

# CRAMOND KIRK



## MAY PRAYER DIARY

Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.

*(1 Peter 1 : 21)*

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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 come to the end of Russell's year as Moderator & resume parish ministry.

### **Monday**

Pray for the new Moderator, Rev Dr Derek Browning as he presides over the 2017 General Assembly (20 - 26 May). Pray for all those attending & contributing to the proceedings, that a spirit of grace & unity might be present. Pray for the success of the HEART & SOUL event in Princes Street Gardens on Sunday, 21 May. "Our theme for 2017 is "Word of Life" – something we want both our visitors & exhibitors to explore through different types of media. We're pleased to announce that more than 60 exhibitors will be in attendance; demonstrating & portraying "Word of Life" in a variety of fashions, along the thoroughfare of Princes Street Gardens."

*([www.heartandsoul.org.uk](http://www.heartandsoul.org.uk))*

### **Tuesday**

Pray for the upcoming General Election & for the way forward for our country with all the uncertainty we are currently experiencing. Pray for political leaders that they might campaign for the good of the country.

### **Wednesday**

Christian Aid week takes place from 14 - 20 May. Pray for the Christian Aid committee & for all the events & helpers. Pray that the monies raised will be useful in meeting the needs of many around the world. "Christian Aid Week was set up 60 years ago to support our work with refugees in Europe following the Second World War. Let's act again now, to help relieve suffering & build a world where everyone has a safe place to call home." *(from the Christian Aid website)*

### **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**

Graeme Glover will be both ordained & inducted into his first charge this month at St Columba's Church in St Helier, Jersey. Pray for Graeme & his family as he begins this new ministry.

### **Saturday**

*(from the Christian Aid Website)*

Thursday, 11 May marks 10 years since the Gaza blockade began. Nabeel Abu Shanab once had a happy life farming the land that he treasures, growing produce for export. He used to travel from Gaza to Israel to sell his goods.

Now, like most Palestinians, he struggles to provide for his family. With the support of Christian Aid partner, the Agricultural Development Association, he was learning new farming techniques to boost his income. But the lands around his neighbourhood were shelled in 2014 & his greenhouse was destroyed. He says he feels hopeless. Pray for an end to the blockade so the people of Gaza can begin to recover & rebuild their lives & pray for all parties to stop targeting civilians. Pray for Nabeel & his family & for the work of the Agricultural Development Association who are helping communities eke out an existence in extreme circumstances.

### **REFLECTION**

At the resurrection the world did not merely shift, a new world emerged in embryo, in which all is right & each of us who are witnesses to the resurrection have begun to experience it, a world which will be completed when Christ returns. Before we have met the risen Jesus we are living as if in a dream, in a false vision of reality. Consider the women; they thought death ruled, that despair had conquered, that stones could not be moved. They were wrong on everything. Death was conquered, despair fled, the stone was rolled away. Because God acted & raised Jesus, everything is different: we know the truth about God, through the resurrection. The cross revealed the love of God, the resurrection reveals the truth of Jesus, that He is God & human, both fully, both at once. The Preacher to the Papal Household, Fr Raniero di Cantalamessa, said last week, "The resurrection is God's powerful 'yes', his 'Amen', to the life of His son Jesus". The resurrection is a reality that changes everything in our lives. "Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth" (Colossians 3:2). Everything we are & own & see is to be lived & held & understood through the resurrection.

But be under no illusion, this is utterly counter to how the world runs itself & so we live in the now of a world in which the resurrection has happened & the not yet of a world where there is still evil.

*(Justin Welby : from his Easter Sermon 2017)*  
*(<http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/5857/the-archbishop-of-canterburys-easter-2017-sermon>)*

*f 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).*