

Prayers for March 2024

March 1st. World Day of Prayer - Thank you Lord that we are free to bring our prayers to you in safety today. We pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted for their faith in You. Give courage and strength in these situations that they may know your love for them.

God will you be there. As we pray in faith
Let God's Name be there.

2nd March - Take time to look at and give thanks for the spring bulbs coming into flower, snowdrops, narcissi, tulips and the blossom on trees. The sign of the changing season and new life too.

3rd March - the Third Sunday of Lent - Father God, help us to continue to come close to you this Lent - to contemplate your word - give courage to those who are in difficult times in body, mind or spirit, that they may know each person is special to you and your love for them is beyond our understanding.

God will you be there.....Let God's name be there

4th- 9th March - Bring to the Lord situations in the world. The wars that bring turmoil and suffering into many countries, families torn apart, children left without parents or family to care for them. For those who don't have enough to eat through famine or cost of living. Those of all ages finding it difficult to put food on the table or pay utility bills. For the lonely, bereft. For the violence on our streets..... Lord have mercy

God will you be there.....Let God's name be there

10th March - Mothering Sunday - The fourth Sunday of Lent.

We give thanks for Mothers on this day and also remember those who find this day difficult - maybe situations in families - thinking of a mother who has died and those mothers who find this day emotional, maybe family live very far away and this day is particularly poignant.

God will you be there.....Let God's name be there.

11th - 16th March. Pray for the children attending play schools, schools and colleges. Many buildings are old and suffering. May places of learning be safe places, growing confidence in those who are anxious or troubled by home life. We pray for those children who, at young ages are carers for parents and miss out on activities out of school and struggle to keep up with home work. Give thanks for the work of Mothers' Union members who organise parenting instruction and pray that more parents would be able to attend these meetings as it's difficult to find convenient times for parents to come when the busyness of bringing children up can take over.

God will you be there.....Let God's name be there

19th March - Pray for Karen (DP) and the Trustees as they have a virtual meeting this evening 6.30pm-9pm. Pray also for the AGM's taking place over the Diocese as branch leaders retire and new leaders and committees begin their new triennium.

God will you be there.....Let God's name be there.

24th March - Palm Sunday - The day Jesus rode on a donkey into Jerusalem, palm leaves and garments strewn in his way.

Lord we think of this day and what is to come :

Ride on, Ride on in majesty! Hark all the tribes "Hosanna!" cry,

O Saviour meek, pursue your road, with palms and scattered garments strewed.

Holy Week - As Holy week progressed, Jesus became more lowly ...the Suffering Servant, the Servant King.....washing the Disciples feet, carrying his cross....but amazingly giving his disciples a Last Supper where he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them saying, " This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. After supper he took another cup of wine and said "This cup is the new covenant, between God and his people - an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you'. Luke 22:19-20.

Knowing all this time that one of them would betray him.

25th March - The Annunciation of our Lord to the blessed Virgin Mary - Lady Day. Pray for the Mothers' Union services on this day.

28th March - Maundy Thursday - As we come to Maundy Thursday, in your prayers and contemplationhave a picture in your mind of:

The cross - rough wood - Draped in red material

At the foot of the cross - A pile of nails, a small bag of silver coins and dice scattered about, a rusty hammer.

Take time to be quiet and allow this picture to speak to you.

When I survey the wondrous cross, on which the Prince of glory died
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

29th March - Good Friday - We remember today the pain and suffering of the cross and all that Jesus endured. Such a sacrifice of love for us.

It is a thing most wonderful, almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heaven and die to save a child like me

EASTER EVE - As our journey through Lent is nearing its climax we pray:-

Father God, today we you praise and glory. Thank you for your Son Jesus, through you the Saviour of the world.

God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

31st March - Easter Sunday. As we come to this special day imagine the picture in your mind of Mary Magdalene coming to the tomb - still grieving and finds the tomb empty - exacerbating her grief. Mistaking Jesus for a gardener, she begs him to tell her where they have taken her Lord..... After a moment Jesus says her name with such love in his voice....MARY....and she turns, maybe has to wipe the tears from her eyes as she recognises that voice. Imagine the surprise and awe as it dawns upon her and she breathes 'Rabboni ! (My Teacher) Then her grief becomes such Joy! Excitement! that Jesus has to stop her throwing her arms around him.



Now imagine yourself in that picture and JESUS saying YOUR NAME!
With such love and compassion ...breathe gently as you receive that love for you poured out on the cross.

Thank you God that you are here....

HE IS RISENHE IS RISEN INDEED.....ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!