

# CRAMOND KIRK MARCH PRAYER DIARY



Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen.

*Ephesians 3 : 20 – 21*  
*New Living Translation*

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**Topics are arranged over 7 days which you may find helpful.**

## **Sunday**

Pray for Tom & Colin & for their pastoral role in the life of the congregation & also for their work in the community. Pray for Russell & Margaret as they continue with their many public engagements. Russell & Margaret will be in Kenya this month & will visit the Turi Children's Project on Thursday, 9 March.

## **Monday**

Pray for the ministry of the Monday Café open to people with dementia & their carers. The next meeting is on Monday, 6 March. Pray for the recently bereaved of our own community. Pray for Holly Howarth, baptised on 12 February.

## **Tuesday**

**Fairtrade Fortnight : Pray for the Producers**  
*(from the Church of Scotland Website)*

“The simple fact we need to get across to as many people as possible this Fairtrade Fortnight is this: that many of the farmers & workers who grow our food aren't getting paid fairly. And the problem is closer to home than people might think. Thousands of farmers in countries such as Malawi, Kenya & Côte d'Ivoire all contribute to the tea, coffee & cocoa we enjoy in the UK & yet many of those farmers are still living in poverty.”

**Wednesday**     *(from the Christian Aid Website)*

Famine has been declared in parts of South Sudan – a country in the grip of a humanitarian catastrophe. In Unity State, 100,000 people face starvation & people are dying every day. Another 1 million people are on the brink of famine. Pray for those affected & for those trying to secure aid.

**Thursday**

Pray this month for the work of the Ministries Council of the Church of Scotland. The remit of the Ministries Council is the enabling of ministries in every part of Scotland, giving special priority to the poorest & most marginalized, through the recruitment, training & support of recognised ministries of the Church & the assessment & monitoring of patterns of deployment of those ministries.

**Friday**

*(from the Christian Aid Website)*

Give thanks for the Caring for Mother Earth project between the Church of Scotland Guild & Christian Aid partner CIPCA in Bolivia. This project, which provides solar ovens, helps families to eat well, even when firewood is wet. Give thanks for the testimony of Dona Natividad, from Bermeo, who told CIPCA that having a solar oven meant she could provide a good lunch for her family & still go out to help harvest rice in the fields. Give thanks & pray for Christian Aid community partnerships making a difference to lives around the world & helping to deepen a sense of partnership & solidarity.

**Saturday**

**Alleviating Loneliness**

*(from the Church of Scotland Website)*

Former Moderator, Dr Angus Morrison, said Church of Scotland congregations across the country played a major part in supporting lonely people. “Many local churches are at the centre of their community & offer networks of warm, caring, supportive relationships,” he added. “Congregations are increasingly aware of this problem & many are actively looking out for lonely & isolated folk in their parish & seeking to offer whatever support they can.” Pray for the ministry team in Cramond Kirk who visit the lonely & elderly in the parish.

**Reflection**

**Dr Doug Gay : Chalmers Lectures February 2017  
Lecture 3 excerpt**

Remembering all that was said in lecture 1 about the *missio dei*, about the church being the object of mission before it is a subject – about the church receiving mission before it is recruited to be part of it, we may go on to say this:

In mission, the church stands before the world on behalf of God – not to build up its own status or position but believing that God wants the world to know fullness of life.

In mission, the church stands before the world in the way of Jesus Christ, believing that in Jesus, the Word made Flesh, we see & know God more clearly & truly than anywhere else, that in his life & death & resurrection the world was reconciled to God & that God is making an appeal to us & then to the world through us, to be reconciled to God.

In mission, the church stands before the world in the power of the Holy Spirit - believing that the Spirit's life is renewing our life & is the power of God's life & love at work in the world. As women & men are called to be reconciled to God, to find fullness of life in God, we believe they are called into that same rhythm which is the heartbeat of the church's life - being called together in worship & sent in mission - in worship where Jesus is named as Lord & in mission where Jesus is proclaimed as Saviour, as Liberator, as Friend - in both word & in deed.

We want our churches to grow, not out of vanity or insecurity, but because we want to see as many people as possible, find meaning & hope through their faith in God & find a community & family of faith which can be home to them.

We recognise the mystery of God's sovereignty but we also recognise our calling to be witnesses, witnesses to what we know of God's truth, to what we can show of God's love. Witnesses to the mercy, to the grace, to the justice, to the beauty of God. So we want our churches, in those poignant words of John Bell's hymn, to be places where "Christ makes with his friends a touching place". Where people can be in touch with the love & mercy of God.

*([http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news\\_and\\_events/news/recent/lecture\\_series\\_ends\\_with\\_prophecy\\_for\\_the\\_kirk](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news_and_events/news/recent/lecture_series_ends_with_prophecy_for_the_kirk))*

*If you have a prayer request or a favourite prayer which you would care to share in a future Prayer Diary, please e-mail [cramond.kirk@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cramond.kirk@blueyonder.co.uk).*