



'Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them!

For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children.

I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

Then he took the children in his arms and placed his hands on their heads and blessed them.'



The Prayer Diary encompasses a variety of topics, including people who are among the most vulnerable, especially children – who particularly need our prayers, protection and love. Jesus welcomed children into His arms and deeply valued them.

He also encourages each of us to come with childlike faith, believing that He hears and answers us when we pray.

The CARE Prayer Diary is written by Revd. Celia Bowring. To read online please visit:

## care.org.uk/prayer-diary

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Revd. Celia Bowring

#### **APRIL 20 - 26**

# CHRISTIANS IN SCHOOLS



#### **APRIL 18 - 24 GLOBAL ACTION WEEK FOR EDUCATION\***

EASTER SUNDAY
Lord Jesus Christ, we praise You with great joy! Laying down Your life and rising from the tomb You cancelled sin, conquered Satan and destroyed death. Thank You that all who turn and trust in You can know total forgiveness, eternal life and full assurance of the Father's love. Amen.

Father, we pray about the 250 million children globally who do not go to school – a tragic waste of the precious gifts that You have given them, that restricts their potential to flourish. Please use every good endeavour, especially Christian initiatives that teach Your truth. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Dear Lord, at the start of the new term we pray for schools, pupils and teachers, asking for Your protection, provision and peace. We especially remember those preparing for important exams and facing other educational, emotional and social challenges. In Your loving mercy. Amen.

Lord Jesus, please grant wisdom to students, staff and those involved with national and local evangelistic organisations and groups committed to presenting the gospel message in schools and colleges; through Christian groups, music, drama, sports, lessons and assemblies. For Christ's sake. Amen.

'Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future...'

1 PETER 1:3-5 (THE MESSAGE)

THURS Educ

Father, we remember Christian educators in schools who feel pressured to conform to gender

ideology and liberal sex education content or else face censure, possible suspension, investigation and dismissal. Grant them wisdom and courage to know how to act. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**FRI** 25

Thank You, Lord for the contribution of Christian teachers, schools' workers, chaplains, local

churches and others who bring Your truth and love into our schools. Please keep opportunities open to strengthen children in all goodness. By Your grace. Amen.

**SAT** 26

Loving Saviour, please raise up a widening canopy of prayer above our children and young people and

their schools through the intercessions of Christian individuals, groups\* and churches across the UK. Increase our faith and inspire us to pray fervently and wisely about the many issues involved. In Jesus' name. Amen. \*prayforschools.org

#### Facts About Global Education\*

About two-thirds of the global population of 780 million illiterate people are women.
 In some parts of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East, it is believed that girls do not need to go to school.
 Education in some rural areas is almost non-existent.
 In Sub-Saharan Africa and some parts of Asia, millions drop out before they complete their primary school education.
 In low-income countries, being educated guarantees earning a living several times higher than not getting an education.

## **APR 27 – MAY 3**

# FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



Lord, You commissioned Your Church in love to preach the gospel to everyone. Please help Christians to be courageous, clear, wise and gracious with opportunities to share Your Word through personal conversations, at church gatherings and in public spaces. For Your glory. Amen.

Lord our Teacher, we intercede for schools, colleges and universities to be places where students are encouraged to be willing to listen, question and debate respectfully, and everyone's right is heard is defended, even if their views are unpopular. Grant wisdom and courage to those seeking to uphold this freedom, often in the face of hostility. In Your mercy. Amen.

God of justice, may our laws continue to uphold true freedom of expression whilst wisely protecting people from abusive messaging, discrimination, terrorist activity and other harms. Please equip and enable 'whistleblowers' and others who are concerned about such malpractice and wrongdoing in the workplace and other settings to report this fairly and without fear of reprisal. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Holy Spirit, we pray that more people will consider biblical truth, and not reject the gospel to embrace secular beliefs that can stifle free speech. We pray that the right to preach 'the whole counsel of God'\* and witness for Jesus will not become unlawful in our land. Through Your grace. Amen. \*Acts 20: 27

'Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit. There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.'
PROVERBS 12:17.18 (ESV)

Lord, please grant wisdom to those wrestling with how to uphold the right to online free speech whilst safeguarding children and adults who use the internet and social media platforms. We pray for technology companies, governments and law enforcement agencies to cooperate to combat harmful communications and other cybercrimes. In Christ's name. Amen.

Father, thank You for legal protections in the workplace so that Christians, and those of other beliefs, can hold and manifest their faith and not experience discrimination. Please help those who are harassed to respond with grace, defending truth with courage and demonstrating integrity and forgiveness. In Your mercy, Amen.

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY
Lord, we remember scores of
journalists worldwide who are
missing, detained or have been killed in
the course of uncovering evidence and
reporting news in dangerous areas of
conflict, repressive government and
criminal activity. Please deliver them from
the evil one. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'Condemn no one for not thinking as you think. Let everyone enjoy the full and free liberty of thinking for themselves. Let everyone use his own judgment, since everyone must give an account of himself to God. Abhor every approach, in any kind or degree, to the spirit of persecution, if you cannot reason nor persuade a person into the truth, never attempt to force them into it. If love will not compel them to come, leave them to God, the judge of all.' (John Wesley)

**MAY 4 - 10** 

# COURAGE AND COMPASSION



FIREFIGHTERS' MEMORIAL DAY UK
Father, we pray that many people
will support Fire and Rescue

Service personnel as they stand outside fire stations and other rescue premises for a minute's silence at midday to remember those who have died and the thousands injured in the course of their duties. Please comfort those who mourn and encourage serving officers in their crucial role. In Jesus' name. Amen.

INTERNATIONAL MIDWIVES' DAY
- Midwives: Critical in Every Crisis.

God of mercy and kindness, we are so grateful for all the midwives who come alongside women during pregnancy, childbirth and other vulnerable times – especially those in communities affected by violence, poverty and medical neglect. Please strengthen them in body, heart and spirit. By Your grace, Amen.

Lord, please pour out Your mercy and strength upon those who, under enormous pressure, staff UK prisons and Young Offenders' Institutions, to safeguard the public by holding inmates securely and give support and education to help them to turn their lives around. In Your mercy, Amen.

God our Saviour, we remember people today who feel they are at the limit of their endurance, undergoing trials of many kinds. In their weakness and desperation may they call on Your name to receive mercy and grace. Grant them hope and strength to carry on. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'He is the God who makes me strong, who makes my pathway safe. He makes me sure-footed as a deer; he keeps me safe on the mountains ... O Lord, you protect me and save me; your care has made me great, and your power has kept me safe.' PSALM 18:32-35 (GOOD NEWS TRANSLATION)

God of righteousness and peace, may our police officers be kept safe and act with integrity and care as they deal with the public and encounter criminal behaviour. Deliver them from any temptation to abuse their authority and grant them wisdom and courage in difficult situations. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Lord our Healer, thank You for medical and health professionals working in the midst of danger and deprivation; in war zones, refugee camps, disaster areas and where epidemics are raging. Guide and provide for them each day and draw many close to receive Your peace and healing. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Father, make us ever mindful of our persecuted brothers and sisters. May those imprisoned for their faith inspire and embolden fellow believers to speak Your word bravely. Grant special grace for those tortured in body and mind to endure, know Christ's resurrection power and see their suffering as part of following in His footsteps. For Jesus' sake. Amen. (from a Release International prayer.)

**MAY 11 - 17** 

MON

# LIVING IN COMMUNITY



Lord Jesus, we pray for more churches to become vital hubs of their communities, gathering people for worship and Christian discipleship and also providing a welcoming space for people of all backgrounds, offering practical support, social activities and pastoral care. In Jesus' name, Amen.

God of justice and peace, please direct and inspire the thousands of people who serve as councillors to

ensure local people receive the services they need and regulate planning, infrastructure, social events and other matters that act as 'glue' in the community. Help them to make wise and fair decisions that promote fairness, prosperity, efficiency and social harmony. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Jehovah Jireh, God our Provider, we pray for schools in areas where many children live in poverty, often hungry, poorly clothed and in need of care of many kinds. Please grant funding, and strength and compassion to teachers as they welcome these families to be part of a school community where it is possible to thrive and succeed in living and learning. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord, we remember virtual communities of people who have something in common – special interests, health situations, cultural identity, or faith or political attachment. May these connections result in encouragement and support that benefit individuals and society in general. By your grace. Amen.

'Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.'

1 PETER 4:10 (ESV)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FAMILIES
Father God, 'from whom every

family in heaven and earth is named'\*, we ask You to grant Your blessings of peace, harmony and love to families as they seek Your help, especially those that are undergoing difficulties, some on the brink of disaster. In Your mercy and by Your grace. Amen. \*Ephesians 3:14

Thank You, Lord, for the volunteers working with local charitable projects and groups

that promote environmental, health, and cultural good and offer advice and help to those in need. We pray for them to receive sufficient financial and human resources to respond effectively to the growing challenges that our communities face. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Dear God, please continue to encourage leaders and others in communities across our nation, who work together for peace in the face of discord and offer practical

of discord and offer practical compassionate help to their neighbours, especially in places that are home to people from many diverse backgrounds. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Following last August's serious riots in British cities and towns, King Charles said how he had been 'greatly encouraged by the many examples of community spirit that had countered the aggression and criminality from a few with the compassion and resilience of the many.' He expressed hope that 'shared values of mutual respect and understanding will continue to strengthen and unite the nation'.

**MAY 18 - 24** 

## NORTHERN IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES



Lord of the Church, please send Your Spirit afresh upon our nations where today so many disregard You. Encourage Your people to worship in spirit and in truth, to pray faithfully and to live as light and salt in their communities, boldly sharing the gospel so many may come to know You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Father, we pray that the Welsh Government's vision - a strong economy, a healthier Wales, and a more sustainable environment - will be increasingly achieved and that standards, attainment and welfare in education will enhance children's lives. Please grant wisdom to those who plan strategies and seek to inspire the nation to reach for these goals. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Heavenly Father, we bring to You those working in agriculture and livestock farming as they face many operational, financial and emotional pressures, including a new imposition of inheritance tax. Please help them to seek support for mental health problems and find ways to continue their businesses that care for nature and provide food for the UK population. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Sovereign God, we intercede for continuing cooperation fifteen months on from devolved government being restored at Stormont. Please give MLAs patience, wisdom and guidance to work across the parties for the good of all citizens, especially to enact policies and legislation that support the most vulnerable. By Your grace. Amen.

'The Lord bless, keep, protect, sustain and guard you; The Lord make His face shine upon you with favour and be gracious to you - surrounding you with lovingkindness. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you with divine approval, and give you peace - a tranquil heart and life.' NUMBERS 6:24-26 (AMPLIFIED VERSION)

God, we remember all who serve in the Scottish and Welsh Parliaments and the Northern Irish Assembly. Please grant wisdom and grace to First Ministers John Swinney MSP, Eluned Morgan AM, Michelle O'Neill MLA and Deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly MLA. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Thank You, Lord, for CARE's opportunities earlier this year, with others, to present evidence to

the Scottish Parliament's Health
Committee considering the Assisted
Dying for Terminally III Adults (Scotland)
Bill. We pray that assisted suicide will not
become law in Scotland and that MSPs
prioritise better access to 'gold standard'
palliative care. In Your mercy. Amen.

Holy Spirit, we praise You for every intercessor throughout the UK who is praying for revival, for

justice and righteousness in government and public life, and for those who are most vulnerable. Please increase the numbers of those who pray, encouraging their faith and revealing the Father's will. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Scotland has been described as 'The Land of Many Revivals' with a history of religious awakenings over four centuries. The 1904–1905 Welsh Revival was a dramatic move of God, winning 100,000 converts and triggering revivals in many other countries. There were similar results in the 1859 Ulster Revival, still bearing fruit, in that Northern Ireland has the UK's highest proportion of Christians.

#### **MAY 25 - 31**

## **CONFLICT** RESOLUTION



Prince of peace, we intercede for our war-torn world where so many people are suffering in the midst of conflicts. We pray for those seeking to reconcile enemies, broker ceasefires, and work towards peace, especially in Ukraine, the Middle East, and parts of Asia and Africa. In Your mercy. Amen.

26

Lord, we pray for police officers who find themselves in potentially volatile situations such as

domestic disputes, hostage taking, mental health problems, public disturbances, gang conflicts, and confrontations with those suspected of criminal activity. Please help them to de-escalate these crises and restore peace and safety. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Father we pray for those who are affected by bullying – face-to-face and online - and especially for children and young people to grow in confidence and find effective strategies to face those responsible. Equip teachers and others to support them and deal with this problem which is a particular issue in schools. In Your mercy. Amen.

God of justice and mercy, we pray for people in prison where arguments can flare up and develop into angry, violent situations. Please grant wisdom to those responsible for their welfare as they try to defuse these conflicts and encourage listening and reconciliation. By Your grace. Amen.

'You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family.' MATTHEW 5:9 (MESSAGE)

THURS

#### **ASCENSION DAY**

Lord Jesus, we remember how You returned to Your Father on the first Ascension Day. Although we cannot see You with our eyes, we know You are still with us as You promised always to be. Thank You for being our constant Friend. Help us to remember that You are near and that You will never fail us. Amen. (from the Gelasian Sacramentary)

30

Lord, thank You for granting to Christians the wisdom of Your Word and Your Spirit to help

them to resolve disputes with patience. forgiveness, truth and love. Please help those struggling today with major or minor conflicts within the church to find wavs to mend divisions, sometimes 'agreeing to disagree agreeably'. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Heavenly Father, we grieve for families being torn apart by conflicts of many kinds, caused by bad behaviour, betrayal, harsh words, bitterness and other symptoms of relationship breakdown. Please help those involved to find help to protect any vulnerable individuals and to seek solutions to these problems. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'True reconciliation is never cheap, for it is based on forgiveness which is costly. Forgiveness in turn depends on repentance, which has to be based on an acknowledgment of what was done wrong, and therefore on disclosure of the truth. You cannot forgive what you do not know.' Archbishop Desmond Tutu

## **JUNE 1 – 7**

# PROTECTING OUR PLANET



Eternal God, whose Spirit moved over the deep bringing forth light and life; renew Your creation. Turn us from casual tenants to faithful stewards, that Your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of Your works; Through Jesus Christ. Amen. (Rt Rev Libby Lane, Bishop of Derby)

Lord, we pray about the major problem of outdoor air pollution, which causes an estimated four million premature deaths worldwide. May there be greater efforts made to clean energy sources in industry, agriculture, transport and urban areas and to improve healthcare for people who are affected. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Father, we ask for more 'rewilding projects' to be established across Britain – facilitating large-scale restoration of ecosystems which allow nature to take its course – protecting endangered species, improving the environment and encouraging conservation. By Your grace. Amen.

Gracious God, please equip the UK's first Special Representative for Nature, Ruth Davis, to find effective ways to halt environmental collapse and put nature at the heart of UK domestic and foreign policy . In Jesus' name. Amen.

'O God, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas; who by his strength established the mountains; who stills the roaring of the seas, the tumult of the peoples, so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth are in awe at your signs...' PSALM 65:5-8 (ESV)



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY focusing on ending plastic
pollution globally. Lord, please

inspire international cooperation to reduce the annual production of 430 million tonnes of plastic, two-thirds of which are shortlived products that soon become waste, filling the ocean and often working their way into the human food chain. In Christ's name, Amen.

**FRI** 

Thank You, Lord, for advances being made to generate and store

solar energy. Please give wisdom to those responsible, to find ways to install more rooftop panels and ensure rural areas are not overwhelmed with unattractive solar fields that encroach on agricultural and other spaces. In Your mercy, Amen.

God our Provider, we pray for greater progress to lessen global food waste that is sourced in developing countries. Inspire governments and leaders of other powerful institutions to invest and help farmers and other producers to grow, harvest and distribute food efficiently into the supply chains that feed us all. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Global hunger isn't about a lack of food. Enough is produced to nourish every person on the planet. But nearly a fifth of all food is squandered or lost. In many rich countries, this food waste happens in retail and the kitchen. But for millions of others, it happens at harvest time. Inadequate storage leads to pest infestations and to mould ruining crops. Lack of access to technology and markets means poor farmers watch their crops rot in fields as the labour and financial investment needed to harvest them is unavailable.

**JUNE 8 – 14** 

## THE GIFT OF LIFE



#### **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

Almighty God, please refresh and revive the faith and unity of Your Church through the Father's mercy, Christ's love and the Spirit's resurrection power. Send us out to share the wonderful news of the gospel to a broken world and bring many people to believe and trust in You. By Your grace. Amen.

Holy Spirit, we pray for those who have recently become Christians, to be guarded from the evil one and encouraged to immerse themselves in Your Word, seek Your presence and connect with other believers. We especially pray for children and young people to grow in their faith in Jesus and love for others. In Your mercy. Amen.

Lord our Healer, thank You for those who are researching lifethreatening diseases and developing new medical treatments and therapies that can ease symptoms and provide a better future. Please grant breakthroughs in areas such as cancer, heart disease and neurological conditions to bring help and hope for patients and their families. In Jesus' name, Amen

Creator God, we lift to You women who are pregnant and families welcoming newborns. Watch over these precious lives and grant strength and love to those around them, especially if there are health risks. We pray for mothers facing insecure situations as refugees and in other vulnerable situations. For Christ's sake. Amen.

'You know every bone in my body; exactly how I was made, bit by bit, sculpted from nothing into something. Like an open book, you watched me grow from conception to birth; all the stages of my life were spread out before you.'
PSALM 139:14-15 (MESSAGE)

Gracious Lord, we pray for those who work in hospice and palliative care, supporting people nearing the end of their lives with compassion, expertise and holistic ministry for body, mind, heart and spirit. Please provide all that is needed to help every person who needs this. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Jesus our Saviour, thank You for raising up evangelists, teachers, pastors and others who share

Your gospel of life: 'to proclaim good news to the poor, bind up the brokenhearted, proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.'\* Strengthen them and grant them a plentiful harvest. In Your precious name. Amen. \*Isaiah 61:1



# WORLD BLOOD DONOR DAY - thanksgiving for the almost 200 million donors worldwide.

Gracious Lord, thank You that through people's voluntary donations of blood many lives are saved. We pray for safety in the collecting, processing and distribution of this precious gift and that new donors will come forward to meet demand – in the UK, 5,000 are needed every day. In Your mercy. Amen.

'God has made everything beautiful in its time. and has set eternity in the human heart ... I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live. That each of them may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God. I know that everything God does will endure forever; nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it. God does it so that people will fear him.' King Solomon (Ecclesiastes 3:11-14)

#### **JUNE 15 – 21**

## **CHALLENGES** MEN FACE



#### **FATHERS' DAY**

SUN Lord, please inspire men to lead noble lives before their children, and others who look to them for leadership, reflecting Your Father heart. We pray for anvone who admits they fall short of this to seek Your help to change and live unselfishly before those who seek their protection, inspiration, wisdom, gentleness and care. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Sovereign God, we intercede for our society where there is growing controversy over sex and gender and disturbing signs of misogyny (prejudice and hatred towards women) and misandry (similar attitudes towards men). May Your truth and grace direct all our attitudes. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Lord, please move by Your Spirit to transform the problem of bovs' persistent underachievement in education, especially with those from low-income backgrounds. We pray for effective action as boys are twice as likely to have fallen behind girls before they start school, increasing between 11 and 14, and making up only 43% of university students. In Your mercy. Amen.

Mighty Saviour, we intercede for the UK Church, whose current membership ratio is 65% women to 35% men. Please raise up more godly male leaders who will inspire thousands of men and boys to see Jesus as one who demonstrated rugged boldness, courage, and costly love and to follow Him wholeheartedly. Through Your Spirit's power. Amen.

'He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?' MICAH 6:8 (ESV)

THURS

God of compassion, we pray for the increasing numbers of men who are suffering from poor mental health - many feeling they have no sense of purpose and some facing unemployment, family breakdown, debt. homelessness and addictions recognising that only You truly heal and save. We think particularly of those contemplating suicide. Draw them to someone who can help them. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'Community as a Superpower.' God of compassion, while we care deeply for women and children, we also pray about the problems and perils faced

by lone male refugees, especially unaccompanied minors. Please help them to access the help they need, forge good friendships and find dignity and peace in the midst of turmoil. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**WORLD REFUGEE DAY -**

Father, thank You for positive role models, known personally or admired from afar, that boys and young men can look up to, especially men who have faith in You; demonstrating qualities like courage, humility, integrity, discipline, gentleness, and having hearts full of worship. By Your grace. Amen.

'I always wanted to be Robin Hood or John the Baptist when I was growing up.' 'The hardest thing about my job is being away from my children. I satellite phone call them every day to say goodnight.' 'Survival can be summed up in three words - never give up. That's the heart of it really. Just keep trying.' 'Jesus, the heart of the Christian faith is the wildest, most radical guv vou'd ever come across'. (Bear Grylls, British adventurer)

#### **JUNE 22 - 28**

### **SEAFARERS**





# WINDRUSH DAY – marking the arrival of the first Afro-Caribbean immigrants to British shores

'Loving Father, we thank you for the amazing contribution of the Windrush generation to our communities and workplaces, and to your Church in our land. Lamenting our past failings in welcoming them, please help us to recognise your Son in every face we see, through Christ our Lord. Amen.' (Church of England prayer)

**мон** 23 Father, we remember the 200,000 refugees and migrants who tried to reach Europe in 2024 - 37,000 of

them across the Channel - in small, overcrowded, unsafe boats, many of whom died. We pray that those profiting from this will be stopped and that just, workable ways to care for these desperate people can be found. In Your mercy. Amen.

TUES 24 Loving God, we pray for Mercy Ships' hospital ships that deliver vital, free healthcare to people in

desperate need. We also ask You to bless Operation Mobilisation ships, bringing floating book-fairs to port cities, sharing the gospel and encouraging local churches and ministries. By Your grace. Amen.



## DAY OF THE SEAFARER – appreciating their vital role and recognising issues they face.

Lord, we remember those working in maritime professions, including the Merchant and Royal Navies, fishing fleets, workboats, cruise liners, commercial shipping, yachts, and ferries. May any who are poorly treated be supported through advocacy, pastoral care and other financial and practical help, In Jesus' name. Amen.

'Some went down to the sea in ships, doing business on the great waters; they saw the deeds of the Lord, his wondrous works in the deep ... They cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress ... They were glad that the waters were quiet, and he brought them to their desired haven.' PSALM 107:23-30 (ESV)

THURS

Lord our Saviour, please continue to provide the finances and human resources that are needed

by the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and protect the crews of rescue boats as they respond to calls for help in all weathers to save lives from drowning and other injuries. For Christ's sake. Amen.

FRI 27 Lord, we pray for those who work on cruise ships, voyaging all over the world, many with thousands of

passengers aboard. May there be peace and harmony, competence and safety among each part of these communities; those navigating and sailing the ship, those 'housekeeping', those caring for passengers' medical needs, those providing food and entertainment and those in other roles. By Your grace. Amen.



## ARMED FORCES' DAY Thank You, Lord, for those who defend our country and its

interests, working across the world promoting peace, delivering aid, tackling drug smugglers, providing security and fighting terrorism.'\* Please watch over these sailors, soldiers and airmen and grant wisdom and courage. In Your mercy. Amen. \*armedforcesday.org.uk

'More than 90% of goods and fuels are transported across the oceans thanks to 1.89 million seafarers. Without them the world economy would grind to a halt, placing businesses and millions of jobs in jeopardy. Many seafarers regularly complete long-term voyages that leave them isolated from friends, family and loved ones for months at a time'. (missiontoseafarers.org)

#### **JUNE 29 – JULY 5**

# LEADERS OF INTEGRITY



O God, in our ever-changing world we beseech You to raise up more servant-hearted leaders, with qualities of integrity, creativity, wisdom, humility and faith. Guard and strengthen Christian men and women who serve you in positions of influence. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Gracious Lord, please grant discernment and wisdom to those investigating cases of abuse that have taken place in the Church, and any failures to deal with them thoroughly. We intercede for healing and restoration for victims, for truth about accusations to be made known; that just and compassionate resolutions will be reached in these appalling situations. For Christ's sake, Amen.

Lord of all righteousness, we pray for all who work within judicial systems here and elsewhere to hold fast resolutely to agreed values and standards of impartiality, integrity, propriety, and equality of treatment. Please grant them strength in their human frailty to advance true justice tempered with grace in our sinful world. In Your mercy. Amen.

Holy God, we intercede for our nation where public distrust of political and other leaders is growing. We pray that efforts to improve standards such as Lord Anderson's Public Service (Ethics, Integrity and Independence) Bill will act as catalysts to strengthen ethics regulation in government and other areas. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'...Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will ... Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment...' ROMANS 12:2,3 (NIV)

Holy Spirit, please instill in Christian young people the desire to live godly, transparent lives that reflect the character of Jesus in school and among their friends. May their leaders be shining examples and encouragers who can build them up in discipleship and draw others to trust and live in You. For God's glory. Amen.

Lord, we thank You for the hundreds of Christian graduates who since 1993 have participated in CARE's Leadership Programme and are now in positions of influence, serving as Christ's 'light and salt' within important spheres of society. Please protect and guide them in all their ways. By Your grace. Amen.

Father, we long for peace and an end to the suffering of those who are oppressed. Please have mercy on national leaders who do harm and raise up others who desire righteousness for all, especially those who are poor and are so often overlooked. We pray not for the leaders we deserve, but for men and women after Your heart who will govern with integrity and compassion. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'The authority by which the Christian leader leads is not power but love, not force but example, not coercion but reasoned persuasion. Leaders have power, but power is safe only in the hands of those who humble themselves to serve.' (John Stott)

#### **JULY 6 - 12**

## EXPOSING EXPLOITATION



'God of light from whom nothing is hidden, thank You for freeing us from the domain of darkness and transferring us into the kingdom of Your beloved Son.'\* May the truth and mercy of the gospel penetrate the hearts of those who are oppressed and lost, and draw them to receive Your forgiveness and peace. In Jesus' name, Amen. \*Colossigns 1:13

Lord, we pray for the National Crime Agency and others to be increasingly successful in arresting and convicting people smuggling gangs who show complete disregard for the safety of those they exploit for huge financial profit. Please help their victims to find a suitable place to live. For Christ's sake. Amen.

Merciful Father, please help people targeted by scammers (who make money using illegal methods: lies, threats and tricks) to realise what is happening in time, and to act wisely to protect themselves. We pray for more criminals to be caught and for these activities to be prevented. By Your grace, Amen.

O Lord, we pray earnestly for those in law enforcement agencies who have been tasked to investigate the growing epidemic of abusive sexual images of children on the internet. Please protect their hearts and minds as they do this difficult work and grant extraordinary success in detecting crimes and obtaining water-tight evidence that will bring perpetrators to justice. In Jesus' name. Amen.

'Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light.' EPHESIANS 5:11-14 (ESV)

Dear God, we intercede for people who have fallen into the clutches of illegal money lenders who charge excessive interest rates and sometimes threaten those who cannot repay with violence. Lead them to organisations that can help and protect them. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Father, thank You for the dedication and passion of organisations and individuals who are determined to uncover instances of exploitation, particularly the predatory targeting of children. Please help everyone involved to be brave and honest as they share their often horrific experiences. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

Jesus, we intercede for the millions caught in human trafficking and modern slavery across the world; robbed of their freedom, forced to work in miserable living conditions, and subjected to abuse. May many be liberated and brought to a safe place to recover and rebuild their lives. In Your mercy. Amen.

It is thought that 50 million people worldwide are in modern slavery, 28 million in forced labour and 22 million in forced marriages. The UK government estimates there are 10,000 in Britain but those working on the ground claim the figure is over 120,000.

**JULY 13 - 19** 

# ONLINE COMMUNICATION



Creator God, with the internet rapidly opening up amazing new realms of information and interaction, we pray for ethical and safety considerations to be at the forefront of developments in artificial intelligence. Please grant wisdom and restraint to experts in this field to promote what is best and reject what would cause harm. In Jesus' name. Amen.

God our Protector, we pray that Ofcom will succeed in holding online sites hosting pornography and other harmful material to account; to protect users, especially children, and guide companies through regulations and measures to achieve the Government's mission to make the UK 'the safest place to be online.' In Your mercy, Amen.

WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY
Lord, we pray for young people
throughout the world to be given
the opportunity to develop their digital
skills in order to participate in the online
world that now dominates work life,
business, international affairs, personal
administration, social interaction, learning
and other areas. By Your grace. Amen.

Dear God, please help businesses, local and national government offices, health and education establishments and other organisations to guard themselves against cyber threats that shut down or corrupt systems, steal information, extort money and cause other damage. May these crimes be exposed and perpetrators across the world be prosecuted. In Your mercy. Amen.

'For the Lord grants wisdom ... he guards the paths of the just and protects those who are faithful to him. Then you will understand and find the right way to go. For wisdom will enter your heart, and knowledge will fill you with joy. Wise choices will watch over you. Understanding will keep you safe.' PROVERBS 2:6-11 (NLT)

Father, we continue to pray for the one in forty people in Britain who have a gambling problem, mainly online. May they find the support offered by many helplines and organisations, including the NHS, debt advice and counselling services and turn to You for true freedom. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we are so grateful that through the internet millions have been reached with

the gospel and received biblical teaching, discipleship training and encouragement, including those in countries where evangelism is forbidden and where believers are persecuted. Please watch over them and increase this wonderful harvest. In Your mercy, Amen.

Good Shepherd, we pray for children and young people to receive the support and information they need to use the internet and social media safely and confidently. Please help parents, carers, teachers and other responsible adults in their lives to encourage them in this. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

'With its growing influence on individual consumers and large economies alike, the internet has become a vital part of our day-to-day lives. In 2024, the number of internet users worldwide stood at 5.44 billion – about 2 billion of them living in China and India – which means that around two-thirds of the global population is currently connected to the world wide web.' (Statistica)

FRI

# At CARE, our vision is simple:

# we want to see politics renewed and lives transformed.

For more than 40 years, we have sought to bring truth and grace into the public square.

We believe Christians have a better story to tell than what our broken world can offer, rooted in Scripture and modelled by Jesus. We long to see a society in which everyone can flourish as God intends them to.

## WHAT WE DO











