

St Columba's Day of Prayer, Saturday 8th May 2021

For our Church and our Community

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

We hope this guide may be helpful in guiding you in your prayers for the St Columba's Day of Prayer. There are two sections – 'Our Church' and 'Our Community'. Below each section header are items you may wish to pray for.

If you have committed to pray during one of the 15-minute time slots, you may choose to pray for 7 or 8 minutes for both sections

Our Church

- Continue to give thanks for the continuing opportunity to worship together – online, on CD and now also in the church building. Give thanks for those who work with in the Music Team and the AV/IT Team and others too who make this possible week by week. Pray that the new sermon series on chapters 1-6 of the book of Ezra would be helpful to us all in the coming weeks.
- Give thanks for Sunday Club, Bible Class and The 1st Kirkintilloch Boys' Brigade having resumed face to face meetings, albeit outdoors. Give thanks for all those who have worked hard to keep online meetings going over these past months. Pray that the restart of face to face meetings might be encouraging and enjoyable for all.
- Give thanks that Little Fishes are making plans to restart soon. Pray for the various practical arrangements that have to be in place to enable this to happen. Give thanks for the contact that has been possible with the Little Fishes families over the past months through social media and drop offs (e.g. of Easter gifts). Pray for the nurture and development of these young lives as they grow in years and understanding.
- Pray for all who miss coming to Friendship Club and the Following Jesus Group. Give thanks for being able to keep in touch with both groups and pray that it may be possible to meet together face to face before too long.
- Pray too for the new Small Group Bible Studies on 'Seven Psalms' running in May and June. Give thanks for the expected 7 or 8 groups taking part in these. Pray that God might speak to us through his Word and that we might also grow in fellowship as we spend time together in this way.
- Pray for people in the church we know who have particular needs at this time. For example, those who are unwell, those who are housebound, those who are carers, and those who have recently been bereaved.

Our Community

- There are many folks in our community who have been greatly missing the opportunity to get out and about and meet with others over these past months. Pray that those who are feeling very cautious about leaving the house may have increasing reason for confidence in the coming days. Pray that we as a church might be open to God's leading if there is anything we can do to help or support people in our community in meeting together safely.
- Give thanks for all those (GPs, other Healthcare Workers, Council Employees, Volunteers and others) who continue to work locally to provide coronavirus vaccinations. Give thanks for the smooth running of this process to date and pray that may continue.
- Pray for teachers, support staff and pupils in the schools in our community (including Oxbang Primary, Kirkintilloch High, Merkland and Gartconner Primary) as they try to settle into the rhythm of school life after months of disruption. Pray that our local schools may be safe and nurturing environments for our young people.
- Remember the proposed new ASN (Additional Support Needs) school for Waterside (earliest expected completion date April 2023) and also the residents there as the school will make a significant change to the area and adapting to change can be difficult.
- Give thanks for the opportunities some of us have had to get to know our neighbours better over these past months. Pray that we would be good neighbours to those who live nearby. Pray for opportunities to speak about our faith in Jesus and for the difference that makes in our life.
- Remember people with mental health conditions, those with dementia, those with additional needs, and others too who have found these past months very hard indeed. Now that it is becoming easier for face to face services to be delivered, pray that people would get the help and support they need as soon as possible. Pray too that we would be sensitive to the needs of others and where appropriate do what we can to offer help and support.