

Prayer Matters

Please keep in your prayers this week:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-23 Jan)

That all denominations put aside their doctrinal differences and rejoice together in worshipping and following the way of Christ.

Afghanistan

For its people suffering from the severe winter weather, hunger and poverty, particularly the women and children affected by Taliban restrictions; pray for the aid agencies endeavouring to bring relief.

The pandemic

That its severity wanes, and pressures on the NHS ease; pray for us all as living costs rise as the world economy tries to recover; that governments and those in authority make wise decisions, and we all do our best to protect ourselves and others.

All Saints

That the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love and God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all now and forever. Amen.

To be baptised this Sunday

Rosanna Mabel Davies Ferguson - pray for her, her parents, and godparents supporting her.

Commemorated on 17 January:

Anthony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot

Born in about the year 251, Antony heard the gospel message, "If you would be perfect, go, sell your possessions, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." He was twenty years old and rich, following the death of his parents, but he did as the gospel instructed and went to live in the desert, living an austere life of manual work, charity and prayer. His many spiritual struggles left him both wise and sensible and he became a spiritual guide for many who flocked to him. His simple rule of personal discipline and prayer was taken up and spread throughout Christendom. He died peacefully in the desert in the year 356, asking that he be buried secretly, so that his person might be hidden in death as in life.

Charity of the week: A Rocha UK (ARUK)

A Rocha is a Christian charity working for the protection and restoration of the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment. Responding to the biblical mandate to care for the earth, and demonstrating the Christian hope

for Churches through their Eco Church programme, and Christian environmental leaders through their interdenominational convening work. Through their Wild Christian scheme and God's world, they work with community, supporting people to enjoy, nurture and defend nature in their own homes and communities, and by campaigning Christian land managers through their Partners in Action network. This network includes their own two nature reserves, Foxearth Meadows and Wolf Fields, which are also demonstration sites to inspire and enable others to manage small or larger areas of land for the benefit of people and nature.

Contact: arochoa.org.uk.

Those who are sick or in need

Paula and any known to us personally.

Those with longer term needs

Ruth Kirk Wilson, Robert Shafto, Margaret Legg, Simon Berlyn, Rosemary Cave, Lorraine Falzon Gaughan, Hyacinth Brown, Wisdom Kari Kari, Anthony Backs, Isabelle Backs, Do Jones, Chris Worden, and Gina Vaughan; all who support and care for them.

Those who have died recently

Father Vincent O'Toole, Archbishop Desmond Tutu (give thanks for his life and ministry), Lisadora Klerk, comfort their families and friends and all who mourn the death of loved ones.

Those whose Year's Mind falls at this time

Brenda Ayre, Ida Gorden, Stephen Flood, Dennis Palfreman, Desmond John Parsons (Vicar 1971-83), Carol Bell(L'Arche) and William (Bill) Stallybrass.

Thought for the week

Look back and remember: He was with you
Stand still and realise: He is with you
Walk forward and trust: He will be with you always.

Margaret Silf

If you would like prayer for yourself or another, please contact Diane Pacitti on 020 8761 2769; or dianepacitti@btinternet.com; or ring the Parish Office on 020 8676 4550.