

Friday 26th

Cardiff Street Pastors go out on familiar streets on weekend evenings to show the love of Christ to often drunk and dysfunctional people. Pray for great love and grace for those who volunteer for such a ministry. (John Squires from Tabs).

Saturday 27th

Spare a thought for the unemployed, the unemployable and all those people trapped on benefits. Ask God to sustain their hope and provide long term solutions to their needs.

Sunday 28th

Today you could pray for someone who you have never prayed for before. Think of a neighbour, person at work, college or school. The chances are you can quickly think of an individual or family you have yet to pray for, their welfare, spiritual growth and walk towards God.

Monday 29th

Pray for yourself today. Offer praise to God for something dear to you, and bring something close to your heart before the Lord.

KISC* Kathmandu International Study Centre

Contributions for the prayer diary should be sent to john.stansfield5@btinternet.com or left in the pigeonhole in the foyer by 7th of the month.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Deep in the middle of our winter, in Australia everyone is enjoying 'barbies', 'tinnies' and endless sunshine. If you ever thought of looking to the 'greener pastures over the hill' that is one place worth looking. When things are at their worst, someone else always seems to be better off. Usually 'the world' does not care either which usually makes it hurt more. When a loved one passes away, the hurt is all ours, most other people just carry on as usual. When the redundancy notice comes most people sympathise but not for long, mostly because everyone else has their own troubles to deal with. The Bible has a lot to say about situations like this, for example Noah had to take all sorts of bad press before his stand for God was vindicated and all the rest were washed away. All the way through the Old Testament the prophets called Israel to repent of their lives lived without reference to God. Most of the time Israel just ignored God and it was 'business as usual' for most people, just trying to get by.

In this season of bad weather and dark days let us not forget to thank God for the good things He gives us. Think about that neighbour or friend who needs a visit or hand with the kids, or shopping, or just a chat. Thank God for every opportunity He gives to pray for others, help someone out or just smile at a passing stranger. Living the Christian life in the midst of difficulties and misery, adverse circumstances and being triumphant is what Jesus called His church to do. This month pray for those in difficulty, grasp the promises of God and be triumphant!

tabernacle : penarth

purpose : to reflect God's love in
our church, community and world

prayer diary : february 2016

How many are my iniquities and sins? Lord,
make known to me my rebellion and my sin.
Job 13:23

There was an article in many of the newspapers recently about a proposal from the Church of England to 'fix' the date of Easter on either the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of April each year. In consultation with other churches and denominations the plan is to change the dates of this movable feast which means that Easter can be as early as 22nd March or as late as 25th April! This year Easter is very early (March 22nd) which means that Lent is correspondingly early and begins on 11th February. That means that in this edition of the Prayer Diary we are beginning to think about Lent and Easter, even though we have only just stopped thinking about Christmas. So, a simple question for this month's "Thought for the Month": how do you plan to spend the Lenten season this year? Do you have plans for prayer, fasting and self-examination? And if not, why not?!!

Pastor Roger

Monday 1st

Somewhere in the world there is a situation for which God has shown you enough information to pray about, a mission station, a war zone, an individual etc. If you don't pray then no one else will, please pray as God leads.

Tuesday 2nd

Please remember members of the Pastoral Care Scheme who minister to those people unable to get to services. The team visit, keep in touch, regularly write to elderly and housebound members and serve communion to those who are sick. Please pray for discernment in this ministry.

Wednesday 3rd

Please remember the Communion Service held every Wednesday led by a member of the congregation. Pray for them each week.

Thursday 4th

Today will be a normal working day for most people, for some it will be the end of life, for someone else a day spent in hospital. In all these situations people need God to guide them. Ask God to guide someone you know today.

Friday 5th

Please pray for the youth outreaches held each week. Ask God to bless the leaders, the young people, and parents and for safe club each week. Ask God to raise up extra workers for this ministry.

Saturday 6th

Please think about the other churches in the district. Pray for revival in Penarth and blessing on each congregation as they seek to reach out to their respective communities.

Sunday 7th

One of the regular events in Tabs is the coffee after the morning service. Please pray for those who volunteer to serve and clear up. Please also let people see that this is a good opportunity to build contacts and socialise in the church, acorn contacts from which oak trees can grow. Please pray people will use this opportunity well.

Monday 8th

Please remember the work of Home Access who seek to help the homeless and misfortunate people who find themselves with nowhere to live. Please pray for Jan Booker and Claire Grafton as they deal on a day to day basis with folk in need. Please also remember those volunteers who support the cause and without which there would be no long term project.

Tuesday 9th (Shrove Tuesday)

Think today as pancakes are enjoyed by everyone of those who are hungry. Perhaps an extra tin of vegetables on the shopping list, for the food bank, by way of thanks to God for food on your table.

Wednesday 10th (Ash Wednesday)

As the church prepares for Easter let repentance be in the minds of those who need to make good old wrongs. Ask God to reconcile those estranged by arguments and disputes, pray for peace to break out in warring families.

Thursday 11th

Please pray for groups meeting around the district today: Alpha and small groups. Ask God to bless these gatherings week by week.

Friday 12th

Please remember the situation of thousands of Syrian refugees forced to leave home due to the ongoing war. Pray for God to overrule in attempts to bring about peace in the Middle East.

Saturday 13th

As the itinerant preachers supported by Tabs prepare to go out tomorrow to lead worship in small churches around the district, ask God to bless their efforts and the churches where they minister.

Sunday 14th (1st Sunday in Lent) (St Valentine)

Valentine is celebrated as the patron saint of lovers. Pray for the team distributing roses with bible verses attached today in Penarth.

Monday 15th

Please pray for the sick at this time. Thank God

for those who have been healed and bring intercession for those who are now sick. A suitable list can be found in the weekly newsletter.

Tuesday 16th

Remember the local Gideons who are delivering scripture portions and New Testaments to Year 7 pupils in local schools in February. Ask God to use such material to touch the lives of young people.

Wednesday 17th

In many Christian Unions in academic institutions, colleges and universities, there will be new executives taking over this month. Pray for fresh ideas and enthusiasm for young people in positions of leadership, often for the first time in their lives

Thursday 18th

Praying for mission in far away places may not seem, to the rational person, to be a sane thing to do. Ask any missionary what difference prayer makes and they will tell you it is vital to cover every aspect of ministry in prayer.

Today please uphold the work of BMS in Nepal. Pray for Helen and Angus and their family at KISC*.

Friday 19th

Please pray for the Wales Assembly Government, the First Minister, AMs and all who exercise power in Wales.

Saturday 20th

Please pray for the outreach among women in and outside the church. Pray for a woman you know who needs to meet Jesus today.

Sunday 21st

The persecuted church of whatever complexion needs to be prayed for often. Imagine if your family kicked you out for being Jesus' friend. How would you get on for work, somewhere to live, ongoing money worries etc? That is the reality of being persecuted. Please pray for Jesus' friends who suffer for His name.

Monday 22nd

Uphold the Playgroup which meets every morning in Tabs. Ask God to bless this ministry to Mums and young people.

Tuesday 23rd

Please pray today for whichever is your favourite church activity. Uphold the leaders, people involved as workers or clients. Commit the whole ministry to God.

Wednesday 24th

Spare a thought for those members who would love to go to a house group today, but cannot because of age, sickness, being house-bound, domestic commitments, work or any other reason.

Thursday 25th

Maintaining an effective prayer ministry in a church calls for dedication and commitment on behalf of people. Please remember those who are 'Prayer Warriors' who back the church by being at the throne of grace when others have given up or are too busy.