

CRAMOND KIRK



MAY PRAYER DIARY

Lord of life, we come to You,
Lord of all, our Saviour be,
Come to bless and to heal,
With the light of Your love.

Through the days of doubt and toil,
In our joy and in our pain,
Guide our steps in Your way,
Make us one in Your love

(CH4 hymn 782)

I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth

(Psalm 121)

SUNDAY

While we are unable to hold services in the Kirk, Russell & Iain have taken to Facebook with a Sunday service at 10 am and Daily Devotions from Monday to Saturday at 8 am. These services are available on Facebook and on the homepage of the Kirk website at www.cramondkirk.org.uk. The Sunday service is available to watch at any time on the video page of the Kirk website and the text of all services is also available under "Latest News". Pray these 'virtual' services will continue to sustain the faith and hope of the congregation during these difficult days.

MONDAY

On Tuesday, 12 May our assistant minister, Stanley Okeke, will be inducted as the new minister at Ayr: St Andrews. Please pray for Stanley as he takes up his new charge and also for his wife Chidi and their children, Godwin and Victoria, as the family look forward to moving into their new manse in Ayr. Pray that the family will be made welcome and will soon feel at home.

TUESDAY

During the current lockdown families are not able to visit their loved ones in hospital and care homes. This has been particularly difficult when a relative has been dying and the family have not been able to sit at their bedside, hold their hand and be with them during their final hours. Pray for all who have been bereaved in recent days that they will find comfort and strength in the faith that nothing in life or death can ever separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

WEDNESDAY

For several years Cramond Kirk has been supporting the Turi Children's Project (TCP) in Kenya. In an e-mail from Turi, the staff asks us to pray for TCP as they finalise plans to organise a programme for the children to take food home during the school closures. The 80 children who would normally enjoy meals and activities at TCP will collect maize, beans, soap and face masks on a fortnightly basis to help needy families in this uncertain time. Please pray that there are no obstacles and that the families are blessed through the provision of food.

THURSDAY

On Thursday evenings people throughout the country have stood at their front doors and clapped in appreciation of the outstanding work of doctors, nurses and care workers during the coronavirus pandemic. Give thanks for the medical teams and hospital staff and everyone working in care homes and pray they will be given the protective equipment they so badly need.

FRIDAY

The 75th anniversary of VE day will be commemorated on Friday, 8 May. The first British soldier killed, Dennis McGinness, is buried in Cramond Kirkyard. Give thanks for those who defended our nation those years ago, especially people like Dennis who gave their lives in the conflict. Pray for those who continue to carry the scars of war on their body, mind and spirit, and with conflict continuing in different places, pray God's blessing on the peacemakers in the world.

SATURDAY

The annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland was due to take place on Saturday, 16 May but has been cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Give thanks for the retiring Moderator, Colin Sinclair, and pray for the incoming Moderator, Martin Fair, as he takes up his duties. Pray God will help Martin find different ways to fulfil the role of Moderator in such unprecedented circumstances.

PRAYER

God of all places and times
at a time of personal and national and international crisis
as illness and fear stalks every corner of the earth
help us put our trust in You
and to have faith You will give us all we need
to take us through these difficult days.

We are truly thankful for the medical and care home staff
caring for patients infected by Covid 19
and pray You will protect them from all harm.

We are mindful of Prime Ministers and First Ministers and Presidents
across the world who have difficult decisions to take
and pray You will guide them.

We are grateful for scientists and researchers
working hard to develop treatments and vaccines
and pray You will help them bring their efforts to fruition.

We feel the anxiety of the families and friends of people who have taken ill
and pray You will hold them in Your healing presence and power

And we weep with those who mourn
and pray the comfort only You can bring.

Trusting in the victory of Your love
bring us through these troubled days
to sing again with a cheerful voice to You
the God of all places and times.

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.