

**Benefice Prayer Diary**  
**Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton**  
**February 2021**

**A Benefice Prayer:** Lord, let us not labour for you in vain. Teach us to pray, deepen our fellowship, enable our ministry, strengthen our benefice, and nurture our children. That, united in Christ, we might indeed become a holy temple in which you dwell by your Spirit. Amen

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the clergy and people of NAKANYONYI Parish.

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February:**

Pray today for the parish of Marshfield, for its PCC, and their churchwardens Eric Pullin and Paul White.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February:**

Today, open your heart to let the light of Jesus shine into the darkest corners of your world, chasing away the gloom of despair and filling you with hope and peace.

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for the unity of God's people worldwide, and that we may show respect and understanding in our relationships with those of other faiths.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray that God will give you the energy and courage you need to live according to your faith, and that you may be a source of encouragement to others and conduits of peace and reconciliation in our troubled world.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February:**

Christian Aid and other Christian organisations have long sought to share God's love through aid work. Pray for them, particularly their part in the fight against global poverty, injustice and disease

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent**

*Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.*

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the work of the Diocesan schools.

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray today for the parish of Tormarton, for its PCC, and their churchwarden Bruce Finnermore.

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February:**

“Countless mistakes in marriage, parenting, ministry, and other relationships are failures to balance grace and truth. Sometimes we neglect both. Often we choose one over the other.” (*Randy Alcorn, US author*) Ask God to help you to get the right balance in your relationships that they may be strong and stable.

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for families facing particular difficulties through unemployment, poverty or illness. Pray that God will bring alongside them those who can help, and that we may recognise and act upon opportunities we might have to ease their burdens

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for other Christians who live in our communities but are not part of our parish churches. Remember particularly the congregation at Marshfield Chapel.

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for parents as they face the challenges and dilemmas of bringing up their children. Pray also for grandparents as they continue to support their own children.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February: Sunday before Lent**

*Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February:**

Today, the Church remembers Thomas Bray, priest and founder of SPG & SPCK. Pray that we may all accept Christ's call to spread the “Good News” of the Gospel worldwide.

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the clergy and people of KISOWERA Parish

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February: Ash Wednesday**

*Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray today for the parish of West Littleton, for its PCC and for their churchwarden David Adams.

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for persecuted Christians throughout God's world. May they be steadfast in spirit and that they will feel your love surrounding and upholding them

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February:**

"Lord, you faced great discomfort in your wilderness experience. Be with those whose lives are blighted by poverty and inadequate housing. Bless all who work to alleviate their conditions and show us how we, too, can make their lives easier" (taken from the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary)

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> February: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, join with them to remember Archbishop JANANI LUWUM who was martyred on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1977

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February:**

Pray today for the parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC, and their churchwarden Monica Green

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray that God's love and justice will transform the rules and practices of trade. Pray for fairer treatment for all involved in the fair trade chain – remembering those today who handle and transport the goods to market, and to our shop shelves.

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> February:**

Some of the prayers in this Diary are taken from "Families Worldwide", the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary. Pray for the local branch and for the worldwide work of MU in offering Christian care to families.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for our linked CMS mission partners Jimmy and Katia Rocks and their family Joanna and Davi as they continue to develop their ministry of outreach in one of the areas of Brazil that is most in need.

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February:**

Pray for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Charles Keen and Mike Strathdee - and their ministry to us. Pray also for the other clergy and lay people who help maintain this ministry.

Pray also for our diocesan Bishop, Vivienne Faull, our suffragan Bishop Lee Rayfield, and for the staff that support them in leading this diocese.

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent**

*Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

**A Prayer for Lent**

Lord, the season of Lent can be a difficult time.

We do not always want to be disciplined.

We often prefer to go our own way,

but we know you are always there to comfort us.

Encourage us to read and listen to your every word.

Help us during this season to trust in your everlasting love, Amen.

*Jan Seaman*

*(taken from "The Prayers We Breathe"  
a Mothers' Union book of prayers )*

**Please Note:** If you would like a prayer to be included in our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact Paul Sawyer, 16, Fairfield Close, Marshfield (891436)