



**New Creation Churches
In
Congresbury and Banwell**

**April 2020
Prayer Diary**

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid .. for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

(Deut 31:6)

Fear and Joy

We live in strange times. The last month has seen restrictions on our lives that we could never have anticipated and we are learning to live with many new uncertainties . For many, particularly those who are spending much of their time in isolation, there is anxiety but much inspiration to be had in the kindness of others.

As we journey with Jesus towards Easter we begin to understand why He is not only our Saviour but also a faithful friend who fully understands our lives There is nowhere that we can go, no concern that keeps us awake at night that Jesus does not fully understand.

At Gethsemane Jesus knew real fear and loneliness. He was in a state of distress because He knew what was about to happen, his death for our healing and life. But Jesus knew that God's love for Him was, and is, beyond any negative anxiety that tries to come in. If we can comprehend this, then we can trust in our hearts that God will not leave nor forsake us in the times that lie ahead. Gods mission wants us to get out to people and spread his word, but conversely our mission in him for now is to stay home and help protect others. Gods love can be spread in many diverse ways.

As we look beyond the cross to the joy of Easter we begin to understand that there is no fear in love, for perfect love overcomes all. This Easter may be a different sort of celebration for many of us but let's remember that Jesus has already conquered with his love so we can still celebrate with joy.

"These three things remain, faith hope love. The greatest of these is love."

Current Prayer Diary Editorial team: Rosemary West, Sue Hoskins, David Ashton-Hilton, Mo Barber, Avril Chadwick, Grace Isaac, Sonya Stocker and Ian Stocker.

Bible verses

Perfect Love Casts out Fear (1 John 4:18)

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! (Philippians 4:4)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1:3)

ANSWERS TO PRAYER FROM PREVIOUS MONTH'S DIARIES:

- Thank you for time spent together at Brunel at Home and for James Fox-Robinson and all who took part.

A reminder of what the Prayer Diary is about:

The prayer diary reminds us to pray each day for a person in the church, a street or organisation, and a diary event, and informs and directs our prayers, underpinning and supporting the day-to-day work of the churches in Congresbury and Banwell. The Diary is circulated to members of the churches in New Creation.

Please keep it in a handy place to use each day - it is designed to stick on the fridge with a magnet, or to fold to go in a book or bag etc.

The aim is that once every five months every person in the churches, each village & church organisation / group & each village street will be prayed for. **If you have not yet been included (and wish to be) please contact Church Office (01934 833126).**

YOUR FEEDBACK IS WANTED

We would welcome any feedback and news of prayer answers / requests. Please contact the Church Office (01934 833126) with your suggestions, answers to prayer, and any specific prayer requests. *Please could you get these to the Church Office by 17th April Thank you.*

This month we pray for Roads to the north of the river

New Creation churches -Prayer During the Day

O Lord, open our lips and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

This is the day that the Lord has made

Let us rejoice and be glad in it. *(Psalm 51.15, Ps 118.24)*

As we recall God's faithfulness we pray:

The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. *(Lam 3:22-23)*

The Word of God

the psalm for today is in this month's Prayer Diary.

The Bible readings for today are in this month's Prayer Diary.

Response *silence and a time for individual reflection*

Prayers

please use today's entry in the prayer diary to guide your intercessions

The New Creation Prayer:

Loving God, you are one-
Father, Son and Holy Spirit, united in peace.
Unite our two traditions and village
communities into one body- your body,
and sustain our rich diversity we pray.
We give you thanks for your commitment to
your people of every age and place.
We ask for your help to fulfil our commitment
to you and each other.
Grant us your peace, that we might grow in
patience and humility,
and help us to leave behind all that might
hinder our unity as we walk with you.
Enable us, by your Spirit, to work together
in peace in a new way,
to love our neighbours as ourselves
and to honour Christ as Lord. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer is said

The Conclusion

Bind unto yourself the name,
the strong name of the Trinity;
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation,
Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
praise the Lord of your salvation,
salvation is of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

(St Patricks breastplate prayer)

If you would like to join with others in saying daily prayer, please see Pew News for details for the coming month.