

## Lent 2022: A month of prayer and fasting

Please pick a day of the week which you can join us in prayer – and then please use that day each week to pray for the points listed below.

Please tell us which day(s) you are praying – we'd love to make it so that at least one person is praying every single day.

There are themes each week – plus some additional prayer points for the church leaders.

### Week 1: Children & Young People

02/03/22 to 08/03/22

- **URGENT PRAYER:** *For the situation in Ukraine, and all the children and young people affected.*
- Children in and around the church – pray for those you know by name, for their wellbeing & safety, at school and at home, for their future and for their faith
- Schools and youth clubs – especially Delta (our youth club) and Lawford Mead (pray for the staff as well as the children)
- Compassion sponsored children – your sponsored child (if you have one) but also the church sponsored children: (Makidas, Wudass, Samuel and Bereket)
- **PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:** *Pray for Helen and Phil and their family, we give thanks for Phil's practical skills, Helen's desire to help people in the community and their passion for our youth. Strengthen them both in their health and their families to continue God's work through the church.*

## Week 2: Church relationships

09/03/22 to 15/03/22

- Within the church – for friendships and the sense of family to flourish within CCC, especially after the isolation spread over the last 2 years with COVID.
- Also for growing relationships with other congregations – at St Andrews (Simon Pearce), Blessed Sacrament (Father Paul and Sisters Margaret and Moira), Oasis (Pete Bardwell), City Church Chelmsford (Jimmie Massey), Church of the Ascension (Julia Lacey) and the neighbouring parishes, especially Writtle (Tony Cant)
- Around the church – for key relationships with council, schools and other agencies to help enable community action where needed
- **PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:** *Pray for Chris as he leads the church into a new season as we emerge from COVID restrictions and enter Lent. Give thanks for Chris's passion for the Gospel, and his considered wisdom and steadfastness in God's word. Pray for wisdom in guiding the church forward, and strength and unity for Chris and Debra and their family in their leadership of the church.*

## Week 3: Our local community

16/03/22 to 22/03/22

- Pray into the needs around us in Chignal Road, Melbourne and around. For challenges arising from COVID – lost jobs, money worries, access to healthcare and social care.
- Pray for the local development plans – especially Warren Farm (behind Avon Road) and the old St Peter's site (Fox Crescent). Pray that the social, community and affordable accommodation planning of these developments isn't lost
- Pray for the ward councillors (Lee Ashley, Anne Davidson and Stephen Robinson) as they try to serve this community.
- **PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:** *Pray for Ashley and her family. We thank you for Ashley's bible knowledge and wisdom and her ability to share God's word. Pray for her as she continues to manage the administration in the church behind the scenes but so crucial to the smooth running of the church and our interaction with the local community.*

## Week 4: For Chelmsford

23/03/22 to 29/03/22

- Pray for the area. Pray for the presence of God to burn more brightly across the city. Pray about the areas of Chelmsford that have problems or challenges.
- Pray for the work with rough sleepers – that Chelmsford can take a lead in helping those who need help so that the problem is tackled rather than dispersed
- **PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:** *Pray for our Community Group leaders and our Ladies Bible Group leader (Chris & Debra, Les & Charm, Dimeji & Ola, Phil & Helen, Gemma) as they run our midweek meetings. Pray for Sarah as she champions prayer in the church. and for Jan as she heads up Rough Sleepers Support. All are faithful and passionate – pray for strength, wisdom and understanding in all they do.*

## Week 5: For our leaders

30/03/22 to 06/04/22

- Pray for local leaders – in churches, local government, health and social services, employers and other agencies
- Pray that even if they don't recognise it, the choices and decisions can be influenced by the fruits of the spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
- Pray that the choices made can be for the good of people – that money can be stewarded and used to help people who need it
- For national leaders – that God will have in place the right people to lead this nation in its post-pandemic, post-Brexit future. For wisdom and for grace.
- **PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:** *Pray for the Trustees of Chelmsford Community Church, and the invaluable advice and support they give - much of it out of sight. Thank them all for the ultimate responsibility they carry for everything the church does as Trustees, and for their skills and experience they use to fulfil their legal obligations. We pray for each of them, Paul, Charm, Les, Steve and Chris, that they may be inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ in their work as Trustees.*

## Week 6: For lives saved

07/04/22 to 14/04/22

- Pray for those we know who don't yet know Jesus – those we have just met and those we have known for a long time. Pray for lives to be changed as they finally encounter Jesus
- Pray for the community and the place of CCC (and all other churches) within it – that we can be the city on a hill – drawing people to Jesus, and that we can go out, to meet more people that they might see Jesus in us.
- Pray for breakthrough in people's lives – those you know by name, and those you don't
- ***PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS:*** *Pray for our friends in Ground Level (especially Phil and Jo Thorne in Norwich) and for Basil in Mumbai. Pray for their ministries and thank God for the input and support they give to CCC.*

### A note on fasting

We suggest that you **fast** on the day you pray – abstaining from one, two or all meals. But we would ask that you only do so if physically able – do not fast if it could be a risk to health. Otherwise you might abstain from a pastime on those days rather than food.

The abstinence is not magic – but is a demonstration of fervour and intent as we pray; while also providing a specific **time** to pray. Use the time you would have been eating or participating in a pastime to **pray** instead.