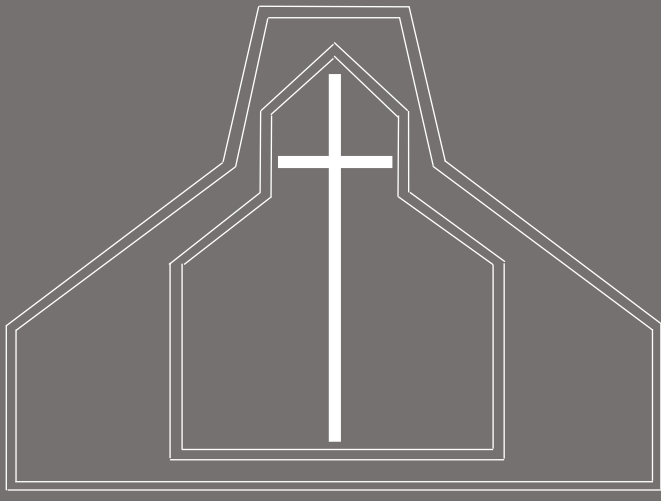


On Him we have set our hope that He will continue to deliver us, as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favour granted us in answer to the prayers of many.

2 Corinthians 1:10b-11



Prayer Diary September 2025

St Columba's
Hillhead
Parish Church

Monday 1

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 Governments, that they may seek to exercise integrity and wisdom in their life and work, especially in these current days of world uncertainty and change. Pray that policy-makers will be thoughtful and discerning as they make decisions and draft new policy for the wellbeing of the nation. 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 2

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.

Wednesday 3

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. Pray that dialogue may continue in peace discussions between Israel and Gaza, for the end of suffering for all those caught up in this conflict, the release of hostages and for humanitarian aid being

brought into Gaza- pray that these may 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 try to reshape their lives amidst a devastated environment. 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.

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 would not lose hope, that peace is possible.

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

Thursday 4

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 5

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.

Saturday 6

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 endeavour 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 7

St Columba's Hillhead. Continue to pray for the upbuilding of the life and fellowship of the congregation, especially as we gather together today to celebrate the Sacrament of The Lord's Supper. Pray that the fellowship around the Lord's Table will be a time of peace and gratitude for Christ's death for us. Pray that as God's people within our Church we may work for the Lord together in unity and love and that the mission of the Church will know God's blessing in life and witness. Give thanks for the Congregational Lunch today as an opportunity to

strengthen fellowship and for the natural ways in which this is happening such as over tea and coffee on a Sunday morning and weekly activities. Pray that this may continue to deepen the love and unity of God's people and that with encouragement to and from each other congregational life will be strong in the Lord.

Monday 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.

Tuesday 9

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.

Wednesday 10

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 11

Seeds for Growth. Give thanks for the significant grant we have been awarded as a church from the Church of Scotland's 'Seeds for Growth' fund. Pray for our project 'New Creations', as it begins this month. Pray that through 'New Creations' God might bless the young families we

support and come alongside through the Toddler Groups – Busy Bees, Little Fishes and Noah's Ark. Pray that 'New Creations', whilst focussing on the Toddler Group ministry, will have a beneficial effect throughout the church, and help us as we seek to reach out and connect with young families.

Friday 12

Boys' Brigade. Give thanks for the new Session which has just recently recommenced. Remember the leaders and boys as they engage afresh in activities and progress towards gaining badges and awards. Pray for a fruitful year of relationships and commitment as each and everyone seeks to learn and grow in stature and responsibility and for an interest among new boys to participate. Pray that all may come to a closer relationship with Jesus and through faith reflect the grace of the Lord in life and action.

Saturday 13

Jo Crotty. Give thanks for a great holiday in the USA and catching up with precious friends. Praise God for His hand of protection in Jo's recent health needs and for the reciprocal health agreements between Australia and New Zealand. Give thanks for a good start to the new school year. Ask the Lord to give discernment to Jo for

energy and balance between teaching and SU work. Pray that the completion of the Healing Hurting Hearts training materials and organising of the second course at Ukarumpa School both for the local children but also for national children. Remember also Jo's brother, Greg, suffering from MND, and his family in Australia as they care for him in with this debilitating illness.

Sunday 14

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 15

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). In Indepesi, Tanzania, young girls can have their education, future and basic human rights traded away for a few cows. For 14 year old Elinami going to school is more than just her education- she can dream of a life she wants rather than one that has been forced on her. MAF's partner Help for the Maasai runs a primary school, medical centre in the remote area of Malambo, Tanzania with MAF aircraft delivering school supplies and medical checkup kits for every child. Please pray :-1. That the children will have the opportunity to fulfil their dreams and have their voices heard. 2. That they will be lifted out of poverty, so they have access to enough food and clean water when they aren't at school. 3. That MAF will achieve their fundraising goal to ensure that every child receives school supplies and medical checkup kits.

Tuesday 16

The Guild. Give thanks for the new Session of the Guild which resumes today. Give thanks for Carol Johnston as the new Convener and for Margaret Rogerson as Secretary as well as the supporting members of the Committee under the ongoing theme Let us Build a House. Give thanks for the new Syllabus which has been drawn up and remember the forthcoming

speakers who will be visiting St Columba's Hillhead. Pray that the Guild and the Church will be enriched by the worship, fellowship and service of its members and that they will grow in faith, hope and love and encourage one another as the Session progresses. Pray for the many projects which the Guild supports both at home and abroad that Christ may be honoured and many helped in various works of service and action.

Wednesday 17.

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 18

Scottish Bible Society (SBS). Give thanks for those who have engaged with an SBS resource this summer, that they would be drawn towards God through reading the Bible. Praise God for the freedom we

have here in Scotland to work with so many people and reach so many areas of society in the service of God. Pray that God would inspire and support SBS as they seek to produce new resources, begin new projects and reach new audiences. Thank God for the dedication of the Paraguayan Bible Society and for the recognition their work has received. Pray that their work will continue to raise up the Deaf community in Paraguay. Pray also for the safety of the Sierra Leone translators during their training in Kenya. Ask God to continue providing support to the translation project through schools, churches and other partners.

Friday 19

CARE. Please pray for a major reversal of the secular attitudes that pervade many areas of today's society. May the deep roots of Christianity that have shaped our history and culture be reactivated to release the truth and grace of God's Word into the life of our nation. Please pray for help for Christians who have influence and authority in government, medicine, education, business, entertainment, online culture and other spheres to speak up courageously on behalf of vulnerable people in society, bringing godly solutions to the problems they face. Pray earnestly for

our politics to be renewed and lives transformed.

Saturday 20

Bethany Christian Trust (BCT). Strategy Seven is a BCT project to share hope in the community. By strengthening their collaborative efforts with churches, local governments and other partners they seek to extend their impact, sharing the transformative stories of the lives they touch and equipping communities with hope. Give thanks for the positive relationships BCT has with the Scottish Government, local authorities, charities and churches that they may be deepened and furthered. Ask God to guide the decisions that are made to sustain the necessary resources so that lives may continue to be transformed in communities across Scotland. Pray especially for BCT's staff and volunteers, particularly remembering Rev. David McAdam in his work for BCT, that they may be equipped and strengthened as they work as ambassadors for hope and peace.

Sunday 21

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 22

Tearfund. As International Day of Peace has just taken place yesterday Tearfund asks us to pray for an end to violence in our broken world. Jesus is the Prince of Peace as we follow his example to be peacemakers. Pray for places in our world where peace is desperately needed. Pray for local churches in places experiencing conflict, for our brothers and sisters who are living in fear. Lift up churches that are well-placed to show love and compassion to those worst affected, even amid their fear. Pray that they may be a shining light, even peacemakers, amid such hurt. Pray for regions of our world experiencing

entrenched conflict, for nations and regions at risk of further conflict, for those caught in conflict. Pray for protection for the most vulnerable who often pay the heaviest price. Peace is not just an absence of conflict but a restoration of our broken relationship with God. Pray that God's Holy Spirit may work in the hearts of all who do not know Him, so that they may turn to Him and experience God's peace.

Tuesday 23

5th Kirkintilloch Brownies. Give thanks for the local Brownie Pack which meets on Tuesday evenings in Hillhead Building and remember Lynn Semple as Brownie Leader in her encouragement of the young folks. Pray that the young ones will grow in wisdom as they learn about life and develop life skills for maturity. Pray that they will know and care for one another and honour the Brownie Guide Code in practice. Pray that they will know the love and support of the Church fellowship.

Wednesday 24

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 25

Scripture Union. Give thanks for a new season of Spotlight and Equip starting tomorrow night. Pray for all involved in leading and speaking. Pray too for those planning and delivering Magnitude Worship Nights over the winter. Pray that more young people will desire to come and meet with God at these events. The Strathkelvin Prayer Group meets monthly on a Saturday morning to pray for SU Scotland's work in the area: for SU Groups and their leaders; headteachers, pupils, staff and parents. Give thanks for Fiona Wright, who emails out prayer requests. Pray that they will see God at work. Praise God for The Send, a large youth event that took place in March at Braehead Arena, Glasgow and which challenged young people to follow the Great Commission. Some responded saying they would pray for a school or attend/start an SU group.

Pray that they will follow through with this pledge.

Friday 26

The Lodging House Mission (TLHM). 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 the TLHM 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 TLHM that the service-users will know Christ's presence with them.

Saturday 27

The Leprosy Mission (TLM). September is Harvest Season. Stigma, disability and climate change mean that many people affected by leprosy struggle to make a good living. Pray for and to poverty in many communities affected by leprosy. Pray that whether through climate-resilient agriculture or small businesses, families will be able to thrive. Economic crisis and increases in food prices in Sri Lanka mean that people here affected by leprosy cannot afford to eat properly. Give thanks that

through the kindness and generosity of TLM's supporters through Harvest and Lent appeals people are being helped to start kitchen gardens to improve nutrition. Give thanks that in Odisha, India, people who are too old and disabled to beg, some of whom are blind, cannot grow food and rely on neighbours who have barely enough for themselves. Pray for provision of food parcels so that vulnerable people can be fed. Praise God for the community gardens of fruit trees and vegetables which have been set up to combat extreme hunger and inspire hope for the future.

Sunday 28

The Suffering Church. For more than 20 years Eritrea's autocratic regime only recognises three Christian denominations-Catholic, Orthodox and Lutheran. Those who seek to express their faith outside these groups risk raids, fines and imprisonment in deplorable conditions. The country-often called the North Korea of Africa- is infamous for holding prisoners in shipping containers. Even those part of the three recognised groups can experience hostility. The persecution facing many Christians is extreme- that is why Eritrea is sixth on Open Doors' World Watch List. Please pray along with others for the release of seven pastors who have been imprisoned in Eritrea

for 21 years. Not one has been charged or brought before a court. Pray:- 1. That the campaign will compel the Eritrean authorities to immediately release the seven pastors. 2. For the campaign's wider impact, that it will prompt among the authorities a greater respect of religious freedom in Eritrea. 3. For the emotional and spiritual wellbeing of all imprisoned believers, for their imminent release, and for their families to be sustained by God's grace.

Monday 29

Those with Mental Health Issues. Remember those whose mental health is struggling at the moment, especially young people suffering from social media and life 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.

Tuesday 30

Prison Fellowship Scotland (PFS). Give thanks for the long-standing working partnership with the Scottish Prison Service. Volunteers wishing to work with Prison Chaplaincy are re-directed to PFS due to the quality of their volunteer processes and training. Give thanks also for the persistent demand for PFS's work in restorative justice, specifically in their 6week 'Sycamore Tree' course which helps offenders look at the consequences of their crimes as this is developed through an increasing number of Scottish prisons. Pray especially for children and family of prisoners affected by imprisonment and pray for PFS as it seeks to further develop its work within prisons. Remember Rev. Gary Caldwell in his work as Prison Chaplain at Greenock Prison as he serves staff and those imprisoned there. Give thanks for changed lives through God's grace as he engages with those in Greenock Prison.