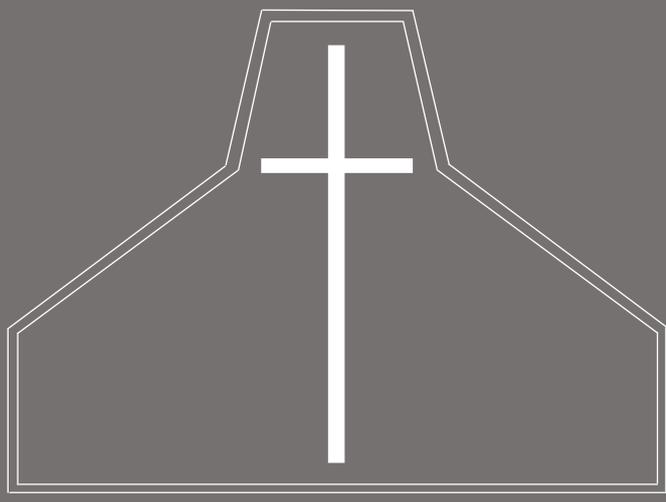


Prayer Diary September 2020

*“Look to the LORD and
his strength; seek his
face always.”*
1 Chronicles 16:11



St Columba's
Parish Church

Tuesday 1

Give thanks for our minister Philip and his family, for his preaching, teaching and pastoral care and all that he does for our congregation. Also remember Gill and all that she does for St Columba's. Pray too for the boys as they return to school with Daniel starting school and Andrew starting high school.

Wednesday 2

Pray for those who have been in hospital with conditions unrelated to Covid, pray too for their families. They are perhaps feeling lonely as there are still restrictions on visiting times and only one person can visit them.

Thursday 3

Pray for those in Greater Glasgow & Clyde, East Renfrewshire and West Dunbartonshire as they face local lockdown restrictions. Pray that those individuals who require help from family members may continue to do so while staying safe. Pray too that the number of Coronavirus cases in these areas may return to a normal level so that life may continue under the new normal.

Friday 4

Remember the office bearers in our congregation who are continuing to carry out their duties while our church building is closed. Pray also for the small team at St Columba's who are working to try and progress with the reopening of our

church building for Sunday services.

Saturday 5

All who are grieving the loss of loved ones either recently or some time ago.

Sunday 6

Pray for the men, women and children that make the dangerous journey across the English Channel in search of a new life in Britain. Pray for the safety of the migrants and that those intercepting them may be granted wisdom and understanding. Give thanks for the citizenship that we take for granted.

Monday 7

Prison Fellowship Scotland: Pray for the staff and many volunteers who pray for and, under normal circumstances, visit many prisoners on a weekly basis in almost all of Scotland's 15 jails. Please pray for the Lifelines Project starting soon which is designed to build a team of letter writers to men and women behind bars.

Tuesday 8

Scottish Bible Society. Please pray for the many Bible societies whose ministry has been affected by Covid 19. All are having to reassess programmes to ensure people have access to the Bible. Sadly, some have distribution problems and areas of ministry are suspended for the time being. People need to know the hope that only Jesus can bring.

Wednesday 9

Give thanks for those who are continuing to put our online services together each week. Thank you to Scott McInnes for allowing us to use parts of his services.

Thursday 10

Scripture Union. Give thanks for all that was achieved over the summer with virtual SU Holidays and Missions. You can view some of them at [ministry highlights video](#). Please pray for tentative plans being made for day camps in October at Lendrick Muir and the planning for our holidays and missions programmes for 2021. Uncertainty makes planning challenging. Jackie Ringan would appreciate prayer as she has recently taken over oversight of SU Holidays alongside other areas of responsibility and there is lots to be done.

Friday 11

Pray for our schools as they have now been back for a few weeks. Pray for the staff and pupils as they continue to work under new circumstances. We also remember the university students as they start back this month with a lot of their learning being done virtually. Remember those who are perhaps moving away from home to go to university.

Saturday 12

At this time of year, the Guild and Men's Club would normally start their

meetings. Pray for the members who attend these groups as many of them live alone and will miss the fellowship that these groups give. Give thanks for the socially distanced lunch that some of the ladies from the guild had in a garden and raised money for Guild projects.

Sunday 13

Remember the Officers and Boys from the BB who would normally start their new session at this time. Ask for God's guidance as they resume their Zoom meetings on a Friday night.

Monday 14

Pray for those in the Friendship Club and Following Jesus group as they are unable to meet as a group for now. Some of them may be back at school but many will be missing activities that they would participate in throughout the week. Remember to, their families and carers as they support them.

Tuesday 15

Pray for Jo Crotty who is serving with MAF in PNG. Points for prayer from Jo's newsletter are pray for the PNG families as they balance home schooling with the many other demands of life in PNG. Pray for the PNG government to grant permission for our workers – 2 out of 3 families have had permission for a September return. Pray that God would open the way for Jo to return to PNG in

October and that there is a reduction in the no of Covid -19 cases in PNG. Jo's newsletter can be read [here](#).

Wednesday 16

Give thanks for the continuing opportunity here at St Columba's and in churches elsewhere to hold services online and declare the praises of God who has called us out of darkness into His wonderful light. Give thanks for all those that have been able to connect with these services. Pray especially for those who have accessed church services during lockdown and who have not been at church for a while or perhaps ever.

Thursday 17

Give thanks for the fun and faithful attendance at the Sunday Club and Bible Class on Sundays at 10:30 on Zoom. Pray for the Bible Class as they follow the Urban Saints programme and for the Sunday Club as they make their way through stories in the New Testament.

Friday 18

Pray for those in government that make decisions surrounding coronavirus and its wider impact. Pray that they might seek wisdom and understanding from God and that they might know His help and strength in their work.

Saturday 19

Pray for those that have found themselves stuck in a foreign country due to changing travel restrictions. Pray for the individual's safety and for employers that face the consequences of the restrictions.

Sunday 20

Pray for each of us that we would be growing to know and love God more. Pray that God would help us to read the bible and pray each day and that He would be making us more like Jesus.

Monday 21

Give thanks for the local business's that continue to open following lockdown. Pray for those individuals and businesses that face financial hardship despite the slow return to normality.

Tuesday 22

Pray for those that continue to be on the governments furlough scheme five months after it began. Some of these individuals may live on their own and face loneliness as a result of not attending work.

Wednesday 23

Give thanks for and pray for those working at a national level within the Church of Scotland providing help and guidance to local churches during the current Coronavirus outbreak. Pray that they might know God's leading as they do so.

Thursday 24

Pray for those who are housebound or finding it

harder to leave their homes due to ongoing health issues.

Friday 25

Christian Aid: Pray for our new report 'Build Back with Justice' to help raise awareness and influence policy about how we recover from the coronavirus pandemic. Pray that any global recovery from Covid-19 is one that tackles inequalities, addresses the climate crisis and sets us on a path to a different future, one in which people and planet are protected and human flourishing is promoted.

Saturday 26

Give thanks for the many friendships within the church family. Pray that none of these connections are lost as a result of the coronavirus outbreak and that we find other ways of meeting with friends.

Sunday 27

Pray for the churches that are taking the first steps to reopening. Give thanks for the opportunity to do so and pray that this may lead to Sunday morning services restarting with a congregation.

Monday 28

Leprosy Mission: We work in many areas where the church is persecuted. Pray for Christian staff across Asia and Africa, especially in India, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Niger. Pray that our staff will be

beacons of light in the communities they serve.

Tuesday 29

Pray for the people of Haiti who expect to see one of the worst hurricane seasons on record. Haiti is one of the poorest nations on earth, with more than 2.5 million people living in extreme poverty. Few have access to electricity, meaning they receive little warning before a storm hits. Pray that this year's hurricane season will not be as bad as feared. And pray that governments around the world will take stronger action on the climate crisis.

Wednesday 30

As we feel the loss of not being able to meet together to worship on a Sunday, remember those Christians in North Korea who never meet together publicly to worship. Pray for the thousands of 'secret believers'.