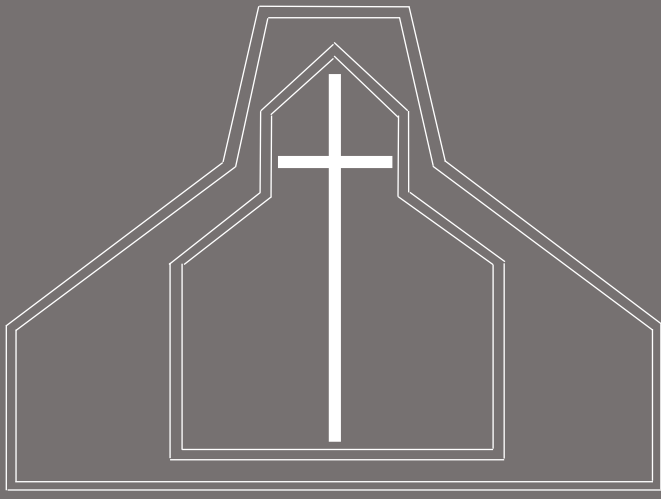


And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep praying for all the saints.

Ephesians 6:18



Prayer Diary

April 2025

St Columba's
Hillhead
Parish Church

Tuesday 1

School Services. Remember School Services taking place this week with Hillhead and Oxbang Primaries to mark Easter. Pray for Philip as he leads these services that he will communicate well with the children, parents and staff and be able to share the hope of the Easter Gospel message. Pray for those attending these services that they might be receptive to the message shared and proclaimed and their hearts touched by grace. Remember teachers and staff in their work of supporting children and pray that the forthcoming holiday break may be a welcome time of refreshment and relaxation for them in readiness for the new term.

Wednesday 2

Midweek Fellowship. Give thanks for the regular weekly meeting of the Midweek Fellowship and for the opportunity to worship God and share fellowship together, especially for those who may not be able to attend Church on Sundays. Praise the Lord for the love, support and encouragement shared amongst those who attend. Pray for Philip as he prepares for this Meeting that the Word of God may bear much fruitfulness in the hearts and lives of those who attend and pray that more people may desire to come along.

Thursday 3

Walk and Talk. Remember the Walk & Talk Group as it continues to enjoy meeting on Thursday afternoons for an hour or so of walk and conversation. Remember those who regularly share together in this hour of gentle exercise and the opportunity to socially share interest in each other and their lives. Pray for those who come regularly and for new members that each will feel welcomed and know the mutual interest and love gained from 'a listening ear'.

Friday 4

Little Fishes and Busy Bees. Give thanks that these Groups continue to be well-attended each week. Pray especially for the Busy Bees Group that those on the waiting list will be understanding of having to cap numbers for reasons of available space. Remember the leaders and helpers of both groups as they plan and oversee the life of these groups especially for safety and wisdom in the outworking of the activities. Pray that those who come along, both carers and children, that they will be aware that they are coming into a warm, inviting place where they are valued and a desire to know more about Jesus' love. Pray especially for help to set up/clear away the hall with heavy lifting of required, necessary materials each week. Pray that the leaders will enjoy a well-earned break over the School Holidays.

Saturday 5

Those who are Unwell, in Hospital or in Care. Remember all those who are unwell, awaiting or undergoing investigation, diagnosis, surgery/treatment especially in the current demands upon the Health Service. Give thanks for those who are recovering from surgery/treatment and pray that they will know increasing strength and wholeness in the forthcoming days. Pray that those who need medical help may receive their required care as promptly as possible and pray for recovery, healing and strength to endure however God provides. Especially remember those known to us suffering from chronic/terminal illness and pain as people seek to live with the constant reminder of suffering. Remember their families and carers who also share in the pain and suffering. Continue to remember and give thanks for all Healthcare staff, especially our local GPs and staff amid continuing great pressures to respond to increasing demands upon them for their help and care. Pray for those in long term care, all NHS and Social Care staff as they seek to provide compassionate care especially in a time of increasing demands.

Sunday 6

Sunday Club. Give thanks for the regular attendance by those young people who come to Church on Sundays and seek to know more about to Jesus and get to know Him as Saviour and Lord. Pray for the young people where it can be difficult to be different as someone who comes to Church with few peers. Remember the leaders in their commitment of service that they would know wisdom and honour the Lord in their preparation, leadership and encouragement of the young people. Remember Noah's Ark as it meets today and pray that the families who are coming along may feel welcomed and may have a deepening interest and desire to come along and get to know Jesus more fully. Pray also for discernment in knowing ways of supporting young families in coming to church.

Monday 7

Men's Group. Give thanks for the Men's Group and for those who have had the opportunity to meet together for social activities and friendship in enjoyment and recreation as the current Session ends. Give thanks for Jim Kennedy as Chairman and Secretary, Ian Gibb, as they have coordinated the week to week activity. Praise God for the continued good attendance and friendship offered as an encouragement and

support, especially as the Finals Evening and Awards Presentation Dinner at Hayston Golf Club formally ends the Session till the Autumn.

Tuesday 8

The Bereaved. Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in recent/not so recent days and personally known to us. Remember those who have suffered through sudden trauma or chronic illness. Such loss is devastating for anyone who lost a loved one close to them and grieving can be painful and difficult. Pray that the Lord in His compassion will be close to them especially through dark and difficult days and that those surrounding them may be a quiet and sensitive support.

Wednesday 9

Warm Welcome. Give thanks for the regular weekly opportunity to offer a warm space and caring support to the community at Hillhead Halls. Praise God for the Kitchen Cupboard and pray that it will be adequately stocked to serve the needs of the community and for the help and support available from Christians Against Poverty. Pray that people will know the love and caring support is done in Jesus' name and pray for God's leading as the ministry of Warm Welcome continues to develop. Pray that relationships will be deepened and people will see the love of the Lord reaching out to them that

they may come to know Him in faith, hope and love.

Thursday 10

Children & Family Worker. Continue to give thanks for Cassie's presence with us and her involvement in the regular programme of services and events such as Little Fishes, Busy bees and Noah's Ark. Pray for Cassie as she builds relationships with young families and furthering already-established relationships and groups. Pray for Cassie as she plans and prepares for activities and becomes more involved in congregational life and the community, especially in the life of the Young People's and SU groups at schools that she will be a great ambassador for the Lord in her work and witness. Especially pray for the submitted application to Seeds for Growth (Church of Scotland Fund for congregations to promote mission and outreach) for financial assistance. Pray that the submitted application may be favourably looked upon. Pray also for other sources of funding to be made known.

Friday 11

Those with Mental Health Issues. Remember those whose mental health is struggling at the moment, especially young people suffering from social media issues. Pray that the Lord would draw close to those who are despairing. Especially remember those

known to us who may be struggling. Pray that the Lord will give us the right words to say to someone who is suffering and pray for opportunities for healing conversations. Pray for an increase in understanding and empathy for mental health issues in society and within the Church. Pray that those suffering will find comfort and respite and a path to full healing. Remember also those supporting them that they may know patience, love, hope and healing.

Saturday 12

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Give thanks for MAF's work in Chad and remember especially Pushpa Lawrence, Chad Communications Officer, as she seeks to share through different media the incredible work being done by MAF's team. Praise God for Nadjitaham Koulmass who is an intern in the Operations Dept and is helping to organise MAF flights across Chad. Give thanks for his passion for aviation and his faithfulness to Christ. Pray for the Bible boxes delivered in northern Chad, praying that the Holy Spirit will help those who receive them to understand God's life-giving words. Pray that He will use His people to share what they have read with others, and that many will receive a life-changing revelation of Jesus. Remember the pilots who must make quick decisions to keep everyone safe and

secure when factors outside their control occur.

Sunday 13

Palm Sunday. At the start of Holy Week today pray for the Services rotating around the local churches. Pray that the message of the journey of the Lord as he proceeds to Calvary will be proclaimed and reflected upon in thoughtfulness of the extent of God's love for us in allowing His Son to suffer and die for us, how a crowd could enthusiastically greet the Lord with palm branches and praise and only days later be shouting for Him to be crucified. Pray for ministers proclaiming the message today through the preaching of God's Word, and remember Holy Week services taking place this week and pray for those leading these services that God may touch people's hearts with his Easter love for the world.

Monday 14

Scripture Union (SU). Give thanks to God for the wonderful way He is bringing people together to pray for schools. Over 60 ministry hubs were in place at the time of writing, bringing together local people to pray for their high school and associated primaries- pray for more. Remember SU holidays which have taken place last week and those taking place this week. Give thanks for returners and pray for newcomers for whom this is their first SU holiday. Pray for a powerful sense of

being God's family. Remember especially senior pupils who have chosen an SU Scotland Study Holiday last week and this week. Pray for trust in God as they approach exams, and that they will leave their holiday feeling better equipped for them.

Tuesday 15

Bible Society Scotland (SBS).

1. Pray for the Gaelic work being undertaken by SBS staff, that it would be a blessing to the Gaelic community and inspire the younger generation to engage with the Bible in Gaelic

2. The Outspoken Bible podcast discusses God, faith and the Bible. Pray that those who listen will come away with a deeper understanding of God and the Bible

3. Pray for the churches in Scotland that have been reading Love, Death and Resurrection in small groups. Pray that lives will be transformed through these groups

4. Pray for SBS fundraising team who work hard to enable Scottish churches to support projects across the world.

Wednesday 16

Bethany Christian Trust (BCT). Pray for the management and staff of BCT as they seek to deepen the roots of their Christian ethos and values, ensuring their mission is bolstered by

a steadfast dependence on God and a strong support network for their team. Uphold the whole BCT team of staff and volunteers to remain in God's love, and to show His love in action across Scotland, all for His glory. Remember Rev. David McAdam in his frontline work in assisting those who are particularly vulnerable by helping them to integrate back into the community. Pray that God will continue to equip and strengthen him for this significant ministry.

Thursday 17

Jo Crotty. Give thanks for Jo's visit to the UK and for her visit to StCH to share with us her work and witness for Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea. Especially remember the 29 children who attended the Healing Hurting Hearts Workshop that God would continue to work in their hearts. Pray also that the revised materials for the trauma healing for children and writing the training materials will be steadily achieved. Pray also for Jo as she does the Glasgow Kiltwalk on Saturday 26th April walking 14 miles from Clydebank to Balloch to raise funds for MND Scotland to support research into Motor Neurone Disease which her brother Greg suffers from in Melbourne, Australia and continues to physically decline. Pray for Greg, his wife Maureen and their children as they adjust to the next stage of life and give

thanks for the drop-in centre he is able to participate in. Give thanks for Jo having access to good health care in Scotland and remember her as she will be travelling quite widely over her time of leave that her journeying will be safe and smooth and that her baggage will accompany her as she travels.

Friday 18

Good Friday. Good Friday. Remember the solemnity of this Day as Christians mark the death of Jesus on the Cross. Give thanks for God's love in providing the perfect sacrifice for our sins in giving His Only Son to die to pay the price of sin. Remember the Walk of Witness today in our local area, and also in other communities across the nation and world, as a public marking of Good Friday. Give thanks that these are increasingly growing in attendance and ask God to bless these events as a work of proclaiming the Gospel message. Pray also for the Easter Café this afternoon at St Columba's that people will be drawn to share in fellowship and enjoyment in social togetherness and activity and also be drawn to ponder the Easter Reflection on display as the meaning of Easter in truth and authority.

Saturday 19

Ukraine. Continue to remember the conflict and people in Ukraine, especially as peace talks are being undertaken. Pray that there

may be a just cessation of hostilities between Ukraine and Russia with a just settlement for people to live free from conflict, violence and devastation. Pray for a physical, social and spiritual rebuilding of Ukraine with people not living in fear of bombardment and loss of life and possessions. Remember current world leaders especially as they seek to bring a just conclusion to the conflict-pray for wisdom, integrity and discernment as they seek to make decisions which will have a significant bearing on the future life and living of the Ukrainian people. Pray for the people of Ukraine as they have had to suffer much during the last few years of war that they may have a continuing resilience for the future.

Sunday 20

Easter Sunday. Praise God for Easter Resurrection and for Jesus' rising from the Tomb, as the power of death is conquered! Remember all the services and events taking place to celebrate this glorious happening. Pray for the early Easter Sunday short service at Hillhead Halls and walk from Hillhead to St Mary's at 8am with an act of worship at both places. Remember the All-Age Service at 10.30am. Pray that all these may be a joyful praise to God and that God would be delighted to receive the praise and worship offered. Pray for all those involved leading these services that Easter joy will radiate from them as

they share that joy with each other.

Monday 21

National and Local Government. Bring before the Lord all those in positions of authority across the United Kingdom across the political spectrum. Remember especially our Prime Minister and First Minister of Scotland and the members of their Government that they may seek to exercise integrity and wisdom in their life and work. Pray that policy-makers will be thoughtful and discerning as they make decisions and draft new policy. Especially pray for Christians in political life. Pray that they will be able to live out their faith in their life and work and influence political decisions for good. Pray that the Lord may give strength to them especially when times are difficult and pressure is on them because of their faith.

Tuesday 22

Scottish/Westminster Parliament: Assisted Dying Bill. Pray for the Scottish/Westminster Parliament as the new bills aimed at legalising assisted dying in Scotland/wider UK progress through the Parliamentary stages with the Westminster Parliament Private Member's Bill being debated within the Committee stage with changes/amendments being set forth, tabled and discussed. Pray for all MSPs/MPs as they further consider/debate all the

issues raised by this Bill- primarily the long-held stance of sanctity of life, and the proposed desire to change the law to access safe and assisted dying to end life with the wider consequences that will have. Pray for everyone who has an interest in this issue with personal views on this matter. Previous attempts to change the law to enable assisted dying have failed. Pray especially for all those Christians who have submitted contributions to the debate that our heritage based on Christian values will be heard and acknowledged. Remember Christian healthcare staff as they seek to honour the Lord in their desire to uphold the sanctity of life and also those working in palliative care as they deliver end-of-life care everyday with compassion and kindness to those facing death and their loved ones.

Wednesday 23

Friendship Club and Following Jesus Group. Give thanks that both these groups continue to meet regularly and are well-attended and for the members, carers and leaders who all contribute to making these happy and meaningful evenings. Pray for the ongoing life and fellowship of the Groups that the love of Jesus will encourage and deepen the life of all and especially remember Pat Muir and the leaders that they may be inspired by the Lord to further this significant

ministry. Give thanks for these valued groups and for the ministry in sharing Jesus with these valued people whom He loves and cares for.

Thursday 24

Middle East. Continue to remember this ongoing complex situation and pray that God's peace would fill the hearts and minds of everyone who is suffering as a result of this expanding conflict involving the peoples of Syria, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon and Yemen. Give thanks for the recent Ceasefire/fragile peace between Israel and Gaza, the release of hostages and for humanitarian aid being brought into Gaza- pray for these to continue. Pray for- 1. Lasting Peace- an end to the violence- and remember world leaders with influence in the region to make wise decisions that exceed the fragility of current peace discussions 2. Safety- for all civilians, that God would protect them from harm, particularly the most vulnerable, including children, older people and people with disabilities as they return to Gaza with what that may mean for them. Remember aid workers as they seek to provide vital humanitarian assistance and medical supplies and pray for their protection. Pray for safe access to food, water, sanitary items, medical supplies, fuel and electricity. Especially remember people forced to flee their homes- pray for safe places

to stay as people return home.

3. Hope- remember those who are terrified and traumatised, mourning and suffering throughout the region. Ask the Lord to save them from despair, for the trauma and violence they've experienced not to overshadow hope. Pray that people throughout the region wouldn't lose hope, that peace is possible.

'With God, all things are possible'. (Matthew 19: 26)
(from Tearfund)

Friday 25

Boys' Brigade. Give thanks for the number of boys in The Anchor Section and Junior Section and for their continuing attendance, activities and achievements as the current session ends. Praise God for the enthusiasm of the Company Section boys despite low numbers and for the varied and interesting programme of activities and for the excellent range of materials produced by the BB. Give thanks for the awards gained by diligence and commitment. Remember the leaders as they come to the end of the session that they may enjoy a well-earned break and pray that their enthusiasm will have permeated through to the boys and so encourage faith and commitment in them to advance Christ's Kingdom in the Boys' Brigade and a desire to grow in wisdom and maturity as they progress to adulthood.

Saturday 26

Luwero Christian Ministries, Uganda. Give thanks for the work and ministry which is led by Gabriel Kijambu and for the many people who have come to Christ through this ministry. Especially pray earnestly for Gabriel's continued health and wellbeing after a recent bad fall resulted in his hospitalisation with bleeding on his brain. Give thanks that the MRI scan was more encouraging in the effects of the fall and that Gabriel will continue to steadily improve, especially praying for a decrease in his blood pressure. Pray that he will soon be able to drive again. Remember his wife, Deborah, and their 4 daughters who will be concerned about Gabriel and seek to support him. Pray that the ongoing life and work of the Community in its many facets- Church, School, Farm and Land Development and Gabriel's oversight of 16 pastor-colleagues- will continue while Gabriel fully recovers and that the many students and workers will continue to grow in grace and stature for the Lord.

Sunday 27

The Church and Ministry. Remember the work and ministry of God's servants today as they proclaim the Word of God that they may know God's Hand upon them as they serve the Lord. Pray for the Holy Spirit's boldness in preaching and for God's Word to bear

much fruit in peoples' lives. Pray that His ministers may be mindful and watchful as faithful leaders of Christ's Church and that God may protect them in their living out of the Gospel in daily life. Pray also for the Church of Scotland as it seeks to engage with Scotland in a new and Biblical way and the consequent work of Presbyteries - in working with local congregations in challenging times, especially remembering The Presbytery of Glasgow. Pray for the ongoing life and witness of St Columba's Hillhead in working together to promote discipleship and mission in our local area.

Monday 28

The Lodging House Mission (LHM). Give thanks for the work and witness of TLHM and Glasgow City Mission in their work in caring for the vulnerable in our society. Give thanks for the practical and prayerful encouragement of Glasgow Presbytery congregations that these may be a blessing to those who reach out to LHM for help and support at all times. Remember the Manager, Chaplain and staff who provide relational support and encouragement in a variety of different ways of activities and opportunities in the daily life of the LHM that the service-users will know Christ's presence with them.

Tuesday 29

Tearfund. About one in five people in Latin America and

the Caribbean live in poverty. It is one of the most unequal regions in the world, with the top 10 per cent of earners making 12 times more than the bottom 10 per cent. Pray for rural and indigenous people, who have much lower incomes than the rest of the population, and give thanks for Juan, who was freed from prison 30 years ago after a Tearfund campaign. Criminal violence and drug-related terrorism in Latin America have caused a humanitarian crisis. In Uraba, Colombia, pastors are providing support to thousands affected by violence. Pray for the protection of church leadership and the Tearfund team working in the area, influencing the church to be a centre for community transformation. Pray also for peace in Venezuela following the presidential elections last July, as the population suspects fraud. Pray that the election results will be honoured to prevent a further humanitarian crisis in Venezuela.

Wednesday 30

The Suffering Church. Give thanks that Open Doors secret fieldworkers are being equipped to share the gospel and give teaching and encouragement to North Korean refugees outside the country. Remember these believers who are bravely following Jesus despite enormous opposition, or raising support and awareness for

the persecuted church. Pray for Joo Min (name changed) who escaped the darkest place in the world and chose to go back to N. Korea to share the gospel. Please pray that every Christian woman should be seen, valued and empowered to reach her God-given potential. Remember especially Batoul (name changed) from N. Africa and her mother and sisters who started persecuting her after she became a Christian-targeting her, rather than her father, because she is a woman.