

# Prayer Diary

May 2020

He told them, 'This is what is written: the Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.'

*Luke 24:46-47*

**Vicar:** Martin Lane

**Churchwarden:** Pete Walkington

**Assistant to the Churchwardens:** Mick Farrier

**Deanery Synod Representatives:** Michael Davis, Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane

**PCC:** Lisa Bonham (Secretary), Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Hilary Drury (co-opted), Carol Eldridge, Robin Fahie (co-opted), Alex Hohenkerk, Martin Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Rowena Pelling, Pete Walkington

**Treasurer:** Carol Eldridge

**Safeguarding Officer:** Robin Fahie

**Administrator:** Lisa Bonham

**Digital Media and Publicity Officer:** Naomi Wade

**Finance Committee:** Carol Eldridge, Martin Lane, Pete Walkington

**Buildings Committee:** Mick Farrier, Martin Lane, Pete Walkington

**Staff Team:** Lisa Bonham, Holly Eldridge, Hilary Drury, Martin Lane

**Preaching Team:** Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Nigel Harvey, Glen Kilby, Martin Lane, Daniel Rutherford

**Families Worker:** Hilary Drury

**Ministry Volunteer:** Holly Eldridge

**Sunday Club Supervisor:** Lisa Bonham

**Sunday Club Leaders:** Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Holly Eldridge, Tony Simons

**Sunday Club Helpers:** Jamie Coussens, Michael Davis, Nicky Goddin, Carol Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, Cynthia Lovett, Wanda Owen, Rowena Pelling

**Crèche Team:** Beckie Akroyd, Thelma Frogley, Mena Martin, Chloe Newman, Jen & Bruce Steadman, Annette Wells

# Our Mission

Our mission is to help people of our town and local community become fully-committed followers of Jesus.

# Our Vision

Imagine a church that's flooding its local community with the light of the gospel and making a visible difference to the lives of all kinds of people: that's what we long to see at Emmanuel Church, on the West Hill of Hastings, to the glory of God.

As we look to the future we envision a growing and dynamic, **gospel-hearted** church, full of men, women, and children who find their identity in Christ and rejoice in living for him. It's a church with multiple, vibrant gospel ministries for all ages with trained and trustworthy leaders; where faithful bible teaching is valued and expected; where the gospel is proclaimed with urgency and purpose. It's a church of disciple-making disciples; where members are experiencing the life-changing power of the gospel and helping others to experience it too.

It's an **others-focused** church where we cherish one another in Christ; a family of believers who think of one another before themselves and gladly accept sacrifice for each other's sake; where we love one another in practical ways and everyone gives and receives. It's a church in which relationships are loyal, supportive and accountable; where names are remembered and absence is noticed; where we join together to laugh and cry, challenge and encourage, pray and praise.

It's an **outward-looking** church that works for the good of our local community and seeks the lost with the gospel of grace in creative and relevant ways; a place where the needy find help, the broken find healing, the lonely find friendship, and all hear the offer of new life in Christ. It's a church that's committed to supporting other gospel ministries, in the UK and overseas, by giving its money and sending its people to serve in various ways.

This is our dream. We believe, under God, it will soon be reality, and we invite you to be part of it.

# *Dear Friends*

In Luke 11, verses 9 to 13, Jesus says this. **‘So I say to you: ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!’**

Here is one of the many privileges of belonging to God’s family: we have a Father in heaven who loves to give us good gifts in response to our prayers. What do we have to do to receive such undeserved kindness? Simply, to ask.

And the greatest gift he gives us is himself. When anyone comes to God the Father through faith in his Son, he comes and takes up residence in their heart by his Spirit. It is a truly wonderful gift that should encourage us greatly as we deal with the isolation of lockdown. Although we may be cut off from others, we cannot be separated from God’s loving presence within us, assuring us that we are loved and precious to him.

And that should encourage us to keep praying. Since God is present within us by his Spirit, how could we possibly doubt his willingness to provide for our needs as we bring them to him in prayer? He knows exactly what we’re going through and precisely what we need, even before we ask him. And he knows how to answer our prayers for our good and blessing.

There are many things we can’t do at the moment, but one thing we can do is to draw close to God in prayer and to trust ourselves, and each other, to his good keeping.

*With love,*  
*Martin*

While our Sunday services and midweek meetings are suspended due to the Coronavirus, we have decided to reformat the Prayer Diary.

Each day of the week has:

- some Emmanuel people and ministries (see inside cover)
- some streets in our parish to pray for our community
- an external ministry or organisation we support (see back cover)
- two countries where Christians are facing persecution
- something to pray for specifically related to the Coronavirus
- a Bible verse to pray for our church family

You could choose to pray through each section every day, or spread them out across the month. We hope this will continue to be a useful aid to prayer.

## **Fridays** (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Our Deanery Synod Representatives
- Administrator, Lisa Bonham
- The Buttons Team and the children, parents, grandparents and carers who come along
- The Welcoming Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Albert Road, Alpine Road, Ann Street, Becket Close, Bembrook Road, Calvert Road and Castle Gardens.

### *The World*

- The work of Evangelical Alliance
- Christians facing persecution in Pakistan and Nigeria

### *COVID-19*

- National and local government leaders; for cooperation, good communication and sustaining energy.

### *Bible Focus - Psalm 51:10-12*

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.”

- For Emmanuel to be full of repentant people who trust in God’s forgiveness and restoration

# **Saturdays** (2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th)

## *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Treasurer, Carol Eldridge, as she works on our finances
- Safeguarding Officer, Robin Fahie, in his vital role
- The Music Group
- The Cleaning Team

## *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Castle Hill Road, Castledown Avenue, Collier Road, Croft Road, Egremont Place, Elford Street and Emmanuel Road

## *The World*

- The work of Speak Life
- Christians facing persecution in Eritrea and Saudi Arabia

## *COVID-19*

- Families still adjusting to home schooling; for patience, compassion, and a good balance between work and rest.

## *Bible Focus - Acts 4:29*

“Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness.”

- For Emmanuel to boldly proclaim that salvation is found in Christ alone

# **Sundays** (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st)

## *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Vicar, Martin Lane, as he leads Emmanuel
- Church Warden, Pete Walkington, and Assistant, Mick Farrier
- The Preaching Team
- The Sound Desk

## *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Gladstone Road, Halton Crescent, Halton Place, Hardwicke Road, Harold Place, Manor Road and Milward Crescent

## *The World*

- John and Sarah Percival (Cambridge); perseverance in PhD write-up and wisdom for the future; for friends who are joining their church's Sunday morning broadcasts to be drawn to Jesus.
- Michael and Sarah Farrier (Bath) as they balance ministry and homeschooling while on lockdown in a limited space.
- Christians facing persecution in Sudan and Maldives

## COVID-19

- Churches and ministry leaders; that they would both be a light for Christ and provide practical support for their communities.

### *Bible Focus - Ephesians 4:1-3*

“As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”

- That Emmanuel would walk in a manner worthy of the gospel, being patient and humble in our interactions with one another and prioritising unity

## **Mondays** (4th, 11th, 18th and 25th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Digital Media and Publicity Officer, Naomi Wade
- The Staff Team to be united and gospel focused
- Bookstall ministry, Beckie Akroyd
- The TOAST Team and those who come along

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Milward Road, Mount Pleasant Road, Nelson Road, North Terrace, Old London Road, Pelham Street and Plynlmmon Road

### *The World*

- Churches and leadership in the Diocese of Chichester
- Christians facing persecution in North Korea and Yemen

## COVID-19

- Those who are sick, and their families; for healing and comfort from the Lord through the care of doctors and nurses.

### *Bible Focus - 2 Corinthians 9:6*

“Remember this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”

- For Emmanuel to be generous in using all that God has given us to bless one another and our wider community

## **Tuesdays** (5th, 12th, 19th and 26th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- The Finance Committee to make wise decisions
- Families Worker, Hilary Drury, as she supports church families
- Home Group Leaders as they keep in touch with members
- The Maintenance Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Portland Place, Priory Road, Queen's Road, Robertson Hill, Russell Street, Saunders Close and St George's Road

### *The World*

- The work of Barnabas Fund
- Christians facing persecution in Afghanistan and Iran

### *COVID-19*

- Health workers, caregivers and medical researchers; for protection, wisdom, and resilience under pressure.

### *Bible Focus - Luke 9:23-24*

“Then he said to them all: ‘Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.’”

- That Emmanuel would wholeheartedly follow Christ in every area of life

## **Wednesdays** (6th, 13th, 20th and 27th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- Sunday Club Supervisor, Leaders, Helpers and children
- The Buildings Committee as they manage our premises
- The Projection Team
- The Gardening Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on St Mary's Road, St Mary's Terrace, St Thomas's Road, Stone Street, Stonefield Place, Stonefield Road and The Glebe

### *The World*

- The work of Sussex Gospel Partnership
- Christians facing persecution in Somalia and India



## COVID-19

- Those who are especially vulnerable, including those in poverty; for access to medical care and everyday resources like food and water, and for protection from the disease.

### *Bible Focus - Matthew 16:18*

“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”

- That Emmanuel will trust Jesus to grow the church in his way and with his power

## **Thursdays** (7th, 14th, 21st and 28th)

### *Emmanuel Ministry*

- The members of our PCC to be one in thought and purpose
- The Crèche Team and young children at Emmanuel
- Ministry Volunteer, Holly Eldridge
- The Publicity Team

### *Our Community*

Homes and businesses on Vicarage Road, Wellington Mews, Wellington Place, Wellington Road, Wellington Square, West View, Whitefriars Road and York Gardens

### *The World*

- The work of Crosslinks
- Christians facing persecution in Libya and Syria

## COVID-19

- Those who are particularly lonely or fearful; for God’s peace to reign in their hearts, and for the comfort of friends, family and neighbours to be very real despite restrictions.

### *Bible Focus - Ephesians 1:15-16*

“For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God’s people, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers.”

- For each member of Emmanuel to be grateful for our church family and give thanks regularly for one another



**Buttons Team:** Hilary Drury, Holly Eldridge, Thelma Frogley, Cynthia Lovett, Lucy Sparks

**Music Group:** Lisa Bonham, Hilary Drury, Miriam Eisele, Holly Eldridge, Robert Eldridge, Robin Fahie, Nigel Harvey, Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Sue Page

**Projection Team:** Greig Burgoyne, Rachel Lane, Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

**Sound Desk:** Hilary Drury, Jim Goddin

**Welcoming Team:** Eileen Evans, Dorothea Fahie, Jen Farrier, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Paul & Bernadette Huggins, Geoff Martin, Viv Walkington, Dave Wells

**Bookstall:** Beckie Akroyd

**Home Group Leaders:** Michael & Fiona Davis, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Nigel Harvey, Martin & Rachel Lane, Cynthia Lovett, Ben & Chloe Newman, Rowena Pelling, Dave & Annette Wells

**TOAST Team:** Holly Eldridge, Robin & Dorothea Fahie, Thelma Frogley, Nicky Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Martin Lane, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Annalize Senol, Lucy Sparks, Viv Walkington

**Christianity Explored:** Martin Lane, Rowena Pelling

**Publicity Team:** Aza Shadenova, Naomi Wade

**Cleaning Team:** Lisa Bonham, Andrew & Sandra Budd, Berns Huggins, Graham & Cynthia Lovett, Geoff & Mena Martin, Rowena Pelling, Lucy Sparks, Annette & Dave Wells

**Gardening Team:** Nikki Goddin, Nigel & Janet Harvey, Geoff Martin, Tony Simons.

**Maintenance Team:** Mick Farrier, Geoff Martin, Dave Sparks, Pete Walkington

**Mums' Bible Study:** Hilary Drury, Rachel Lane

**We are an Anglican evangelical church  
in the Diocese of Chichester:**



**We are a partner church in  
the Sussex Gospel Partnership:**



[www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk](http://www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk)

**We are a member church of:**



[www.eauk.org](http://www.eauk.org)

**The three charities we support are:**



[www.barnabasfund.org.uk](http://www.barnabasfund.org.uk)



[www.crosslinks.org](http://www.crosslinks.org)



[www.speaklife.org.uk](http://www.speaklife.org.uk)

[www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk](http://www.emmanuelhastings.org.uk) 01424 445184  
Registered Charity No.: 1159229