



# ST MATTHEW'S APRIL PRAYER DIARY 2018

Please submit items for the May Prayer Diary to Ruth Roberts - [ruth.a.roberts@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.a.roberts@btinternet.com)

*If you use this diary in the evening, it is suggested that you use the following day's entry.*

Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	Christ is Risen, he is risen indeed, Hallelujah. Pray that everyone who attends church today would experience the risen Christ in their lives. Pray especially for the family and friends of Aria Glymin as she is baptised.
Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Give thanks for the work of the District Church Wardens, especially Diz Deacon and Stephen Rivett at St Matthews, and all the deputies. Praise God for their willingness to be opening up the church before anyone else arrives, and closing up after everyone else has gone. May they know God's blessing in all they do for him.
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pray for Nick as he takes some time off after Easter. Give thanks for his willingness to serve the Parish and Ipswich in his different roles. May he know God's peace and his blessing. Pray that both he and Terry will find peace in their home following their recent unwelcome intruders.
Weds 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for Michael Green as he returns to the Middle East tomorrow. Pray for his health and safety as he collects his personal belongings, makes pastoral visits, celebrates Eastern Easter and, if safe, visits Kurdish areas to better understand that community in Ipswich.
Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for all who attended the Lent Course over the last few weeks, pray that the discussions will have impacted in how we live our lives for God.
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for all involved in the Little Treasures Toddler group - especially Mel as she heads it up. Pray for the children, their carers and the volunteers who help. Pray that they would feel God's love in their fellowship and that many would be encouraged to give Messy Church a try.
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the work of the Parish Church Wardens, especially John Woodall and Vera Eviripidou at St Matthews. Pray for all who ensure services run smoothly, PA, AV, Servers, Coffee team, prayer ministry team, administrators, musicians, readers, people who lead prayers. Give thanks for the gifts they have that they are so willing to use for the good of the church.
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for all Sunday school leaders and helpers and for Imogen as she organises and leads the help each week. Pray for new helpers who can fill gaps when needed. Pray that the Sunday school children will continue to grow in faith and that more children will come along each week.
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for Only Girls Allowed who meet tonight. Give thanks for the group, for the friendships and support. Pray that new members would be encouraged to attend.

Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for all those who work for CYM - for Simon the CEO, all who work in the office, in schools and those at African Adventure, that they will be constantly aware of God's love, protection, guidance and empowering in all they do. Pray for Steph as she starts a "pop-up Prayer Space" every Tuesday in St. Matthew's School library, that the children may come and be quiet and reflective and hear God's voice.
Weds 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for those who attend the Wednesday Holy Communion service, for fellowship, and that they would really meet with God on these occasions. Pray also for the services in Wingate House, Booth Court and Handford House, pray that many would attend, and that all would feel God's love for them in a very real way.
Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup>	The PCC meet tonight, pray that discussion and decisions would bring glory to God.
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	We continue to give thanks for all the support that Town Pastors provide on our streets during Friday and Saturday nights. We pray that they will be led to the vulnerable, and to go where they can be God's peace. Pray also for new volunteers to come forward both as pastors and to work in the prayer room.
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Open Doors.</b> In Egypt Christian teenage girls are being targeted by an extremist Muslim group, kidnapping them with the aim of converting them to Islam. Please pray for protection and wisdom for Christian girls in Egypt; for comfort for girls who have been kidnapped, and that they would know God's love and presence with them, whatever they are facing today. For God to work through Open Doors partners and local churches to protect Christian girls, to teach them to be wise, and help them to know that they are loved and valued. For God to change the hearts of those who are seeking to harm Christians in Egypt.
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for schools as they prepare to go back tomorrow. Give thanks for the break and the time spent with family. Pray for teachers and staff as they work in a very pressured environment. In particular pray for St Matthew's school, the headteacher Sue Todd and for Catherine Barratt as Chair of Governors.
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup>	There is a Prayer Ministry meeting today. Pray for Caroline Collett as she heads up this important ministry. Pray and give thanks for all the team members who are available each week after church services. Pray that God would bless them as they pray his blessing on others.

<b>Tues</b> 17 <sup>th</sup>	The Parish Leadership Team meet today. Pray for Nick, Danny, Lawrence, Jane, John and Ruth, as they seek God's guidance in the leadership of the Parish. May they all know God's equipping for all that he calls them to, and his peace and blessing.
<b>Weds</b> 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for all those involved in getting the accounts and reports completed for the Annual Church meeting at the end of April. Give thanks for all that Gareth and Tami have already done, and pray for the auditors especially as they check everything. Pray that it would all be done in time, without too much stress and hassle.
<b>Thurs</b> 19 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the elders at St Matthews, for those who lead worship (including John as a Reader), and for those who pastorally care for members of the congregation. Give thanks that they are willing to use their gifts to further God's kingdom.
<b>Fri</b> 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for our Local Mission Partner in Rio de Janeiro, Alexandre Teixeira and his wife Paloma, with some recent discouragements. Rodrigo, who was helping Alex lead the work in Magé, has left (for family reasons) which has left another helper, Marly, very discouraged. Pray for her and her husband Fernando. Paloma accompanies Alex. on visits to Magé on Saturdays. They have suffered a personal sadness in that Paloma had a miscarriage at the beginning of March. She has recovered well physically but pray for God's restoring grace for both of them.
<b>Sat</b> 21 <sup>st</sup>	Pray for the men who will attend the breakfast at The Cricketers this morning and that those who are new may feel God calling them through the acceptance and friendship they receive.
<b>Sun</b> 22 <sup>nd</sup>	There is a confirmation service at St John's Ipswich today, with potential candidates from St Matthews. Pray that it would be a special occasion for all who are confirmed. Pray that they would know God's anointing and strength as they continue their walk with Him.
<b>Mon</b> 23 <sup>rd</sup>	As we come to the Annual Church meeting give thanks for all who have had an active part to play on the PCC and on the 3 different District Church Councils. Give thanks for those who will be standing down this year, may they know God's plan for them. Pray for there to be enough people to fill all the vacancies, may we all have our hearts and minds open to if this is where God is calling us.
<b>Tues</b> 24 <sup>th</sup>	<u>Ipswich Winter Night Shelter</u> : Give thanks for all the guests who now have somewhere to live and no longer live on the streets, for all the hard work behind this. Pray for all who benefitted from the Shelter. Pray for Julia and Marlene as they lead the work.

<b>Weds</b> 25 <sup>th</sup>	God who brings life to creation and to people, help us to see you at work in Suffolk and to work with you so your kingdom grows here. By the grace of your spirit be the source of our love, our energy and our songs so that separately and together we may draw closer to you. May we speak of you and share your life with people who live, work and visit here, bringing glory to your name.
<b>Thurs</b> 26 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for all who deal with the finances in any way, for Gareth and Melody at St Matthews, for Emma who deals with Daundy money, and for those at Triangle, Living Water and All saints who deal with the accounts. Pray for wise use of all the resources. May everyone be generous in their giving, financially and in time, may it bring glory to God.
<b>Fri</b> 27 <sup>th</sup>	Give thanks for the Messy Church events that have already happened this year, for the numbers of people attending, pray that many seeds will have been sown. Although the next event isn't until Messy Pentecost in May continue to pray for those who plan and prepare that they would know God's hand on them in all they do for this ministry.
<b>Sat</b> 28 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for Tami & Jackie and give thanks for their work in the church office. In particular give thanks that for some people they are the first Christian voice they hear and give them strength, wisdom and patience in this ministry. Pray for all who use the Fletcher Centre and for Kim and Wayne as they oversee its use and maintenance.
<b>Sun</b> 29 <sup>th</sup>	Today there is a Joint Parish Service at All Saints, with the Annual Church Meeting afterwards. Pray for a really good occasion, for worship that glorifies God and that good friendships would be built up. Pray that all that has happened in the past year and is planned for the coming year would point people to God.
<b>Mon</b> 30 <sup>th</sup>	Pray for Harry and the youth of the Parish. Give thanks for Harry's commitment, and pray for the youngsters as they continue to put their faith into action, especially in their school setting, which is not always easy.

*We would like to thank all those who send us details for the Prayer Diary. All are welcome to contribute. We hope the diary is helpful in your prayer life. Any comments or requests are much appreciated.*

**CONTACTING US:**

Ruth Roberts 01473 728775

Kelly Head

Val Foy

[ruth.a.roberts@btinternet.com](mailto:ruth.a.roberts@btinternet.com)

[iodsluvvies@gmail.com](mailto:iodsluvvies@gmail.com)

[valeriefoy@btinternet.com](mailto:valeriefoy@btinternet.com)