

APRIL TO JULY 2019

CARE Prayer Diary

Making a Christian difference through prayer



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Revelation 5:8 describes an awesome scene around the throne of God:

'The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people.'

Our God is Sovereign, and His power is unlimited – but He may choose to act when we pray, and not to act when we fail to pray.

APRIL 28 – MAY 4

FREEDOMS

'Now the LORD is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the LORD is, there is freedom.'

2 CORINTHIANS 3:17 (ESV)



- SUN 28** } Lord, thank You for the spiritual freedom You give, because Christ's death and resurrection broke forever the power of sin and death. Enable us to experience this wonderful blessing in our lives more each day. Amen.
- MON 29** } God of justice and compassion, please help those championing people's rights to recognise their responsibilities too. May there be a right balance between allowing personal freedoms and requiring wise restrictions to protect others' freedoms, especially children. Amen.
- TUES 30** } We ask You, Lord, to grant the Government wise discernment and effective strategies to safeguard society from extremist propaganda and activity, whilst fully protecting our freedom to practise religious faith and express our opinions. Amen.
- WED 1** } Our compassionate Healer, please visit people who are locked into deep emotional and psychological pain. Grant wisdom to doctors, therapists, counsellors, friends and family who long for them to be set free to manage and enjoy life again. Amen.
- THURS 2** } **THANKSGIVING: Father, thank You for those passionately committed to reaching out to rescue the estimated 40 million people who have been trafficked, enslaved and abused. Give them success in liberating these victims. Amen.**
- FRI 3** } **WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY** – hosted by Ethiopia, whose Prime Minister recently released all previously detained journalists and dissidents.
God of truth, please help those in the media to speak with integrity, courage and wisdom against instances of corruption, oppression and denial of human rights such as freedom of expression. Amen.
- SAT 4** } **INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS DAY**
Lord, thank you for the sacrifices made by firefighters to keep their communities and environment safe. Please strengthen any who have been injured and comfort the families of those who have died in the line of duty. Amen.

The CARE Prayer Diary is written by Celia Bowring. To read the Prayer Diary online, or to sign up for the daily prayers by email, please visit: care.org.uk/prayer

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Celia Bowring

'For to be free, is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that enhances and respects the freedom of others.'
(Nelson Mandela, former president of South Africa.)

MAY 5 – 11

PRECIOUS LIVES

'You place your hand of blessing on my head. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand! ... You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!'

PSALMS 139:5-14 (NLT)



MAY 12 – 18

MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES

'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the LORD forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love.'

COLOSSIANS 3:12-14 (NIV)



SUN } INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE MIDWIFE

5 God, our Creator, thank You for these special women who provide essential care and encouragement to mothers and their new borns. Please especially strengthen midwives in difficult situations and remote or dangerous places, as they work to bring new life into the world. Amen.

MON } **6** Father, we intercede for those in Parliament and other public arenas who are opposing efforts, especially in Northern Ireland, to liberalise the law on abortion and so increase the numbers of lost unborn lives. May they speak with grace and authority. Amen.

TUES } **7** Lord of life, please raise up more politicians, doctors, nurses and other medical professionals who will oppose moves towards legalising assisted suicide in the UK. Frustrate any attempt to influence the Royal Colleges of medical professionals and others to back this. Amen.

WED } **8** God of mercy and grace, please help us to cherish and care for those who need special attention because of learning disabilities and other conditions. Help churches to welcome them and to provide an environment of respect, security and love. Amen.

THURS } **9** Jesus, our Strong Deliverer, please draw close to the tens of millions of children and adults who have been imprisoned, trafficked, abused and exploited so heartlessly. Comfort them in the midst of their suffering and send help to rescue them. Amen.

FRI } **10** **THANKSGIVING:** God, we are so grateful for brave men and women who are dedicated to rescuing people in the event of natural disasters, accidents, attacks and suicide attempts. Please bless them to succeed in their mission and to cope with how their own lives are affected. Amen.

SAT } **11** Father, please bless the endeavours of the UK's 200 plus centres of free hospice care for around 200,000 patients with terminal conditions each year. Please encourage staff, patients, volunteers and fundraisers as they raise money. Amen.

Most hospice care is in community-based settings: hospice at home, outpatient services and day care. More than 125,000 people give time to volunteer for hospices each year. UK hospices must raise about £2.7 million a day. The Government contributes 39 per cent of the costs in Scotland, 37 per cent in Northern Ireland, 32 per cent in England and 27 per cent in Wales. Children's hospices receive less than a fifth of their funding from the Government.

MAY 13 – 19: UK MARRIAGE WEEK (marriage-week.org.uk)

MAY 1 – 26: FOSTERCARE FORTNIGHT

SUN } **12** Loving God, thank You for Your design of marriage and family life, bringing individuals together in love, for the raising of children and to bless others. Above all, we are grateful that You have accepted and adopted us into Your Family, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MON } **13** Lord, we pray that this Marriage Week, celebrating the commitment between husbands and wives, will be a source of encouragement, inspiration and reinvigoration for many couples. Please grant success to the many local and national events that will be taking place. Amen.

TUES } **14** We pray for couples who are recently engaged, or in the early months of marriage. Please help them to build strong foundations that withstand any difficult times in the future, growing in love and understanding as they share life together. Amen.

WED } **15** **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES** Heavenly Father, we pray for families of all shapes and sizes in our society. May Your love bring commitment, harmony and a sense of belonging to children and adults. Please protect those who are in families where there is disunity, discord and danger. Amen.

THURS } **16** Lord, please draw close to families that are coping with separation because of relationship breakdown, effects of poverty, imprisonment, problems with immigration and other difficulties. Help them to stay in touch and keep hope alive for the future. Amen.

FRI } **17** **THANKSGIVING:** We praise You for the ministry of Care for the Family, who reach out with wise Biblical advice, practical insights, support for parents and those who are bereaved. Please bless their new headquarters in Cardiff and use it to Your glory. Amen. (careforthefamily.org)

SAT } **18** Father, please bless families that foster and have adopted children. Give parents and siblings wisdom, patience and a great capacity to love, especially where previous bad experiences may cause difficulties as children settle in their new home. Amen.

· 4,579 children were adopted in the UK in 2017/18.
· Over 65,000 children live with almost 55,000 foster families across the UK each day.
· This is nearly 80 per cent of the 83,000 children in care away from home.

MAY 19 – 25

SCHOOLS



'Now then, my children, listen to me; blessed are those who keep my ways. Listen to my instruction and be wise; do not disregard it. Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors ... For those who find me find life and receive favour from the LORD.'

PROVERBS 8:32-35 (NIV)

MAY 26 – JUNE 1

MISSION



'Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night.'

PHILIPPIANS 2:15,16 (THE MESSAGE)

MAY 12-26: PRAY FOR SCHOOLS FORTNIGHT (prayforschools.org)

- SUN 19** } **Lord, our Teacher, please help children, from nursery to sixth form, to gain the greatest possible benefit from their school lives - progressing in their learning, enjoying friendships, and developing gifts and interests. Amen.**
- MON 20** } Thank You, Lord, for the seven education and youth organisations that join with CARE to equip and encourage Christians to pray through the Pray for Schools network. Please direct and build up everyone praying over this special fortnight. Amen.
- TUES 21** } Father God, please grant wisdom to head teachers, members of staff, School Board Members and Governors grappling with problems facing young people in their care, like knife crime, self-harm, bullying, social media misuse, addiction and fractured relationships. Amen.
- WED 22** } Lord Jesus we know that You have compassion for those who need special help. We pray for children and young people with learning disabilities, life-limiting conditions, physical impairments and mental health issues. Please bless their teachers and others who help them. Amen.
- THURS 23** } Holy Spirit, we pray for more opportunities to introduce school children to the grace and truth of the gospel. Please open doors for Christian individuals and groups to lead assemblies and lessons, offer pastoral support, pray and to serve in other ways. Amen.
- FRI 24** } **THANKSGIVING: Lord, thank You for gifted teachers and others who dedicate themselves to inspiring, equipping and facilitating the children in their schools to learn life lessons, explore their creativity and develop their potential. Please encourage them. Amen.**
- SAT 25** } Dear God, we pray for children in the developing world who are denied an education because of poverty, displacement, discrimination, illness or disability. Please help teachers, politicians, churches and community workers to bring an end to this great injustice. Amen.

MAY 30 – JUNE 9: THY KINGDOM COME - Global wave of prayer - inspired by Archbishops Welby and Sentamu. (thykingdomcome.global)

- SUN 26** } **Lord Jesus, You send us out as light and salt to live in Your truth and love through Your Spirit. Please help us in every part of our lives – work, home, leisure, and in our communities – to be Your ambassadors, sharing the gospel and bringing blessing to all we meet. Amen.**
- MON 27** } We ask You to give wisdom, faith and compassion to all who work as chaplains with the armed forces, police and emergency services, in prisons, hospitals, hospices, town centres, transport hubs, education establishments, for sports teams and other situations. Amen.
- TUES 28** } Holy Spirit, please raise up more Christians to worship You and to pray for our nation and the wider world. Teach us all to pray to the Father, guided by You and in the authority of Christ, for His Kingdom to come and for His will to be done. Amen.
- WED 29** } Loving God, please strengthen and encourage all who contribute to local church social care initiatives: night shelters, food banks, children's groups, advice on debt and employment, care for vulnerable people, counselling and friendship. Amen.
- THURS 30** } **ASCENSION DAY**
Almighty God, hear the prayers ascending worldwide as Christians pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' through evangelism, renewal and restoration. Please bless our nations, communities, families and on each individual life that many may believe in You. Amen.
- FRI 31** } **THANKSGIVING: We praise You, Lord, for the many organisations distributing the Bible and other Christian resources freely to people in their own languages and through media they can access. May Your Word transform their lives. Amen.**
- SAT 1** } Heavenly Father, please protect Christians who serve in positions of leadership from temptations and attacks of the enemy that can so easily cause us to stumble. Help them to lead holy lives of devotion to Christ, gospel witness, prayer and love that brings You glory and honour. Amen.

- Although 91 per cent of primary age children in developing countries are now enrolled in school, 57 million still have no access to education – more than half of these children live in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- About 50 per cent of out-of-school primary school age children live in areas affected by conflicts.
- Worldwide, 617 million young people still lack basic mathematics and literacy skills.

'Worship is half of the purpose of the church: the other half is mission, in its broadest sense.' (Canon Michael Green who sadly died on 6 February – described by Justin Welby as a 'compelling and consummate evangelist... an example and model to all of the joy and energy that living and loving the gospel bring to proclaimer and listener... Serving the church locally, nationally and internationally through his ministry of communication in speech and writing.')

JUNE 2 – 8

PROTECTING THE EARTH



'The LORD merely spoke, and the heavens were created. He breathed the word, and all the stars were born. He assigned the sea its boundaries and locked the oceans in vast reservoirs. Let the whole world fear the LORD, and let everyone stand in awe of him.'

PSALMS 33:6-8 (NLT)

SUN 2 O God, we marvel that You commissioned human beings to watch over Your Creation. Today, we need Your help to alleviate the effects of climate change and rising water levels due to exploitation of natural resources and pollution. Please show us the way. Amen.

MON 3 Father, please grant success to conservationists and others who are preserving vital ecosystems, replanting trees and fighting illegal logging to protect the environment and the 250 million people, animals and plants sustained by the world's forests. Amen.

TUES 4 Lord, please help the leaders of the nearly 200 countries signed up to the Paris Agreement to find workable ways to reduce emissions and succeed in reaching targets for this, to preserve our world for the sake of future generations. Amen.

WED 5 **WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY**
Lord, may this day encourage people to do all they can to help solve worldwide environmental problems like climate change, deforestation, pollution of our oceans, and harm to the habitats of plant and animal species. Amen.

THURS 6 Lord, please help scientists to understand the reasons behind the declining numbers of insects throughout the world and find remedies that can reverse this worrying trend. Grant wisdom to farmers, gardeners, bee-keepers and others who work closely with nature. Amen.

FRI 7 **THANKSGIVING:** Thank You, God, for shifts in people's attitudes about our responsibilities for the natural world. Please show us how to be a force for good – by reducing waste, recycling, planting trees, and supporting initiatives that care for our environment. Amen.

SAT 8 **WORLD OCEANS DAY**
O God, we long to find ways to clean up the oceans – the true lungs of our planet – and to undo the damage from pollution. Thank You for those who are currently developing technologies that remove toxic material harming fish, sea creatures and plants. Amen.

JUNE 9 – 15

INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA



'Fools have no interest in understanding; they only want to air their own opinions. Doing wrong leads to disgrace, and scandalous behaviour brings contempt. Wise words are like deep waters; wisdom flows from the wise like a bubbling brook.'

PROVERBS 18:2-4 (NLT)

SUN 9 **PENTECOST**
Holy Spirit, please fill us again, and move afresh on Your Church! May we wait humbly before You in repentance and faith, ready to spread the gospel. Help us to harness every means available to bring Your goodness, truth and hope to every nation. Amen.

MON 10 Thank You, God, for the amazing possibilities of the internet, AI and robots in many aspects of our lives. We pray that advances in these areas may benefit people everywhere, alleviate poverty, ignorance and suffering, and bring lasting peace and healing to our world. Amen.

TUES 11 Father, we pray for Your protection over important computer systems controlling our security, health, education, social services, banking, commerce and other crucial areas of our national life. Please help those working to expose and neutralise any threats. Amen.

WED 12 Lord, we intercede for children and youth who have grown over-dependent on their electronic devices. Please help those who are being harmed by excessive and unwise use of social media, especially through cyber-bullying, grooming and addictive internet sites. Amen.

THURS 13 Please comfort and strengthen people who are targeted by online 'trolls' with abusive, threatening, obscene and untruthful social media messages. Give them wisdom and courage to stand up for freedom and truth, and help those monitoring online platforms to defeat this behaviour. Amen.

FRI 14 **THANKSGIVING:** We rejoice, Lord, for endless online opportunities to freely tell others about You through websites, social media, YouTube, phone apps and other means. Please help those who are searching for Christian truth to find it. Amen.

SAT 15 Father, we grieve over the devastating effects of pornography addiction, as material becomes progressively more depraved and evil. Please protect those in the line of duty monitoring this and deliver those struggling to escape from pornography's grip. Amen.

In 2013, 18-year-old Dutch inventor Boyan Slat thought of a way to remove plastic from the ocean. Five years later, the £15 million Ocean Cleanup floating boom system designed by him began removing the 1.8 trillion pieces floating in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. This area covers roughly a million square miles, so huge that it's visible from space.

- An estimated 3.2 billion people, almost half of the world's population, is now online - about 2 billion of them from developing countries.
- 80 per cent of Europeans and about 20 per cent of people living in Africa use the internet.
- The number of social media users worldwide in 2018 was 3.196 billion, up 13 per cent from the previous year.

JUNE 16 – 22

GOODNESS AND MERCY

'Forgive others, and you will be forgiven. Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full – pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back.'

LUKE 6:37-39 (NLT)



JUNE 23 – 29

INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

'God be merciful to us and bless us and cause His face to shine upon us; that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations ... Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.'

PSALMS 67:1-4 (NKJV)



SUN } FATHERS' DAY

16 Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us. We pray that Your Spirit will inspire and strengthen fathers to protect, provide, train up and care tenderly for their families and others for whom they have a fatherly responsibility. Amen.

MON } 17 Generous God, please touch the hearts of those in local and national government about the many people in poverty, some unable to make ends meet even with a job. Help them to create fair processes to support our vulnerable neighbours. Amen.

TUES } 18 Lord, our Healer, may Your goodness and mercy flow into the lives of people suffering from poor mental health and other conditions. We pray that advances in medical science will bring relief and recovery to them. Amen.

WED } 19 God of grace, please help us to be channels of Your peace, Your love, and Your wisdom. Pour out Your Spirit where people need to lay down their anger and be reconciled, to let go of grievances and forgive, and to relinquish their rights and be generous. Amen.

THURS } WORLD REFUGEE DAY

20 Dear Lord, we intercede for the millions who have had to abandon their homes because of conflict, persecution or extreme poverty. Please strengthen those trying to help them to be safe, cared for, reunited with loved ones, and accepted into other countries as asylum seekers. Amen.

FRI } 21 **THANKSGIVING: Father, thank You for every opportunity Christians have to love others – a friend, an enemy or a stranger. Bless local initiatives in the UK and overseas that reach those who are homeless, hungry, sick, lonely and lost. Amen.**

SAT } 22 Lord, we remember our brothers and sisters in countries facing severe persecution. We know that, though they suffer so much now, in heaven they will receive rich rewards, honour and joy. Remind them of this sure hope in the midst of their pain. Amen.

- Over 68.5 million people have had to flee their homes.
- 85 per cent of refugees are sheltered by developing countries.
- In 2018, 612,600 people sought safety in Europe.
- 2,277 of them died during their desperate attempt to cross the Mediterranean Sea.

SUN } 23 Lord of the Church, grant that Christians throughout the world, across the denominations and groupings, will be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace with humility, gentleness and patience. Amen.

MON } 24 Prince of Peace, we intercede for countries that have been torn apart by armed conflict, such as Afghanistan, Yemen, Syria, South Sudan, and areas of West Africa where Boko Haram is active. Please raise up wise, honest and strong leaders to bring resolution and peace. Amen.

TUES } DAY OF THE SEAFARER

25 Lord, thank You for the almost 1.65 million seafarers engaged in intercontinental trade, accounting for 90 per cent of shipping raw materials, food and manufactured goods worldwide. Guard them from danger, illness, exploitation and loneliness, and bless their families. Amen.

WED } INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING

26 Dear God, we intercede for the 200 million people damaged by illicit drugs such as cocaine, cannabis, hallucinogens, opiates and sedative hypnotics. Please expose and bring to justice the cartels and traffickers responsible for this deadly trade. Amen.

THURS } 27 Lord, we pray for victims of natural or man-made disasters still struggling to rebuild their shattered lives long after the world's attention and support has moved on. Please provide much-needed resources and instil them with Your hope. Amen.

FRI } 28 Lord, we long for those in slavery to be free. Please strengthen the arm of global agencies and national governments as they pursue traffickers and exploitative people smugglers. Grant them success in stamping out this appalling trade in human beings. Amen.

SAT } 29 **THANKSGIVING: ARMED FORCES DAY** On this Day, our country gives thanks for the spirits of those who are dutiful, disciplined and unselfish, willing to stand in a place of danger. We pray for those keeping watch today at sea, on land, in the air, for their loved ones waiting and worrying, and for their chaplains serving alongside them to befriend and encourage. Amen. (from a prayer by Rev Dr Marjory Maclean, Convener of the Chaplains.)

'Trafficking in human beings is a multi-billion-dollar international organised crime. Victims are recruited and trafficked between countries and regions using deception, threats or force. Human traffickers use increasingly sophisticated and tailored methods to target and exploit vulnerable communities for a profit, often with a disregard for human life and dignity.' (Interpol)

JUNE 30 – JULY 6

OLDER PEOPLE

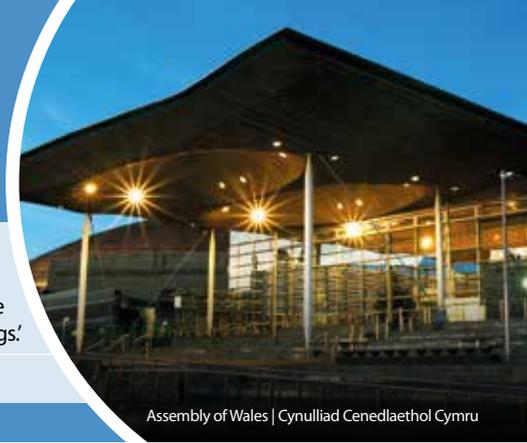


‘Take a new grip with your tired hands and strengthen your weak knees. Mark out a straight path for your feet so that those who are weak and lame will not fall but be made strong.’

HEBREWS 12:12,13 (NLT)

JULY 7 – 13

UK PARLIAMENTS AND ASSEMBLIES



Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever ... He changes times and seasons, he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; he reveals deep and hidden things.’

DANIEL 2:20-22 (ESV)

Assembly of Wales | Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

SUN 30 Heavenly Father, thank You for the army of mature and experienced Christian men and women of retirement age who have so much to give to their families, church, community and in the wider world. Please help them to discover Your will for this season of their lives. Amen. (afterworknet.com)

MON 1 Lord, please grant continuing strength, stamina, patience and compassion to older people who care for loved ones. Send them the extra support they need, especially in crisis situations and provide them with respite. Amen.

TUES 2 Father, we intercede for the rising number of older men and women who are homeless, living on the street, staying in hostels or sofa-surfing. Please help governments, local social services and charities to support them and prevent this happening to others. Amen.

WED 3 Dear God, please draw close to the 1.2 million chronically lonely older people who live in Britain. Thank You for the many local churches that provide pastoral care and events to alleviate this sad situation. Amen.

THURS 4 Lord, thank You for everyone who is involved in reaching out to older people through Senior Alpha, Christianity Explored and other evangelism and discipleship courses. May many come to believe the gospel and give You their lives. Amen.

FRI 5 **THANKSGIVING:** Father, thank You for the many grandparents who are giving practical support and encouragement to their families. Please help them to pass on their wisdom, faith and knowledge, in sensitive, gracious ways. Amen.

SAT 6 We ask You to direct older Christians with mature faith, valuable knowledge, experience and skills who are willing to respond to opportunities for mission overseas or in the UK. Please fill them with faith and strength to serve You in this way. Amen.

SUN 7 God, please continue to instil with integrity and strength the elected representatives of the UK Parliaments and Assemblies, and members of the House of Lords. Help them to put the welfare of the nation and its people before personal and party concerns. Amen.

MON 8 Lord, please equip and guide Welsh First Minister, Mark Drakeford, his Cabinet and other Members of the National Assembly. May they receive wisdom and insight as they work for the interests of the over three million people who live in Wales. Amen.

TUES 9 Dear Lord, we pray for a fair, workable solution to the impasse at Stormont between political parties since the Devolved Assembly collapsed in January 2017. Please help those who are trying to bring opposing sides together to reinstate good governance in Northern Ireland. Amen.

WED 10 Father, following the difficulties of trying to secure a workable Brexit agreement, please bring together Parliamentarians who have been fiercely opposed to each other and grant wise leadership as the country moves forward in these challenging times. Amen.

THURS 11 Lord, we lift to You Nicola Sturgeon, Scotland’s First Minister and her Cabinet. Please help them to govern well, promoting policies that bring prosperity to all and respect for Christian values. Amen.

FRI 12 **THANKSGIVING:** Lord, thank You for the many committed Christian men and women serving as elected representatives in the UK Parliaments and Assemblies and civil servants, advisers, and other staff. Please help them to be effective ‘light and salt’. Amen.

SAT 13 God, please overrule any plans to liberalise abortion further, to legalise assisted suicide, or to restrict freedom to speak out and practice our faith. Grant that legislation providing protection and care to the most vulnerable members of society would succeed. Amen.

‘May the godly grow strong like the cedars of Lebanon and flourish in the courts of our God! Even in old age they will still produce fruit; they will remain vital and green, declaring, “The Lord is just! He is my rock! There is no evil in him!”’ from Psalm 92:12-15

‘Politics is about making laws for our country; how we look after vulnerable people, whether to go to war or not, the kind of police force we have ... Why would we want to exclude Christians who we hope to have the truth, integrity and compassion for this process? We should be right in there, making a difference.’ Sir Gary Streeter, who has been an MP since 1992.

JULY 14 – 20

ROBOTICS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)



Pepper the Robot

'May the favour of the LORD our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us – yes, establish the work of our hands.'

PSALMS 90:17 (NIV)

JULY 21 – 27

CITIES



Liverpool Docks

'The LORD said ... "should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left?"

JONAH 4:10 (NIV)

SUN 14 } **Mighty God, You give humans the ability to make discoveries and develop technologies that can transform the world. Please direct scientists, engineers and others at the forefront of innovation to work in ways that are ethical and benefit people's lives. Amen.**

MON 15 } **WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY**
Father, please open doors to allow the millions of young people in developing countries who are denied good education and meaningful employment. Help them to find work as advances in robotics take many traditional jobs. Amen.

TUES 16 } Lord, please grant understanding to Christians who work in the rapidly expanding area of AI; that they may promote ethical values and safe boundaries that protect our lives and contribute to world stability and peace. Amen.

WED 17 } Father, we pray for governments and other agencies in the light of the inevitable changes the next twenty years will bring - as robots increasingly take over jobs, leaving many drivers, factory, agricultural and office workers unemployed. Give them immense foresight and wisdom. Amen.

THURS 18 } Lord, please help experts to develop ways to detect and disarm drones and other remotely controlled devices that are used as weapons and to smuggle illegal items, and to prevent cyber-attacks across the internet. Amen.

FRI 19 } **THANKSGIVING: Lord, thank You for the development of robots in fields of medicine; for surgery, diagnostics and procedures, delivering pharmacy supplies, cleaning hospitals, and helping frail people struggling with everyday activities. Amen.**

SAT 20 } O God, as companies increasingly gather personal information about individuals through AI, please help us to understand how to deal with serious privacy and security issues. May this amazing technology be used only for good. Amen.

SUN 21 } **Almighty God, stretch out Your hand of mercy over the 4,500 cities worldwide with populations of over 150,000. May Your Church grow in unity, commitment and faith by sharing the gospel, caring for the poor and being a godly influence throughout society. Amen.**

MON 22 } Dear God, we pray for peace and prosperity in our UK capitals: Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh, London and other major cities. May their governments follow Your ways and prioritise serving everyone, especially the most vulnerable. Amen.

TUES 23 } Father, please help those responsible for essential civic services: government, education, health, housing, transport, security, social care, commerce, communications, business, water, power, and spiritual life. Strengthen them in times of crisis. Amen.

WED 24 } Loving Lord, we pray for the millions who eke out an existence in shanty towns and run-down areas of cities. Please grant energy, hope, compassion and strength to all who seek to help them, especially by introducing them to Jesus. Amen.

THURS 25 } Lord, we pray for young people who are drawn into gangs and criminal behaviour such as gun and knife crime, drug dealing, robbery and other lifestyle choices that lead to tragedy and loss. Save and transform them by Your Spirit! Amen.

FRI 26 } **THANKSGIVING: Creator God, thank You for the concentration of the arts to be enjoyed in our cities' concert halls, theatres, art galleries, museums and open spaces. We pray for a fair balance of funding to be allocated to towns and rural areas too. Amen.**

SAT 27 } Lord, we intercede for leaders preparing to meet growing challenges facing the world's cities: huge pressure on their infrastructure, potential water and food shortages, pollution problems, increasing poverty and crime. Please help them to find solutions. Amen.

A robot is a machine, often programmed by a computer, that can carry out a complex series of actions automatically. AI is technology that has the ability to perform tasks that would otherwise require human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, and language translation.

- In 2018, over 55 per cent of the world's population lived in urban settlements.
- Globally, over 200,000 people move into cities every day.
- By 2030, one in every three people will live in cities with at least half a million inhabitants.
- Crime, pollution and overcrowding are three major concerns for cities.



Making a Christian difference



- equips individuals and the local church for prayer and action
- impacts the political world
- provides research and briefings for parliamentarians
- trains Christian graduates through the CARE Leadership Programme
- supports the vulnerable through advocacy



Edinburgh



Belfast



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