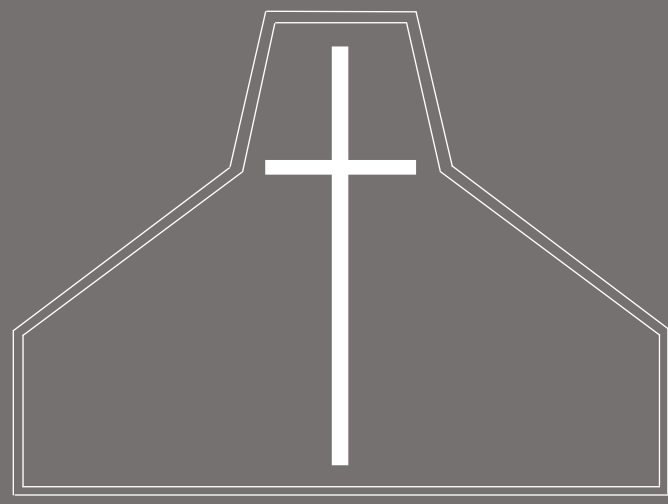


Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened to you.

Matthew 7: 7-8



# Prayer Diary November 2021

St Columba's  
Parish Church

## Monday 1

The Bible Society: Give thanks for the launch of the Good News Bible-Family Edition, created in partnership with Youth for Christ. Pray that it will help families put the Bible at the heart of family life and have a transformative effect on families across the country. Pray for children and young people in our country. Pray that they may be reached with resources like the Good News Bible-Family Edition so that they can grow up knowing and loving the Lord.

## Tuesday 2

The Guild: Give thanks for the ongoing session of the Guild and for those who regularly share together in fellowship. Pray that the Guild theme for the year – Lights and Bushels - will be developed in the life of the Guild both locally and nationally that the Church may be encouraged by the beacon shining through the Guild in its various areas of involvement.

## Wednesday 3

Midweek Service: 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.

## Thursday 4

Christian Aid: Give thanks for the many ministries of Christian Aid across the world. Give thanks for the project in Malawi helping local women make and sell nutritious juice from the Baobab tree. Especially remember too and pray for Christian Aid's work to help the people of Yemen who are suffering from starvation and vital shortages. Pray that their efforts to distribute food and water to people in this war-torn country will be direct and speedily effective. Pray for the hurting families in Yemen and for peace in this war-ravaged land.

Give thanks for the Christian Aid Appeal running at St Columba's until Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November and pray that it might be of benefit for these and other projects.

## Friday 5

Little Fishes: Continue to be thankful for the ongoing meeting together with children and their carers. Pray for the leaders as they seek to make the environment a safe and secure venue for the children and carers to enjoy and for the activities they share. Pray for the forward planning that requires to be done in readiness for Christmas as it draws near and for the joy of the Christmas message to be shared.

## Saturday 6

Scripture Union: Give thanks for the rapid take-up of Camp places offered for the School Half-Term Holiday. Pray that young people may have been enthused to know more about following Jesus and that SU staff may have been encouraged in all the activities. Remember the forthcoming SU Global Week of Prayer starting tomorrow as the SU Family across the world gathers to pray at different times and in different languages to explore Zechariah and the theme 'Prisoners of Hope'. Each day of the week involves praying for the ministry of SU that God will be pleased to bless all the work in His Name, remembering especially to pray for Ukraine, Belarus, India and the specific needs and struggles of a few other SU movements elsewhere. Especially remember Jackie Ringan in her senior management role at SU Scotland that she may know God's wisdom and discernment.

## Sunday 7

Church Services: Pray for the Word of God as it is proclaimed today that it will be sharper than a two-edged sword as it is heard and pray that it will be heard with thoughtfulness and fruitfulness in people's hearts. Pray for Philip as he prepares to preach God's Word and give thanks for his ministry that the Lord

will be pleased to bless the preaching in His Name and use him mightily to His glory. Pray for St Columba's (and the wider) involvement of others in Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child as an opportunity to share Christian love and giving to those less fortunate in other lands. Pray for a smooth operation by Samaritan's Purse in their logistical transit and delivery of shoeboxes to other lands.

### Monday 8

Continue to pray for the COP26 Global Warming Summit in Glasgow. Pray that the Lord's Voice may be clearly heard in the stewardship of His Creation. Pray for those charged with safety and security as well as good order as the Summit progresses. Pray that our Public Services will be able to cope with the influx of many visitors to Glasgow.

### Tuesday 9

Bible Society, Lebanon: Since the outbreak of violence in their countries over 9 years ago, 1.5 million Syrian and Iraqi refugees have sought safety in Lebanon and have suffered enormous pressure and hardship. They have almost no future expectations, and the conflicts in their countries are still far from over. The Bible Society in Lebanon works to reach those affected-offering

them the hope of God's Word along with food and medicines. Arabic Refugee Bibles, which combine the words of the Bible with a bulletin offering selected Scripture passages, will be distributed. These Bibles give refugees the opportunity to encounter the peace and love of Christ through God's Word. Pray that Syrian and Iraqi refugees will be comforted during these difficult times. Pray that their faith in God will grow strong through the Scriptures they receive.

### Wednesday 10

Lammermoor Gardens: Give thanks for the monthly service which is a delight for those who have welcomed its recommencement and for the encouraging start. Pray for the service today and remember Philip as he conducts it that it may be a delight for everyone to meet together to worship the Lord. Pray for strong friendships among those who share together that they may be an encouragement to and for one another. Also pray for those in Care Homes-staff and residents- as winter closes in that they may be kept safe and not feel isolated.

### Thursday 11

Armistice/Remembrance Day: Give thanks for the freedom we have which was won at a price of many lives lost during wartime conflicts. Pray for an end to division and strife in today's world and in relationships with a desire for dialogue and understanding of each other without violence or abuse. Pray for all those affected by conflict and loss of loved ones that they may know quietness and peace as their strength. And remember the words of Jesus today, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you." John 14: 27. Pray that hearts today may acknowledge this the greatest peace of all - the peace of Christ taking residence in hearts and lives given over to Jesus.

### Friday 12

The Boys' Brigade: Continue to give thanks for and remember the leaders and boys as they meet together in all Sections. Pray for enjoyment as they meet and work towards achieving and attaining their awards and that the boys will want to keep coming to do this. Pray that the leaders will be encouraged as they prepare week by week and that the boys will see them as good role models. Pray for the boys and leaders this evening as they take part in an Act of Remembrance led by the Minister.

### Saturday 13

Lodging House Mission, Chaplaincy: Over the years the LHM Chaplaincy has provided an invaluable tool in helping people turn their lives around. The work of the Chaplain includes listening, caring as well as Church Services (Tues.) and Prayers (Wed.). Pray for the involvement of the Chaplain in the lives of those who are vulnerable and questioning the meaning of life and faith that they may receive the spiritual help and support they are looking for. Pray for the Chaplain, Claire Herbert, as she returns to her role after a period of illness that she may gently work her way back in and build up her strength.

### Sunday 14

Remembrance Sunday: Pray for Church services being held today that will reflect the solemn remembrance of those who died during two world wars and other conflicts. Pray for peace amidst the divisions and strife within the world today. Remember the nations of Myanmar, Lebanon, Syria where conflict and struggle within these lands is causing oppression and loss of life today. Pray that the God of all peace and comfort will be especially near to all who are under oppression and that many will find Him to be their hope and salvation as He makes Himself known through His Word being proclaimed today.

### Monday 15

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. 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.

### Tuesday 16

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

### Wednesday 17

Following Jesus/Friendship Club: Give thanks that both Groups are back on a regular basis and those who are part of these Groups are having the opportunity to meet and share together. Pray that God will be very close to them and for a spirit of fun and fellowship as they learn about God's continuing love for them. Pray especially for the carers that they may enjoy an opportunity to meet and share together in mutual support and encouragement.

### Thursday 18

Bethany Christian Trust: Befriending can make a huge impact in the lives of people who are at risk of homelessness or moving into new settled accommodation. Pray that Bethany's Christian Befrienders from local churches will help people who are lonely and socially isolated connect back into their communities. Pray for meaningful friendships to be developed as people are introduced to social groups and activities in their neighbourhood. And we give thanks for the long-lasting connections that have continued over the past years as they bring the team so much joy.

## Friday 19

Small Group Bible Studies: Remember those who are studying Paul's 1st Letter to the Corinthians. Pray for a spirit of peace and love as groups look at issues that faced the Church at Corinth and resonate with the Church and society today. Pray for openness and humility as faith and culture issues arise. Pray that the authority of the Scriptures will be the foundation block around which all discussion is centred upon.

## Saturday 20

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF): Pray that despite being under-represented in Australia's Census in previous years, Arnhem Land's Aboriginal communities will feel valued. With the help of MAF in flying to remote communities to physically collect the necessary data, give thanks that the Government can make more informed decisions about how to support remote Yolnu communities. Pray for increased opportunities to help the Yolnu connect with the wider world. Remember the Symmonds family who have recently returned to Papua New Guinea as they settle back into their life there and reconnect with friends and community; pray for good schooling options for their boys, Joel & Daniel; pray that Andy can complete his advanced airstrip training.

## 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 people's 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 respond to difficult issues resulting from Covid and the consequent work of Presbyteries in working with local congregations.

## Monday 22

Men's Group: Remember those who regularly meet week by week on a Monday evening and enjoy the enrichment of sharing together in games and fellowship from week to week. Pray for those who have been unwell recently which has meant a fluctuation in numbers attending.

## Tuesday 23

The Suffering Church: Pray for the ministries of Open Doors, Barnabas Fund and Christian Solidarity Worldwide who seek to help those who are persecuted for their faith

and raise awareness internationally of their situations. Pray especially for Christians in North Korea (and especially for the importance of safe houses to sustain the North Korean Church), Afghanistan, Somalia, Libya and Pakistan which are the top 5 countries for extreme persecution globally. Pray for the small group of believers in Afghanistan- to find strength, wisdom and supernatural peace in God's promises, and for those who are displaced by the Taliban takeover. Give thanks also that provision of Bibles is transforming lives in Laos and providing "food of the soul" for Iraqi Christians.

## Wednesday 24

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 after so many months of lockdown and now as the darker days of winter come upon us. Pray that they may know that the peace of Christ in their hearts to know that they are not alone.

## Thursday 25

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 and 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.

## Friday 26

The Bereaved. Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in recent days and personally known to us. Pray for parents/families who have lost a child through miscarriage/ stillbirth/illness in early years/childhood. Remember those who have suffered through sudden trauma. 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 27

Tearfund: Tearfund is a Christian charity that partners with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest countries. It tackles poverty through sustainable development, responding to disasters, and challenging injustice with the aim to end extreme poverty. In countries like Nigeria and Ethiopia the pandemic means that there is no longer food on the table due to lost income. As coronavirus cases rise, millions more people are going hungry. Please pray urgently with Tearfund's campaigning for governments around the world to include groups, such as refugees, in their vaccination programmes. Pray also for more to be done to support lower-income countries and Tearfund's support in the rollout of the Vaccine and equipping church leaders to share accurate information about Covid19 vaccines.

## Sunday 28

Bible Class and Sunday Club: Give thanks that these groups are regularly meeting on Sundays to learn with each other about following Jesus. Give thanks for the leaders in their example as role models in commitment and faith and for their encouragement of the young people to grow in their faith and knowledge of God and His Word. Pray that God will raise up a new generation of young people

both in Church and through Scripture Union. As Christmas draws near remember Philip and those preparing Christmas programmes which requires care and flexibility in line with Covid restrictions. Pray that it will be possible to host 'Steve the Shepherd' with 'Out of the Box' Theatre Group on Thurs. 16th Dec. as planned.

## Monday 29

School Chaplaincy: Give thanks for the opportunity for Philip and colleagues from partner churches who are welcomed into our local primary schools and Kirkintilloch High School. Pray for grace and winsomeness in connecting with staff and pupils and wisdom in communicating the Christian message. Pray for thoughtfulness and fruitfulness in response to questions and a desire to know more about Jesus.

## Tuesday 30

The Leprosy Mission (TLM). Remember the work of TLM Scotland especially today being St. Andrews' Day when the TLM will cease work for one day to pray. Please join in prayer with TLM to thank God for His protection and provision this past year and to seek God's direction, God's provision, God's vision for the months and years to come – to finish what Jesus started, to make a leprosy a thing of the past.