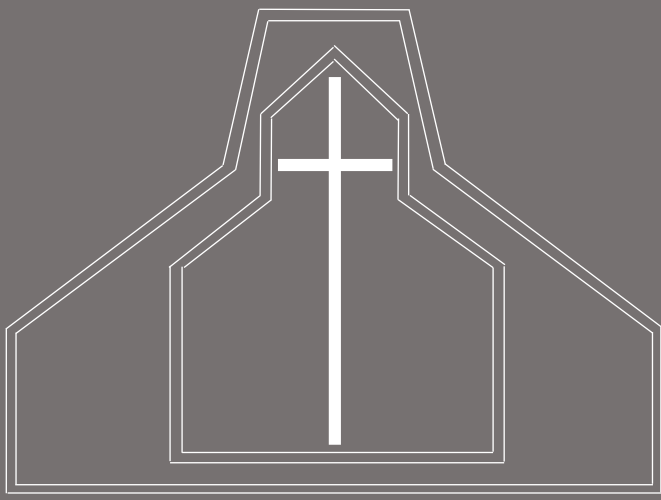


Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1Thessalonians 5:17-18



# Prayer Diary

## August 2022

St Columba's  
Hillhead  
Parish Church

## Monday 1

Scripture Union: 1) Give thanks that all SU Holidays and Holiday Clubs have been able to go ahead this summer and we have worked with over 3000 young people. Pray that many will continue to explore who Jesus is long beyond the event they attended. Holiday and holiday clubs continue through to 16 August.

2) Please pray for Jackie Ringan as she travels to Poland on 9 August through to 13 August for meetings with the staff of SU in Ukraine (Grigori and Oksana) who will travel from Ukraine to Krakow. Please pray for safety, good understanding and wisdom as plans are made for the future amidst much uncertainty because of the ongoing war. Jackie will also have meetings with the SU staff member from Belarus on 12 August.

## Tuesday 2

Ukraine: pray that the love of God and the peace of Jesus, the Saviour and Prince of Peace may spread in power throughout the land of Ukraine and flow over the borders to Russia, bringing peace, compassion, truth and an end to violence. Pray also that the Church in Ukraine will shine like stars at this dark time and bring comfort and hope to the people through God's Word. Continue to remember all those who are affected by

the destruction and horror and especially remember those who have opened their homes especially in Scotland to welcome Ukrainian people into their lives that there will be a spirit of harmony and compassion.

## Wednesday 3

Bethany Christian Trust (BCT): Give thanks for the lives BCT have been able to impact and see changed in the past. Pray for hope and aspiration for the people BCT supports in despair. Pray for peace in the lives of those in chaos and crisis and also for relationships with local churches, especially after the pandemic, that there would be a working together to bring light into the local community served by Fife Housing Support as it helps people to live independently in the community. Pray for this service, as it faces new challenges, that it would continue to show God's love and see lives transformed in local communities.

## Thursday 4

Children and Families Worker: Give thanks for the very generous and encouraging response to the congregational appeal. Please pray for grant applications being written for submission and consideration. Pray that this Project will be favourably regarded by Grant Providers as applications

are submitted. Give thanks for our first successful grant application, leading to the 'Miss ME Patterson's Charitable Trust' donating £2k to the Project. Give thanks also for all the sterling work which has been done by the Team to progress this thus far and pray for its ongoing development. Also continue to pray for more staff helpers to share in the important work of leading and participating in the life of the Sunday Club and Bible Class.

## Friday 5

Christians Against Poverty (CAP): Pray for the local CAP Group which exists as a national debt counselling charity that works through local churches to relieve poverty and help people out of debt especially in these current financially-challenging days. Pray for those who offer free debt counselling to people living in our area. Pray that people will seek their help early to prevent further debt increasing and receive practical and emotional support to show people there is always hope. Pray also for the local foodbank, that in the current economic climate those who need and seek assistance with food provision as well as concern for energy costs, may be welcomed and provided for and hearts open to give gladly to provide food items. Remember those who willingly serve as

volunteers to provide this service that they will be safe and secure.

### Saturday 6

Young People's Work: Remember the young people within St Columba's Hillhead especially during these summer holiday months. Pray for their wellbeing and looking forward to returning to their participation within Church organisations. Pray for the 5th Kirkintilloch Brownies as they prepare for the new session in September in Hillhead that the young folks will be keen to be involved and for the girls waiting to start in the new Rainbow unit. Pray that new volunteers would be willing to help with this new Unit and pursue leader training.

### Sunday 7

Church Worship: Pray for the proclamation of God's Word as the Lord's people gather in worship all around the world today that it may go forth with God's power and authority. Pray that the Lord's servants will be boldly empowered by the Holy Spirit, especially remembering Philip Malloch as he brings God's Word to us today. Remember especially those persecuted Christians around the world who worship the Lord but at significant risk to themselves and their families in many lands. Pray for the ongoing life of our recently united congregation of St Columba's Hillhead that we

may grow on faith, hope and love together to serve the Lord boldly in our community.

### Monday 8

Prison Fellowship, Scotland: Pray for the work of Prison Fellowship in Scotland who work with all 15 of Scotland's prisons and where no one is beyond hope. Pray for good relationships with Prison Staff/ Chaplaincy Staff and for meaningful relationships with prisoners, participating in weekly conversational/ bible study groups and for support for families and children affected by imprisonment. Give thanks for volunteers from churches in Scotland who help to make the Good News available to those in Scottish prisons. Pray also for the expansion of the Letter-Writing Programme where trained letter-writers can make a big difference in Christian communication with prisoners who may not receive a single visit from one year to the next.

### Tuesday 9

Those who are Unwell or in Hospital: Remember those who are unwell, awaiting investigation, diagnosis, surgery/treatment especially in the current demand upon the Health Service. Pray that they may receive their required care as promptly as possible. Especially remember those suffering from chronic illness and pain as people seek to live with the

constant reminder of 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.

### Wednesday 10

Those with Mental Health Issues: The last few months have been difficult for many in loss of social support and encouragement. Pray for those who are suffering mental health issues, especially children and young people who have suffered much during the last two years through loss of social interaction. Remember those who seek to provide caring support. Remember their families who experience pain watching loved ones suffer and often feel helpless and isolated too. Pray for those in the NHS and those in the wider Caring Agencies who are under great pressure from increased demand for their services through increased waiting times. Pray especially for those known to us who are experiencing difficult times in these days.

### Thursday 11

The Bereaved: Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in 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.

### Friday 12

Tearfund: Pray for world leaders to have courage and vision to steering nations towards stronger action on the climate crisis. As we look ahead to the UN climate talks in Egypt this November, pray that leaders would collaborate and use their influence to address the injustice of the climate crisis. Pray that decisions will prioritise those who are most vulnerable. Give thanks to God that young people around the world who are inspiring their families and churches to respond to the climate crisis. Thank God for their energy and passion and pray that spaces may be found in communities for young people to play a leading part.

### Saturday 13

The Bible Society, Cuba: The Cuba Bible Commission (the Bible Society in Cuba) are the sole suppliers of Bibles in that country. Following on from the highly successful One Million Bibles Project, many new opportunities have arisen, both to provide Bibles and for people to engage with the Bible.

There are still many believers in Cuba waiting for their own copy of God's Word and more than 60 denominations have approached the Cuba Bible Commission asking them to help eradicate Bible poverty as they work towards the delivery of the next million Bibles. Pray that staff and volunteers will be kept safe as they travel and share the Good News of Jesus Christ throughout the Island of Cuba.

### Sunday 14

Back to School with God: Today is 'Back to School with God' Sunday and our worship will be focussing on our young people going back to school and praying for some of our local schools. Pray that our young people will settle back into school life with a quiet assurance and especially those starting school for the first time and those going into new schools. Especially remember Christian staff and those in management in their day to day work with young people as they seek to honour the Lord in their work and administer the curriculum to provide a solid, rounded education for young people. Give thanks for the resumption of in-person chaplaincy support for Ofgang Primary School and Kirkintilloch High School in the closing days of the school term before the summer holidays and pray for its development in the new session.

### Monday 15

Jo Crotty: Give thanks that Jo has been officially welcomed into membership with Wycliffe (Bible Translators) UK & Ireland. Remember Jo in her next step to complete her application for study modules at Moorlands Bible College. Pray that she may have some days of rest and preparation as she arrives in the UK from Australia and for her accommodation needs. Pray that the Lord will have His hand upon her as she shares in church meetings for further future planning and seeks God's guidance for the days ahead.

### Tuesday 16

Christian Aid: Pray urgently for the work of Christian Aid in Afghanistan as it has launched an £100k emergency response to the devastating earthquake that hit Afghanistan's Paktia and Khost provinces recently, killing over a thousand people. Pray that the cash support will be wisely distributed to families in urgent need, especially female-headed households and those with disabled, elderly, or long-term sick family members. In total £100k will be used to help people in dire need of support, especially those in isolated who are already villages and vulnerable households. Remember more widely the people of Afghanistan who are already reeling from the impact of drought, conflict

and economic collapse. And these conditions have been further compounded by global price rises driven by the war in Ukraine.

### Wednesday 17

Midweek Service: Give thanks for the restart of the Midweek Service today after the summer break. Pray that those who gather in worship around God's Word that they will be blessed and encouraged in their faith as God's Word is expounded and that the Lord will also be delighted to receive the praise and worship of His people. Pray that those who regularly meet and attend this Service will delight in fellowship with the Lord and with each other and that they may be a joy and encouragement to each other. Also remember the drop-in coffee morning at Home Church this morning organised by the chaplaincy team for the parents of children in Oxgang Primary, especially P1 parents. Pray for Philip and Dave Brackenridge in their engagement with parents that the Lord will use them to reach parents for Jesus.

### Thursday 18

The Leprosy Mission (TLM): TLM Scotland supports TLM work in Myanmar which aims to achieve zero leprosy transmission and ensure that leprosy-affected individuals have a place in their society. Pray that their goals of improved leprosy knowledge, early

case detection, enhanced inclusion training to organisations, empowerment of people to advocate for themselves and reduce social barriers, improved referral mechanism to specialist hospitals, and access to special devices that are difficult to find in the local healthcare system such as prosthesis, wheelchairs and braces will be realised to attain these goals. Remember Dr Zaw Moe Aung in his responsible role as TLM Myanmar country leader.

### Friday 19

The Boys' Brigade: As schools have returned remember The Boys' Brigade as it prepares to embark on the new session after the summer break. Give thanks for the ongoing commitment of the leaders and pray that there will be a good response amongst boys to come along to participate in the life of The 1st Kirkintilloch BB in its relative age sections. Pray that the leaders may be encouraged in their regular giving of time and effort to see boys grow in responsibility and maturity as they increase in age. Pray for wisdom and discernment in their planning and preparation for the forthcoming session.

### Saturday 20

The Lodging House Mission: Pray especially for the work of the Day Centre

as a core element of the LHM's work as a vital haven for a variety of reasons to those who are vulnerable. For many, attending the Day Centre is the first step in reducing the feelings of isolation and loneliness which are often caused by living a chaotic life, homelessness as well as mental illness. Pray especially for the Support Staff and Counsellors as they seek to develop trusted relations to help identify the individual needs and wants of the men and women who seek help and advice.

### Sunday 21

Sunday Club & Bible Class: Give thanks for the resuming of these young people's groups after the summer break and pray that they will continue to attend and participate in the life and witness of the Church as they grow in age, praying also that they will grow in grace and faith, wisdom and understanding in knowing Jesus as Saviour and Lord. Pray for those who lead and prepare diligently to communicate effectively with the young people. Pray for a strong leadership team to share in this important work of nurturing our young people and enabling them to steer a positive course in life.

### Monday 22

Church of Scotland: Pray for the continuing work of the Church in Scotland and



abroad as it seeks to make challenging organisational changes over the coming months in conjunction with changing social trends following Covid. Remember those in full-time ministry who seek faithfully to proclaim God's Word week by week and for their encouragement. Pray for changes within Presbytery structures, and especially for The Presbytery of Glasgow. Pray that they will come together efficiently and purposefully and for reorganisation within Presbyteries that changes amongst congregations will be seen as a strengthening change for mission and development and a commitment to work in creative ways of proclaiming the Gospel.

### Tuesday 23

Home for Good: Pray for children and young people as they experience the changing schedules and routines, gathering with friends, families or church and trips away that come with the summer months. Pray for them as they navigate unsettling changes and unpredictability. Pray for God's peace, which we read of in Philippians 4 which *transcends all understanding*. Pray for families who are feeling the impact of the rising cost of living - and for children and young people too - and for those who entered the summer season feeling wrung out and exhausted.

Pray that they will experience refreshment and deep rest in the God who makes us *lie down in green pastures, who leads us beside the still waters, and who restores our souls*. (Psalm 23:2-3).

### Wednesday 24

Busy Bees: Give thanks for the restart of Busy Bees today in Hillhead after the summer break. Pray that the leaders will be enthused for the new session and ready to welcome the children and their carers to the Church and that there will be a good attendance of returning children where appropriate and those coming for the first time. Pray for safety and security for everyone involved in any way, especially the children and that people will want to return due to the warmth and friendliness of the Church and its people.

### Thursday 25

Walk & Talk Group: Give thanks for the weekly meeting together of Walk and Talk as an opportunity to share time and gentle exercise with one another to promote health and wellbeing as well as a social opportunity to listen and talk with each other and share interest in each other. Remember the Lord's walk on the Road to Emmaus where He drew alongside His friends and walked and talked with them and encouraged them as they journeyed together. Ask the Lord to bless these

conversations between friends who have an interest in and for each other.

### Friday 26

Little Fishes: Pray for the ongoing flourishing of Little Fishes as it restarts after the summer break in St Columba's today. Give thanks for the winsomeness of the leaders as they welcome children and their carers to the Church and pray for energy and enthusiasm as they engage in conversation and activities with them. Pray for wisdom and thoughtfulness in planning and direction of the work of the Group and also for the safety and security of everyone as they meet together. Pray that fruitful conversations may happen in speaking of faith in the Lord Jesus.

### Saturday 27

The Suffering Church: Pray for church leaders in India who have been falsely accused of paying people to become Christians, and targeted under anti-conversion laws that exist in many Indian states-that their names will be cleared. Give thanks that Open Doors is able to support 730,000 vulnerable Christians in India through the prayers and gifts of supporters of this vital work. Give thanks that God is using this ministry to ensure the faith of many thousands of Indian Christians remains

unshaken. Pray for the work of the Supreme Court in India that is looking into persecution of Christians that justice and righteousness will prevail. Remember Indian pastor Shekhar in prayer that he may know courage and strength after he was attacked and forced to leave his church.

### Sunday 28

St Columba's Hillhead Congregation: Pray for the ongoing life and witness of the recently-established united charge. Give thanks for those who are preaching in both St Columba's and Hillhead today and pray that the Lord will bless the ministry of God's Word. Pray for a spirit of love and unity in the lives of the people as together ministry and mission is developed and practised in life and witness. Pray that the Lord will be greatly pleased to honour and bless the work in His Name.

### Monday 29

Our Neighbours: Pray that we might be good neighbours to all those amongst whom God has placed us. Pray that through our inter-connection of relationships and lives the light and love of Christ may be made known. Pray that people may seek to know more about Jesus and be drawn closer to Him. Pray for opportunities to allow this to happen.

### Tuesday 30

Church/Grounds Maintenance: Give thanks for those who keep work to keep the grounds in such good order by regular attention and diligent service. Pray that more helpers will volunteers to participate in this essential work of maintenance. Also remember and give thanks for those who similarly and faithfully labour to keep the fabric of the church building and halls in good repair.

### Wednesday 31

Friendship Club and Following Jesus Group: Give thanks for the new all those who faithfully serve as leaders of these Groups and especially for the new staff/helpers and members who were welcomed into the Groups. Pray for enjoyment, fun and fellowship within the Groups as they restart for the new session after the summer break as well as getting to know Jesus and each other more. Pray that everyone within these Groups will know that God loves them and that He delights in knowing that they want to know more of Him.