Bromsgrove Parish Prayer Diary for May

*God is our refuge and strength,
    an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46.1*

**Thursday 1st July- Talk to Us**

We give thanks for this initiative run by the Samaritans inspiring us all to be better listeners. Especially we pray for all those souls who give up their time on a voluntary basis to help those people who feel lost and confused

**Friday 2nd July – Clergy**

Father we pray for our clergy at this trying time as they attempt to keep the parish working and worshipping. We give thanks for the work they continue to do to ensure we have online services and as we continue to take tentative steps to meeting in church. We give thanks that they can meet every Wednesday online to discuss the way forward for the Parish.

**Saturday 3rd July – National Bereaved Parents Day**

Father there can be few things that are worse and distressing than losing a child. Lord we ask you to give these parents the strength to carry on through their pain and anguish.

**Sunday 4th July - Ordinations**

Today we think of those people who have been called serve you and celebrate their ordinations. Especially we pray for Richard Sandiland as he is ordained as Deacon and Curate in this parish.

**Monday 5th July- PCC**

Tonight sees the meeting of our PCC and we pray for wisdom for all those taking part

**Tuesday 6th July – National Kissing Day 😊**

An excuse if we need one to give those nearest and dearest a wet, sloppy one to show them how much we love and value them

**Wednesday 7th July – PCC worship Committee**

We pray for the work of this sub committee as they discuss ways and means to make the parish worship more meaningful and inclusive **.**

**Thursday 8th July- Dodford**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet and safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Friday 9th July – Finances**

Over the coming indefinite period money will continue to be an issue. On a personal level jobs will be lost incomes will be lost or at best reduced. Churches and the Diocese of Worcester will not be immune to this, and we pray that severe hardship in all areas can be avoided.

**Saturday 10th July- Listening Service Monitoring Group**

We pray for the valuable work that is being done with the teenagers of the Parish.

**Sunday 11th July – Richard Sandiland**

We give thanks for the arrival of Richard and his family in a celebratory Eucharist at all Saints, and pray that he will have a happy and fulfilling time with us.

**Monday 12th July – St Godwald’s**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet and safely in this cherished place of worship. We pray for wisdom for the DCC which meets tonight to discuss the way forward for the church.

**Tuesday 13th July – Those who keep our community functioning.**

We ask God to bless all those who must work at this time for the good of the whole community.  Especially we remember those who deliver milk or post and those who collect our rubbish and our recycling materials.   We remember the lorry drivers and van drivers who keep our supermarkets and homes stocked with essential goods. May they realise how we value their work. Thank you for those who have continued to work to stock supermarket shelves, serve on deli counters, work on the tills, and generally help around the stores. Without their selfless attitude and commitment to turning up to work in conditions that see them exposed to the Corona Virus to a greater degree than any of us, except for the NHS, we would not have the ability to feed ourselves and our families.

**Wednesday 14th July – Pharmacies/Doctor’s surgeries**

We thank you, Lord, for all the people working on the front line in pharmacies and surgeries.   We pray for their safety as they serve others and for their anxious families at home.  We pray that the people who visit these places seeking help will be responsible and avoid putting these dedicated people at risk.  May their religious faith sustain and inspire them?

**Thursday 15th July – Refugees**

Our community has been assisting the work done by a local charity to provide much needed clothing and toiletries etc to this group of people, strangers to this country, a number of which are fellow Christians. They have been hosted at St Luke’s and we pray that people in the community will be able to help with the supply of such materials when the current restrictions are relaxed

**Friday 16th July– Sidemoor**

Pray for all people in Sidemoor that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Saturday 17th July– High Street shops bars restaurants and cafes**

For so long we have taken for granted our ability to shop, eat and drink where we like at almost any time we want. These establishments are facing unprecedented strains on their ability to survive this storm. Perhaps we can take this time to appreciate what we have, cherish it, and invest our money in these businesses to help in their recovery. We give thanks for a loosening of the restrictions around these businesses, and we pray for their survival and growth

**Sunday 18th July – Aston Field**

Pray for all people in Aston fields that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve.

**Monday 19th July– Care Homes**

There are a few care homes throughout the parish for which we would ask you that you wrap your arms around. Enable the carers in those places to have sufficient protection to be able to provide the level of care that is needed to ensure the residents maintain a level of physical and emotional wellbeing. We give thanks that people living in these homes are now allowed to see one of their loved ones.

**Tuesday 20th July– Rock Hill**

Pray for all people in Rock Hill that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and a loving caring community will evolve**.**

**Wednesday 21st July– Local Schools**

Today sees the end of another academic year. We give thanks that schools have managed to navigate their way through what has been an uncertain year. We pray for rest and recovery for students and teachers. We also pray for students who are moving to an new school in September or are onto University or are to set foot on the work ladder

**Thursday 22nd July– Lickey End**

Pray for all people in Lickey End that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve.

**Friday 23rd July - Christ Church Catshill**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet and safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Saturday 24th July – Local Hospitals**

For the sacrifice and work undertaken by Nursing staff, paramedics, porters, cleaners, catering staff. Keep them safe and make sure they have all the protective equipment they need and give thanks that they are working to keep us all safe. Now that the number of Covid related patients is decreasing we pray that you will be with them as they cope with the high number of procedures that have built up.

**Sunday 25th July- Farmers**

We give thanks for those who continue to work tirelessly to produce food that makes its way onto our supermarket shelves. Once again this is a group of people who we have tended to take for granted because somehow the food we eat continues to arrive on our table. Once we are through this time of struggle lets ensure that we place buying from our own farmers ours, and this country’s priority. Please ensure that there are sufficient hands to pick all the produce that needs to be harvested.

**Monday 26th July- Charford**

Pray for all people in Charford that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Tuesday 27th July– St John’s and St Andrew’s**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet and safely in this cherished place of worship

**Wednesday 28th July- Food banks**

An increasing number of people have come to rely on these establishments as we have had to come to terms with the period of austerity that the country has had to live through. Please ensure these priceless community assets continue to receive the support that is vital to the work they do. We also give thanks for those who have been moved by the plight of people struggling and have contributed financially or by providing items of food.

**Thursday 29th July- Catshill and North Marlbrook**

Pray for all people in Catshill and North Marlbrook that they will remain calm and secure during this time of national emergency, and that a loving caring community will evolve

**Friday 30th July – All Saints**

In these trying times we give thanks for ways that the church family can find a way to meet and safely in this cherished place of worship.

**Saturday 31st July Those living alone.**

Lord we think today and pray for those people who have had to self-isolate and who hunger for the touch of a hand or to see a friendly face in their homes. We pray that there will be people who will give some solace by making a phone call or some form of social media to let them know they have not been forgotten. Thank you for the kind generous souls who have volunteered to shop for essential food items. We give thanks for the loosening of restrictions which mean that more people are able to receive the reassurance that only a hug from a loved one can give

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