

# August Prayer Diary

“The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.” Psalm 145:18

*Pray to the Father through the Son in the power of the Spirit for:*

**MONDAY 1** Oxford Deanery: Anthony Buckley, Prudence Dailey, Richard Doney, Alan McCullough. For refreshment for all ministers, lay and ordained, through the summer. Give thanks for those ministers who have joined the deanery in the last year, who settled in well, and pray for their continued flourishing.

**TUESDAY 2** Earley St Peter: Philip Hobday, Hannah Hobday, Elaine Watts. For churchwardens, ministry team, staff, and volunteers taking on extra work in the vacancy. For the Spirit to guide the right person to be our new parish priest.  
Earley St Peter’s CE Primary School.

**WEDNESDAY 3** Reading Greyfriars: David Walker, Amy Cavender, John Freeman, Natalie Worsfold, Christopher Greaves, Philip Giddings, Christine Ledger, John Ledger, Dan Bright, Heather Harper, Abi Ord, David Vail. For the safe completion of internal repairs to the church and the rebuilding of the church centre; that these facilities alongside the gift of God’s Spirit will equip us in our vision to see Reading transformed by the love and power of Jesus. For Revd David Walker, our vicar, as he completes his sabbatical, also for our new Community Missioner as he arrives in the parish in September.

**THURSDAY 4** Reading Gateway: Nick Hill, Suzanne Knight, Helen Winter, Richard Winter, Carol Atkins, Joe Burgess. For our Children and Families Minister and his wife, who will be heading up New Kids, and for all the team who are serving at New Wine United in August. For rest and recuperation during the summer break for all those who have faithfully been serving at Reading Gateway Church over the last year.

**FRIDAY 5** Earley St Nicolas: April Beckerleg, Emma Major, Daphne Cook. For the continued flourishing of the St Nicolas Community Centre. For continued progress towards becoming a net zero carbon church.

**SATURDAY 6** Emmer Green St Barnabas with Caversham Park: For the benefice in a time of vacancy and that the right person will be found to fill the post of vicar.

**MONDAY 8** Reading Christ Church: Peter Day, John Croton. For success in finding greener and more efficient heating and power solutions. For sustained growth in our congregation, choir and our inclusive community engagement.  
New Christ Church CE Primary School.

**TUESDAY 9** Reading Holy Trinity: For Fr Martyn Griffiths, a retired priest who is looking after us during our time of vacancy. For the appointment of a permanent priest of our own and for the members of our congregation and our parish.

**WEDNESDAY 10** Reading St Laurence: Chris Jones. For the successful appointment of a new youthwork lead for St Laurence. For the planning of our upcoming youth residential; for this to be a time of spiritual development for our young people.

**THURSDAY 11** Reading St John the Evangelist: Claire Alcock, Christine Bainbridge, Mark Laynesmith, Hamish Bruce, Richard Croft, Jeremy Thake. For our continued exploration of what it means to be active *and* contemplative. For the café to be more fully used as we recover after Covid restrictions. St John's CE Primary School.

**FRIDAY 12** Tilehurst St Catherine and Calcot St Birinus: Gill Rowell, Tony Bartlett, Michael Heather. For God's continued blessing on the church café (Café Siena), open on Thursdays and Fridays. Give thanks for those who come so regularly and pray for more volunteers to join our merry team of servers and kitchen helpers. For God's blessing on Tuesday Get Together (coffee morning for those in the community) and Friday Friends - entertainment and fun for the elderly - as we continue to reach out and share Jesus' love in action.

**SATURDAY 13** Reading St Giles: David Harris. For our ministry alongside volunteers from Churches Together in Reading Drop-in Centre, offering a hot meal twice weekly to local people in need.

**MONDAY 15** Southlake St James: Laurence Smith, Peter Clarke, David Fulford, Linda Galpin. Praise God for our church's growth in numbers and diversity. Pray that God would help us to be prayerful, unafraid and joyful this coming year.

**TUESDAY 16** Tilehurst St George and St Mary Magdalen: Adam Carlill, Polly Falconer, Peter Mayers. St George: Give thanks for the development of new music and a mental wellbeing drop-in. For the Spirit-led development of both. St Mary Magdalen: Give thanks for the completion of the building project and the arrival of new people. For discernment as we finalise the Mission Action Plan for the next three years.

**WEDNESDAY 17** Tilehurst St Michael: Liz Ratcliffe, Tracy Watkins, June Hardcastle, Duncan White, Nigel Hardcastle, Bernard Metcalfe, Amy Sykes. For our efforts to strengthen children's work in the parish. For our ongoing conversations to envision how the church hall can be used more effectively to support our mission.

**THURSDAY 18** Woodley Emmanuel: Sean Riordan, Laurie-Ann Price, Heather Aitken, Rachel Stone. For the weekly SHARE fresh food distribution on Monday afternoons, that we will have enough food to give to everyone who comes. For our Church Camping Weekend, 26–29 August at Rushall Farm. For strengthening of existing friendships and the making of new ones, and for all generations to blend in community.

**FRIDAY 19** Earley Trinity: Jon Salmon, Ann Baker, Sam Ruck Pender. For holiday outreach activities – that children and families come to our Messy Church Drop-in and seeds are sown. Pray that our new Cantonese service continues to flourish and meets the needs of newly arrived Hongkongers.

**SATURDAY 20** Reading Deaf Church: Ken Dyson, Anna Knaggs. For the ministry of our new Chaplain to the Deaf, Revd Dr Hannah Lewis, who is herself deaf. For Revd Vera, at age 90 giving continued support to Reading Deaf Church, and for our Deaf Church Lay Ministers, Anna and Ken. Give thanks for Reading Zoom services that enable deaf people to keep in touch throughout the pandemic, also reaching out to those too far from Reading to attend.

**MONDAY 22** Henley Deanery: John Blair, Sarah Nesbitt, Judith Hogg. For the recruitment and election of lay members of Synod. For the selection process for a new clergy team.

**TUESDAY 23** Goring and Streatley with South Stoke: Ben Phillips, Jo Allen, Wendy Middleton, Judith Hogg, Judith Aguda, Liz Dowding. Pray that we will delight in and worship God; develop a clear picture of how we can each share the good news of Jesus' love and witness to and serve our three villages, and discern how a families' worker would best add to this ministry.  
Goring CE Primary School, Streatley CE Primary School.

**WEDNESDAY 24** Langtree: Kevin Davies, John Blair, James Leach, Linda Smith, Angela Linton, Brian Turner. For rest and refreshment for our team rector, currently on sabbatical. For the churchwardens and church officers across the team, giving thanks for their faith and commitment to serving the churches.  
Checkendon CE Primary School, Stoke Row CE Primary School.

**THURSDAY 25** Shiplake with Dunsden and Harpsden: Robert Thewsey, Sarah Nesbitt, Pam Gordon. For Robert during his sabbatical, that he may find rest and renewal, and for Sarah as she covers during his absence. Give thanks for our new worship team as we increase the variety of lay-led worship, especially our 'Tea with God' all-age worship.  
Shiplake CE Primary School.

**FRIDAY 26** Henley-on-Thames Holy Trinity: Duncan Carter, Samuel Brewster, Andrew Cowan, Peter Greenman. For our new interim headteacher at Trinity CE Primary School and for all the pupils returning for the new term. For our all-age services beginning again and for our Away Weekend starting on 27 August.

**SATURDAY 27** Nuffield: Nettlebed with Bix, Highmoor, Pishill and Rotherfield Greys: Mark Ainsworth. For the projects at Bix and Nuffield to improve the church buildings as community hubs. For the Joint PCC and PCCs as they seek to discern what is right for the five parishes. For the provision of a parsonage and a house for duty priest.

**MONDAY 29** Rotherfield Peppard and Kidmore End and Sonning Common: James Stickings, Karen Broadbent. For a successful outcome of the process to appoint a new Associate Priest (House for Duty). For a continued deepening of the relationships between the churches and the two C of E primary schools in the benefice, Kidmore End and Peppard.

**TUESDAY 30** Henley-on-Thames with Remenham: Jeremy Tayler, Romey Poston. For the new Christians Against Poverty Henley Debt Centre. That we may build stronger connections with families and children in our parishes.

**WEDNESDAY 31:** Chalfont St Peter: John Goodman, Wendy Graham, Lydia Lee. For God's blessing on Lydia, who has left her role as children and families worker to go for ordination, and for our future plans for children and families ministry. For reconciliation in the parish.  
Chalfont St Peter CE Academy.

## Prayer on Sundays

**SUNDAY 7** For all our churches organising children's activities in August.

**SUNDAY 14** For chaplains in the diocese, giving their service to hospitals, prison, the forces, schools, university, industry, the LGBTI+ community, the Deaf Church and HM The Queen.

**SUNDAY 21** For all who work for creation care and environmental action in the diocese, including Hannah Mann, Alison Riggs, Maranda St John Nicolle.

**SUNDAY 28** For Bishop Gavin, confirming in Wallingford.

## Links

Prayers from Christian Concern for One World: [ccow.org.uk/weekly-prayer-email](https://ccow.org.uk/weekly-prayer-email)

Topical prayers from the Church of England:

[churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers](https://churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/topical-prayers)