

# CRAMOND KIRK



## MARCH PRAYER DIARY

Jesus, tempted in the desert,  
Lonely, hungry, filled with dread:  
'Use your power,' the tempter tells him;  
'turn these barren rocks to bread!'  
'Not alone by bread,' he answers,  
'can the human heart be filled.  
Only by the Word that calls us  
Is our deepest hunger stilled!'

*(CH4 Hymn 338)*

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering & be rejected by the elders, the chief priests & the scribes & be killed & after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside & began to rebuke him. But turning & looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter & said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

*(Mark 8 : 31 - 33)*

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### **SUNDAY**

As we come to worship Sunday by Sunday, we gather together & give thanks to God. Pray for the staff who work tirelessly, often behind the scenes, to ensure the smooth running of our services & day to day activities. Pray for Louise & David as they go about their work & that God will bless them with energy day in & day out.

### **MONDAY**

Our assistant minister, Stanley Okeke is Sole Nominee for St Andrews Church, Ayr. Please pray for Stanley & his family as he prepares to preach on 15 March. Pray that God will guide Stanley in his preparations & that 15 March is a day of blessings & joy.

## **TUESDAY**

Mental health problems affect us all in some way, either directly or through the pain of someone we know & love. 1 in 4 of us are emotionally unwell at any one time. Pray that the stigma of mental illness may be broken down. Pray that those struggling with their mental health may be met with love & acceptance & that it will begin with us.

## **WEDNESDAY**

Living Lent, the cross-denominational Lent initiative from the Joint Public Issues Team, is back for another year. Running throughout the 40 days of Lent, from Wednesday, 26 February until Thursday, 9 April, Living Lent invites us to re-evaluate our lifestyles & the impact on the climate. Pray for our world, that we may care for God's creation in our daily lives.

## **THURSDAY**

Pray for Christian Aid as they lobby the UN for a fair solution to protect & support internally displaced people around the world. Two-thirds of people forced from home are still in their own country. Seeking safety but unwilling or unable to leave, they are denied the official protection given to refugees. The reasons for their displacement are many: conflict, flooding, drought, fear. Torn from their homes, their families & their communities, displaced people are among the most vulnerable to poverty & exploitation in the world. Pray with Christian Aid that they are treated with respect & care. That all people are protected from harm & have a chance to rebuild their lives.

## **FRIDAY**

Join Fairtrade as they come together with companies & supporters to bring attention to the farmers & workers around the world, in some of the poorest countries, who grow the food we eat & make the clothes we wear. Pray especially for coco farmers who face countless challenges. Sadly, one core problem lies at the root of many of their worries, that their incomes are simply too low. Pray that more companies will see the person behind the products we use every day & will provide a fair living wage for their hard work, even if that means they make less profit themselves.

## **SATURDAY**

On 28 March the Church of Scotland is holding its first ever Violence Against Women conference in Dunblane Cathedral. Pray for the preparations, as they focus on resourcing & equipping congregations. Pray for all those who suffer at the hand of violence in their lives, that they may be broken free of it & that we may have our eyes opened to it.

## **PRAYER**

God of possibilities, you know our hearts.  
You have knitted our inmost being  
and you know our deepest desires, fears and worries.  
As we begin our journey to Calvary  
Help us to journey  
into a new awareness of your presence in our lives.  
So that we may know you more clearly,  
love you more dearly  
and follow you more nearly, day by day.

Remind us in this Lenten season that you said  
"The first shall be last and the last first."  
Open our hearts and our eyes so we may work  
To make your Kingdom come  
In all that we say and in all that we do.  
Amen

*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).*