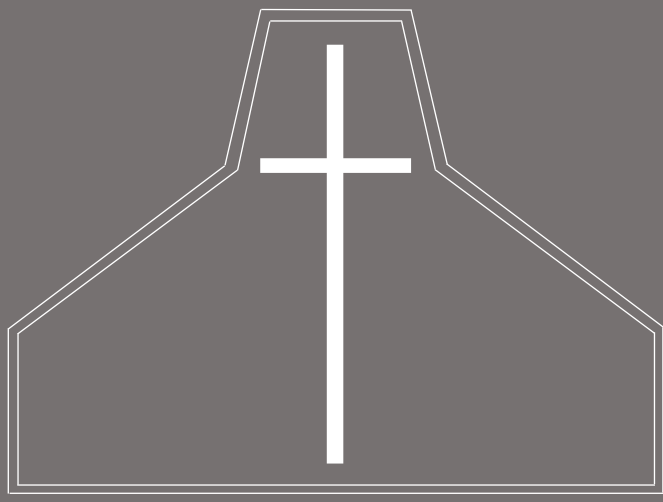


If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:14



# Prayer Diary

## May 2022

St Columba's  
Parish Church

## Sunday 1

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 as he brings God's Word to us today. Remember the Evening Service in St Columba's on Trusting God in the Storm (The Book of Job) that the message will speak significantly to people's lives. Pray especially for those persecuted Christians around the world who worship the Lord but at significant risk to themselves and their families.

## Monday 2

Ukraine: Continue to pray urgently for the situation in Ukraine. Pray for all people affected by the violence and destruction- pray for compassion and support for all; for refugees that they might find a safe place to stay; for provision of essential supplies; for healing for people who are wounded/experienced trauma; comfort for those grieving. Remember those in positions of leadership that leaders on both sides will balance responding to the injustice of the invasion with a firm desire to seek ways to find a just solution and restore global peace and security. Pray that

God's power will be revealed through His Church in this situation, bringing a message of love and hope in the darkness. Pray that there will be an end to the horror soon and that peace may be restored quickly.

## Tuesday 3

Bethany Christian Trust: Bethany Homes provides supported tenancies to individuals at risk or with a history of homelessness across Scotland. Give thanks for the completion of the renovations of The Bridge Centre in Torry, Aberdeen. Pray for the local church there as it seeks to partner with this community centre to provide much needed resources to the community such as addiction recovery and support for women and families. Pray for wisdom in decision-making and in strengthening relationships and collaboration with local agencies.

## Wednesday 4

Midweek Fellowship: Pray for the Midweek Service and for those who attend that the worship time and sharing around God's Word may be a delight to the Lord and to each other. Pray for Philip as he conducts the Midweek Service that the Lord will bless the preparation for the preaching of His Word from the Book of Micah. Give thanks that this Service has enabled some folks to

worship together who have not been able to do so on a Sunday morning with the opportunity for others to do likewise. Remember also Busy Bees, Carer and Toddler Group in Hillhead Church, which has started on Wed. mornings in term-time and pray that there will be good interest within the area and for safety and enjoyment in the meeting together. Give thanks that around 20 children regularly attend with a parent or carer and pray for continuing interest. Pray for the leaders as they settle into the pattern of activity.

## Thursday 5

National and Local Government: Continue to pray for those in public service who serve the people of our communities. Pray for wisdom and integrity for those in Government, especially in these difficult days, and those who serve in Opposition that they may work together in a desire for high standards in practice and effectiveness in the outworking of policy/decision-making and with accountability and humility for the common wellbeing of the people. Pray for the work of our Local Council, and especially today as people cast their vote in the local Elections, in endeavouring to meet the many responsibilities it has to fulfil in its day to day

outworking in serving our local community.

### Friday 6

Little Fishes: Continue to pray for the flourishing of Little Fishes as it seeks to draw close to young children and their carers. Pray for an increasing interest amongst those who attend and for them to spread the word and attract others as weekly numbers fluctuate. Give thanks for the leaders who are involved week by week and pray for winsomeness amongst them as they engage with the children and their carers. Pray for a welcoming and kind environment for the families and for safety, especially at coffee time, in social engagement. Pray for thoughtfulness and discernment amongst the leaders as they seek to see how best to take the Group forward.

### Saturday 7

The Leprosy Mission: Remember the work of TLM in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Pray for the team there. Pray that they will work together well for those affected by leprosy. Pray that their families will remain safe and healthy and uphold those staff who spend much of their time covering long distances on dangerous ground to reach the most isolated patients. Covid19 has caused enormous disruption to the health system, meaning that

leprosy has been further neglected and those affected more marginalised and impoverished. Pray for those affected and pray that the vaccine is accessible to everyone.

### Sunday 8

Sunday Club and Bible Class: Give thanks for the regular participation of the young people in the early part of our Sunday morning service as worship numbers have increased. Pray that our young people may grow in faith and wisdom as they learn more of the Lord's desire to know them more as Saviour and Friend. Give thanks for the commitment of their leaders who faithfully seek to share the Gospel by teaching the young people the Christian message of discipleship today. Pray for some further helpers to share in the leading of these groups to assist the leaders in their commitment to working with the young folks.

### Monday 9

Children and Families Worker: Give thanks for the 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. Give thanks for all the sterling work which has been done by the Team to progress this thus far and pray for its ongoing development.

### Tuesday 10

Scripture Union: Give thanks for the recent camp at Alltnacriche, Aviemore, led by Jackie Ringan. Praise God for the relationships made and the opportunities created to talk about and follow Jesus. Pray for ongoing seeds sown to grow in fruitfulness in the young folks' lives and to seek to know more about the Gospel and discipleship. Give thanks for the young people who have signed up to COMMISSION and are keen to serve God as trainee leaders. Pray that God equips them and blesses many others through them. Pray for stamina for staff in the Volunteers Dept as they process lots of applications and Covid declarations. Pray that team members help them by applying to serve in good time.

### Wednesday 11

Friendship Club and Following Jesus Group: Give thanks for the blessing that the Group shared with everyone helping one another, showing the love and kindness in action that the Lord has been teaching them. Pray for those who meet regularly to learn about Jesus and give thanks for the creative ways that the Bible passages are explained through the use of drama in costume and puppets Ben and Sally. Pray that the love of Jesus will be very real to and in the Group

as they look forward to further activities together.

### Thursday 12

Bible Society, Ukraine: Children living in an orphanage near the Russian border in Ukraine had to leave to go into the bomb shelter just a few days after the Russian invasion began. Their carer said they could each take one thing with them. Once they were settled in the bunker, she asked them what they had brought with them. One by one they pulled out the same thing – the Bible they had received as a gift at Christmas from a Christian mission. It is the Ukrainian translation of the Jesus Story Book Bible. They started to read the Bible and then one by one they went on their knees to pray. In their fear and distress, they turned to Jesus. Please pray for these children, that they may now be in a place of safety and continue to know God's peace and comfort.

### Friday 13

The Boys' Brigade: Give thanks that the Boys have continued to progress to the end of the Session after a difficult year and hopefully have been able to achieve their due awards along with the Best Boy shields. Give thanks that Battalion events and due possible participation by the Company became possible. Pray for a good summer for the leaders and boys and

especially for a return to a more normal pattern of activity after the Summer. Pray especially for an increase in numbers of boys seeking to learn more about The Boys' Brigade and to join.

### Saturday 14

Tearfund: Remember the people of the Philippines who have been affected by flooding and landslides after Tropical Storm Megi recently struck the country. Ask the Lord to comfort those whose loved ones have been killed or who are missing. Pray that resources will be made available for people who have lost homes, income or food because of the disaster. Homes, crops and vital infrastructure, such as power lines, have been destroyed. Remember also Tearfund's work in helping to organise a regional youth network gathering in Colombia. Young people are coming together in person to pray, learn about good governance and creation care and be equipped to tackle injustice in their communities. Pray for the young people who attend; that they will feel supported and that God will speak to them about how they can use their God-given skills to make a difference.

### Sunday 15

The Suffering Church: As the Lord's people gather to worship all around the world today give thanks for those lands where Christians have

the freedom to worship openly without fear of being arrested. Remember especially those who live their faith in secret and worship you in many lands such as Saudi Arabia and other Middle Eastern countries in the midst of an abusive and dangerous work environment. Help your people there to know You are there and that you are with them in their suffering. Bring them peace and help them feel a sense of Your mercy and love.

### Monday 16

Christian Aid: Remember the work of Christian Aid in this Christian Aid Week. Pray for a good response in giving to assist the resourcing of the significant work done across the world to help turn hunger into hope. Pray for Zimbabwe where the climate crisis is causing aching hunger for families where the combined effects of the Covid19 pandemic, conflict and drought have robbed many of the power to provide for their children. And 7000 miles away the war in Ukraine will drive up prices in Zimbabwe and around the globe. Without the fertiliser and food- like wheat and cooking oil- that Ukraine and Russia produce, vulnerable families will be pushed even deeper into hunger.

### Tuesday 17

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

which is 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.

### Wednesday 18

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 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.

### Thursday 19

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. Continue to remember and give thanks for all Healthcare staff amid great pressures to respond to increasing demands upon them for their help and care.

### Friday 20

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.

### Saturday 21

Church of Scotland General Assembly: Pray for the forthcoming days of The General Assembly as it gathers together today till Thursday 26 May. Pray for the Rev. Iain Greenshields

as he takes up his position as Moderator for this forthcoming year that he may know the Lord's guiding Hand upon him as he chairs the various matters of debate. Grant him wisdom and forbearance in his conduct of the proceedings. Pray for the Lord's presence to fill the Gathering and the Holy Spirit's power and discernment in decision-making. Pray that all ministers and elders will seek the Lord's will for His Church in these challenging days.

### Sunday 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 following two years of Covid restrictions. 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 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.

## Monday 23

Mission Aviation

Fellowship/Jo Crotty: Pray for Jo as her contract with MAF comes to an end in June at the end of the school year. Ask the Lord to make known to Jo how He wants Jo to serve Him after that. Jo has come to love Papua New Guinea (PNG) and its people and to see the way in which people there are growing in their faith. An opportunity has come to improve engagement with and access to the Scriptures through Scripture Use with Wycliffe UK and its translators. Pray for this next step that Jo may return to PNG to serve in this way. Pray also for a young 12 year old boy who had to be flown to Kiunga Hospital with his Mum by MAF (Piet was the pilot) where he received treatment for malaria. Pray that he will recover and not suffer lasting brain damage. Give thanks for the mosquito nets flown in by MAF in partnership with Rotarians Against Malaria which will help to protect people against malaria.

## Tuesday 24

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.

## Wednesday 25

Lammermoor Gardens: Continue to remember the residents and staff in Lammermoor Gardens. Pray that they will be enjoying greater opportunity of freedom from restrictions to see family and friends and to enjoy the hope of Spring budding for longer days of light. Give thanks for the Church's opportunity to meet with folks for a monthly service of worship and provide pastoral care.

## Thursday 26

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.

## Friday 27

The Housebound: Remember and pray for the housebound who are unable to leave their homes for one reason or another. Pray that they may not feel isolated but have people to call and others to call upon them intermittently to ease their isolation especially in these recent days of health vulnerability due to Covid which exacerbates anxiety and loneliness. Pray that they may know that the peace of Christ in their hearts to know that they are not alone.

## Saturday 28

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.

## Sunday 29

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.

people may seek to know more about Jesus and be drawn closer to Him. Pray for opportunities to allow this to happen.

### Monday 30

Home for Good: Pray for an increase in awareness and understanding of supported lodgings as a provision for teenagers that more hosts will come forward and provide care and support to teenagers in this way. Pray that all local authorities will operate a scheme so that this option can be offered to young people. Ask the Lord for an increase in the number of supported lodgings homes across Scotland/UK so that the number of young people living in supported lodgings may be doubled.

### Tuesday 31

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