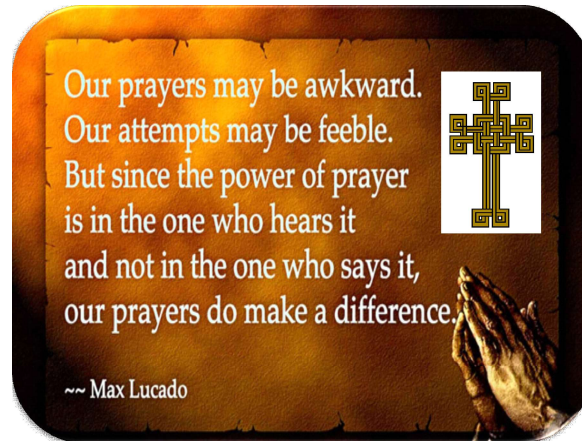


GIFFNOCK: THE PARK CHURCH

PRAYER DIARY



Hi everyone,

Ordinarily we would meet every Tuesday morning for prayer and we would take opportunity to spend time praying that the Gospel is heard by all as well as pray for the life of our congregation, everyone in it and those associated with them as well those issues of importance within our community, society in general and the wider world. Today things have not changed but for the fact that we are unable to meet together directly and for many of us we cannot connect to the world digitally because that is something that maybe some of us are less familiar with. This Prayer Letter is an attempt to reach out to all who are struggling at this time and give some focus on what to pray for.

Let me share with you the thoughts of Andrew Murray, the author of a Devotional called, ***“One minute Devotions God’s Best Kept Secrets”***

In on one of my April readings Andrew Murray cites ***Jeremiah 33:3 “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.”*** He goes on to say that ***“...it is in the exercise of intense persevering prayer that faith will be strengthened to take hold of God surrendering oneself to His omnipotent working”***

Over the page will be a series of prayer points for each day of the week and my plan will be to simply update this as each week unfolds and any and all who would like to use this as a template for praying are welcome to do so. It’s purpose is to offer some structure for topics to pray for but it is by no means intended to be restrictive and if there are things that take priority for prayer for you, then by all means follow that through. I hope the words of Max Lucado will be words that you can be encouraged by, the sincerity behind prayer matters far more to God than the eloquence of our prayer and we should always be mindful of that.

Calum D. Macdonald

Tuesday

Give thanks for all those who are in the frontline of caring for others in our hospitals, GP surgeries, Clinics, Care Homes, and those involved in the Community Care of Others more vulnerable than ourselves. Pray that they may remain free and safe from infection and that their loved ones are spared the distress of illness or even the death of a loved one from this awful disease called Covid 19. Pray for our loved ones and all in our families at this time.

Wednesday

Pray for All who grieve over Loved Ones who have died, those as a consequence of this Pandemic as well as those of other medically related stories. Pray for funeral directors as they guide people through these mournful times ahead. Pray for Ministers and others involved in conducting services. Pray for those who work for the Cremation and Cemetery Services. Pray for God's comfort to be real and that his strength sustains all at this time.

Thursday

Remember those responsible for the making the important decisions affecting the lives of so many, for those in Local, Devolved and National Government, Councillors, MSP's and MP's of all political parties. Pray that they may be well advised by our scientists and have the wisdom to know when to enforce restrictions and when to relax them, Give them courage to stand by the tough decisions and always to do the Right.

Friday

We pray our Emergency Services, for our Police Officers, Fire Brigade, Ambulance Services and CoastGuard as they continue to respond to emergencies that arise and go into situations that are potentially infectious or dangerous in other ways, who will deal in the first instance with untimely death in the home or elsewhere and care of those most vulnerable. Pray for our Armed Services deployed here in the UK helping in the struggle of Infection and Disease control. Remember also those on deployment elsewhere in the world, perhaps in a combat setting or as Aid relief to Distant Nations. Pray for both their safety and their safe return and for their families who remain at home here in the UK. Pray for our Sovereign Queen and her family.

Saturday

We Pray for those in our Social Services, for those dealing with Vulnerable Children, for those who are dealing with Elderly Care of those still at home or those who are caring those who are chronically ill being maintained in their own home. We pray for the rising numbers of Abuse Cases coming to the fore, those that are verbally, physically or mentally abusive. For the children who would have no food to eat but the free meal provided by schools. We pray for those having to use Food Banks, for those who are concerned about losing their jobs, for those in a spiralling crisis of financial debt. We pray for all those in Education, those teaching remotely or directly in class

Sunday

We pray for the Church across the world during this time of Pandemic that they can continue to offer Hope where there is despair, Comfort where there is Greif and Faith where is uncertainty through the Story of the Gospel. We pray for churches across Scotland, the congregations and their ministers. Help them to contend with new ways of doing church using the digital technology of the day as well as continuing to find the means by which people who are vulnerable know they are not forgotten. We pray for the financial fears concerning many at this time, for the Staff who have been furloughed and the ministries being shelved: for those working from home and for those who now no longer working at all. Pray that the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all.

Monday

Pray for Businesses across the land worried about their future. Pray for those who are homeless at this time. Pray for those who are struggling with the challenge of mental health particularly now. Pray for those in Education seeking how to best move forward in the story of teaching children and young adults alike, for the colleges and universities, their staff and their students. Pray for the world of industry and Commerce as they worry about Recession. Pray for every household in our parish seeking your hand be upon us all at this difficult time.