotland gives thanks that it is possible to do face-to-face ministry although in very different forms. Please pray for hundreds of young people and volunteers taking part in expeditions, day camps, online camps and outdoor holiday clubs over the summer. Pray that young people will enjoy participating in activities and exploring the Bible together.

### Friday 2

Jo Crotty, MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship): Jo asks us to pray for her as she moves to Ukarumpa in the Eastern Highlands which was due to happen on 23rd June in order to take up a 1 year secondment to teach at the SIL/Wycliffe missionary school. The move is a partnership between MAF and SIL (a non-profit faith-based agency for Language Development Support) and enables MAF families with secondary age children to attend the P1 – S6 school. Please pray for the consequent logistics of the move, for smooth settlement and building of new relationships.

### Saturday 3

Lammermoor Gardens: Remember residents and staff at Lammermoor Gardens. Pray on that it may be possible to resume some form of monthly service and re-establish the Congregation's personal engagement with staff and residents.

### Sunday 4

Sunday Club and Bible Class: Give thanks for the completion of the year's session on 20th June and for the commitment of the leaders and young people throughout a very different year. Pray that all involved in the Bible Class and Sunday Club may enjoy a good break over the summer. Pray also that our young people would have an unbroken year of school after the holidays. Remember Rona Thomson as she looks forward to beginning a Modern Apprenticeship Course at the Glencoe Outdoor Centre on 29th August.

### Monday 5

Church Halls and Maintenance: Give thanks and pray for all those helping with ongoing maintenance and other jobs around the church and halls/buildings over the summer. Give thanks also for the regular cleaning of the church and halls week by week by Gilbert and Lorna. We remember and give thanks for all those who help in any way to ensure our buildings and grounds are kept in such good order as they are.

### Tuesday 6

The Guild: Remember the Guild and pray especially for those with leadership responsibilities who are currently involved in making plans for resuming after the summer, regulations permitting. Give thanks for the pastoral care and concern shown to each other over the last year.

### Wednesday 7

Friendship Club: Give thanks that the children of the Friendship Club have been able to eventually meet up on a couple of occasions before the summer break. Pray that hopefully this opportunity will continue after the summer.

### Thursday 8

Bible Study Groups: Continue to give thanks and pray for the seven small groups being able to meet to study Seven Psalms together and especially for the diverse ways of doing the studies - by phone, online and a most-recently formed garden group which has been able to meet despite the challenges of our Scottish variable weather. Pray for a deepening of faith and growth in grace as the studies are completed.

### Friday 9

The Boys' Brigade: All sections of The 1st Kirkintilloch BB are now on holiday. Give thanks that a face-to-face programme was able to resume outside over the closing weeks of the session and for all that was made possible and achieved in a very different year, giving thanks for the leaders' hard work and commitment. Pray that leaders and boys may have an enjoyable summer break and hopefully may return in September to a more normal pattern of activity.

### Saturday 10

Live-Streaming: Pray with thanksgiving for the recent funding from the Scottish Government's 'Adapt and Thrive' Programme for live-streaming equipment to be installed here at St Columba's. Whilst we are encouraged in Scripture not to give up the habit of meeting together (Heb.10:25), pray that this equipment may be a blessing for those unable to attend services in the church building.

### Sunday 11

Sunday Services: Give thanks for being able to meet together again week by week. Pray that God's Word will be boldly proclaimed in Kirkintilloch and across Scotland and for the Lord to draw people to Himself. Pray especially for those who have connected online to Church services through the last months who otherwise might not have visited Church worship activity and give thanks for all those who have contributed to make worship possible online and by CD.

### Monday 12

The Bereaved: Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in recent days and those personally known to us. Losing someone who is dearly loved makes for a deep void in those who are grieving in such loss. Pray that the Lord may keep His compassionate arm around their shoulder and that those around may be a source of strength and sensitive encouragement to the grieving.

### Tuesday 13

Bible Society, El Salvador: Teenagers in many areas live in places where gang culture is rife. Many come from fragmented homes with parents moving to other countries to find work. Often young people have difficulty choosing their path in life, but schools provide a safe place for them. The Bible Society in El Salvador aims to encourage pupils to trust what God says in His Word, become less fearful and make right life choices. Please pray for teenagers in the project that they will know God's purpose for their lives and that God will protect them from gang culture.

### Wednesday 14

Following Jesus Group: Pray with thanksgiving that the Following Jesus Group was able to meet for the first time in a long while to go Ten Pin Bowling. Give thanks that everyone had a really great time and again that the Group was able to meet before the summer. Pray in hope that meetings will be able to continue, regulations permitting, after the summer.

### Thursday 15

Myanmar: Continue to remember the nation of Myanmar where clashes continue between the army and anti-coup protesters and militia groups such as the People's Defence Forces. Many hundreds of civilians have been killed. Pray for a cessation of the violence and dialogue to rebuild trust and peace.

### Friday 16

Little Fishes: Give thanks for the resuming of Little Fishes on Friday mornings and for the sterling work of the helpers in making the facilities safe and conducive to the wellbeing of everyone involved. Even though there is a summer break, planning and preparation for the new session continues. Remember the leaders as they deliberate and make decisions in line with pandemic regulations in readiness for the post-summer restart. Pray for the families who are involved and for a happy and safe environment for engaging with young children and adults in meaningful relationships.

### Saturday 17

Ethiopia and Tigray: Remember the many thousands of people who have been killed and millions displaced after conflict erupted almost eight months ago, resulting in major famine and starvation in Tigray. There is a shortage of seeds, oxen to plough and fertilisers. Aid support is limited in supply. Pray for an end to the crisis in Tigray and for a greater supply of aid to reach people where it is needed. Give thanks for the work of Tear Fund Scotland in its work to help women who have experienced trauma from conflict by providing emotional and psychological support and assisting local churches to meet the needs of people who don't have enough food or safe water.

### Sunday 18

The Church at Worship: Give thanks that we have the freedom to worship the Lord in openness unlike many parts of the world where it is dangerous to do so. "Let us not stop meeting together as some have done" (Heb.10:25) reminds us of the importance of fellowship together as we pray for the Word of God being proclaimed today that it will be preached with boldness and clarity. Pray for God's servants to know His blessing in their preparation of the Message for proclamation that God will use them to His glory.

### Monday 19

Men's Club: Remember and give thanks for the many friendships which are shared through the life and fellowship of the Men's Club even through the summer recess. Remember especially those on their own and for the encouragement which the sharing together provides. Pray that as the restrictions ease there will be an opportunity to re-establish the regular Monday evening meetings in the autumn.

### Tuesday 20

Tuesday Morning Fellowship: Continue to remember those who regularly met together each Tuesday morning and who have missed these Meetings due to the Pandemic. Pray that they may continue to know the Lord's presence with them and His blessing in their lives and the encouragement of the Lord's people with them.

### Wednesday 21

Vaccination Programme: Continue to give thanks for the positive ongoing rollout of the Vaccination Programme. Pray that vaccines will continue to be widely taken up across all age-groups for greater protection within communities. Give thanks for the great numbers of vaccines being made available to less prosperous nations to control the spread of Coronavirus.

### Thursday 22

Those who are Unwell or in Hospital: Remember those who are unwell, those who are awaiting investigation, diagnosis, surgery/treatment, especially after recent Lockdown restrictions as a result of Coronavirus. Pray that they may receive medical care as promptly as is possible and pray for all Healthcare staff amid great pressures on them to respond to increasing demands for their help.

### Friday 23

Bible Society, Albania: Give thanks for the completion of the Albanian Bible after 20 years of hard work and commitment from the translation team. Pray for the life-changing words of the Bible to have an impact on the hearts of people in Albania. Pray for God's blessing on Altin Hysi, the General Secretary of the Interconfessional Bible Society of Albania and his small team who work incredibly hard to share God's word in their country.

### Saturday 24

The Suffering Church: Pray for Christians who are launching a legal challenge against the Gujarat Education Act, India, as an anti-conversion bill is set to come into force. Remember also the 2000 deaths from Covid of Christian pastors and leaders in India and Nepal which has left Christians floundering and ministries in danger of collapse. Pray for the growing anti-Christian sentiment in Brazil as demonstrated by the recent bombing of the Memorial to the Bible in Campina Grande, Paraiba.

### Sunday 25

The Church Worldwide: Give thanks for the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ which will be proclaimed throughout the world today. Pray that the Holy Spirit will empower Christians with boldness to speak for Jesus and remember Christian leaders and pastors who minister to their people that they may be wise and circumspect in their living for the Lord as they lead. Pray especially that the Lord's Kingdom may come on earth as it is heaven as Christians around the world join together to pray and worship today.

## Monday 26

Local and National Government: Continue to pray for those in public service who serve the people of our communities. Pray for wisdom for those in Government and those who serve in Opposition that they may work together with integrity in policy/decision-making and with accountability and humility for the common wellbeing of the people. Pray for the work of our Local Council in endeavouring to meet the many responsibilities it has to fulfil in its day-to-day outworking in serving our local community.

## Tuesday 27

Lodging House Mission: Pray for the ongoing work of the LHM in its vital support of those vulnerable people living on the streets and endeavouring to get people off the streets and back to leading fulfilling lives. Remember the different areas of service offered by the LHM to engage with the vulnerable and pray for the staff, volunteers and board as they seek to develop the ongoing work under their new manager, June, as they build trust and show compassion and care for the vulnerable. Pray also for continuing support from congregations and business which provides invaluable assistance to facilitate the many services the LHM sustains.

## Wednesday 28

Christian Aid: The theme of the recent Christian Aid Week has been the continuing adverse effects of climate change on many poor communities throughout the world by natural disasters. Pray particularly for those affected by the continuation of drought which has been seen in parts of Kenya and Ethiopia which results in poor harvests and consequent famine. Pray for help and support through the funding of projects by Christian Aid and more prosperous nations to bring about change.

## Thursday 29

Leprosy Mission: Remember the work of Leprosy Mission Scotland and its support for the ongoing support for people with leprosy in South East Bangladesh that ensures those with leprosy can access quality treatment as early as possible to reduce the level of disability they could face in the future. Pray also for the work in Nepal - for the care and treatment provided in Anandaban Hospital and Green Pastures Hospital - that it will be of high quality and for the rights of people with leprosy to be upheld and to support families and communities in building better livelihoods.

## Friday 30

Care for the Family: Please pray for Care for the Family who are working to strengthen families throughout the UK, Isle of Man and beyond by equipping parents, supporting couples and comforting those experiencing bereavement especially post-Covid. Pray for the new projects that are happening - producing new digital content and family resources, the expansion of services to provide a listening ear in times of need and live streaming of training and events to make content even easier to access - that people will be blessed through such Christian care and compassion.

## Saturday 30

Emmaus UK and Bethany Christian Trust: Give thanks for the 30th Anniversary of Emmaus UK communities and for the work of The Bethany Christian Trust in Scotland, both of which work with individuals and local communities to end homelessness. Please pray for the people they support, for volunteers and for staff teams as they seek to make new beginnings in people's lives. Pray also that they may keep in step with God's purposes and that they may know the favour and grace of God in prospering the work.