

those who are visited, so please give thanks for those who give their time to visit. Remember also those who are visited regularly.

#### **Saturday 29th**

Some of the young people from Tabs will be going to Soul Survivor in the next few months. Please pray for Naomi Best as she takes on this task, and for those who will participate, some of whom may never have been away from home before.

#### **Sunday 30th**

Ask God today to open His word in the services you attend – pray through any difficult issues in your life.

KISC Kathmandu International Study Centre

Contributions can be sent to  
john.stansfield5@btinternet.com before 7th of the month.

#### **Thought for the Month**

One of the defining things about “British Values” is the love of a nice cup of tea. The fact that this custom was taken from China to India by the British and then back home is of no great consequence. The ritual of ‘afternoon tea’ was a defining cultural event in millions of homes for decades. Today there are rival beverages to tea, like coffee, most of which were imported from somewhere else. In any civilised society there are actions which are prohibited: murder, theft, violence against the person and the like. Each society has differing emphasis on different behaviours. In some places wandering around semi naked is ok, in other places everyone has to be covered up all over. So relating to God in different parts of the world has different emphases. Some places have ‘bell, book and candle’, smells, chants and singing, while in others there are plain rooms, no altars or images, or even doors and windows. God is big enough and large enough to cope with the whole spectrum of churches, worship styles, formal or informal and all places in between. Do you have a small or large mental image of God? Is your idea of God something you invented, something you picked up from someone else, something you acquired in your travels or something along the lines of Jesus as in the Bible? Whatever the values you espouse, whether foreign or home grown, there is only one thing for certain: God loves you, and particularly when you pray. This month ask God to show you the values He wants you to have, there is much about this subject in the New Testament under “gifts of the Spirit”. Ask God to open your heart to His leading on your values.

# tabernacle : penarth

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

## **prayer diary : april 2017**

“Christ has been raised from the dead, the first  
fruits of those who have fallen asleep.”  
1 Corinthians 15:20

At Christmas last year, UK consumer spending hit a massive £80 billion for the festive season: excess spending for Easter weekend was £747 million. If our money really shows us where our heart is, then it would seem that we think that Christmas is 9 times more important than Easter!

In fact, whilst the early church celebrated Easter from the earliest days, Christmas was not added to the Christian calendar in Britain until the 6th century. In 1644 Parliament banned Christmas as an unimportant, pagan festival! Easter has always been more important.

Easter is actually the most important celebration in the Christian calendar. The celebrations of Palm Sunday; the inauguration of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday; the sacrifice of Good Friday and the celebrations of Easter Sunday are the most important festivals in our liturgical year and as Christians we need to remember their importance.

So let me ask you: how important is Easter to you? How seriously have you taken preparations through Lent and how joyously do you intend to celebrate this year.

**Roger Grafton**

#### **Saturday 1st**

Tabs enjoyed a visit from The Evangelical Alliance recently. EA promotes understanding, advocates prayer and help for those in need and tries to encourage good witness for Jesus. Remember the staff and volunteers who work at EA every day.

#### **Sunday 2nd**

During the last Sunday of Lent pray for God to renew your vision of Him, ask for a fresh input of the Spirit in your life.

#### **Monday 3rd**

There are many brands in the Christian folio. History is full of splits, reconciliations, and congresses all aimed at healing rifts or splits in the church. Today the fragmentation of the church goes on, despite the attempts to heal the rifts. Pray for Christian unity.

### **Tuesday 4th**

The trials of the church in the Middle East, Africa and Indian subcontinent in recent years has generated a worldwide prayer response. Please pray for the church in these places.

### **Wednesday 5th**

Project Cyrus is a worldwide prayer movement to pray for North Korea. This country is reputed to be the worst place on earth to be a Christian, yet the church is still growing. Pray for believers in North Korea.

### **Thursday 6th**

Pray for those who participate in small groups, including Alpha, International Café, youth groups etc. Ask God to bless Tabs small group ministry.

### **Friday 7th**

Please pray for all the youth outreaches run on Friday nights. Ask God to give them a safe club meeting, good leaders, for the children and their parents and for fun.

### **Saturday 8th**

Remember Street Pastors out until the small hours picking up the drunks in Cardiff city centre and other cities and towns. Remember also the police, ambulance crews, A & E staff and anyone else caught up in the drunken binges of nights out.

### **Sunday 9th (Palm Sunday)**

Palm Sunday is traditionally celebrated as the day Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. Did you ever think about how you may have greeted Jesus on that day?

### **Monday 10th**

On this ordinary Monday pray for the ladies who meet together for fellowship in the afternoon.

### **Tuesday 11th**

The earthquake in Nepal may have gone from the news, but the people of Nepal still live with the consequences. Please pray for NGO personnel and nationals involved in rebuilding.

### **Wednesday 12th**

Please pray for the recipients of the food parcels distributed by Tabs on Wednesday mornings in Arcot House. Ask God to provide long term solutions to their situations, work, housing, freedom from addictions etc.

### **Thursday 13th (Maundy Thursday)**

The church around the world will be celebrating Easter so please remember someone you know about who worships in a different country to you. Ask God to bless their worship, ministry and increase their faith.

### **Friday 14th (Good Friday)**

Today is the remembrance of what Christ did on the cross for mankind. Pray for someone you may know who has not quite made it as a Christian yet. Appropriate the promises of God for that person.

### **Saturday 15th**

As the church celebrates the death and resurrection of Jesus, ask Him to show you someone to pray for who does not appreciate this miracle.

### **Sunday 16th (Easter Day)**

On this the most important festival in the Church year, give thanks to God for Jesus and all the good things He has given you.

### **Monday 17th (Easter Monday Holiday)**

Today should be a 'holy day', but most people will treat it just as another day off work. Ask God to show you how to spend this 'holy day'.

### **Tuesday 18th**

BMS is the only mission organisation which relies solely on Baptist churches. The Director General is Rev David Kerrigan. Please pray for more people to come forward for short and long term service with BMS.

### **Wednesday 19th**

The Douglas family in Kathmandu, Nepal request prayer for health, safety on the roads and their ministry at KISC.

### **Thursday 20th**

Please pray for the other Baptist Churches around the town meeting to worship tomorrow: Eden, Stanwell, Llandough, and Dinas Powys. Pray for their ministry, worship, outreach and vision.

### **Friday 21st**

Haiti is one of those places the world forgot. Battered by hurricanes, afflicted by poverty, corruption and environmental degradation the problems are endless. Please pray for hope for the church and people of Haiti. Jesus came to save poor Haitians as much as rich Britons and Americans; pray for revival in Haiti.

### **Saturday 22nd**

Producing scriptures in 'heart languages' has long been recognised as a vital part of mission outreach. Please remember today efforts in translating indigenous languages in Brazil for native Indian people. Pray for patience, purpose and drive for those engaged in this task.

### **Sunday 23rd**

Please pray for the itinerant preachers who support other Baptist churches every Sunday.

### **Monday 24th**

Please pray for the needs of the women in the church. Pray for a lady whose needs you may know about, commend her to God.

### **Tuesday 25th**

Death comes at any time and sometimes the loneliness and mourning get forgotten in the rush of life. Remember some of the relatives of those in the church who passed away recently.

### **Wednesday 26th**

Over the next couple of months many young people will face exams, in school, college or university. Pray for any young people you know, not that they will pass the exam, but they will honour God in their lives whatever the outcome.

### **Thursday 27th**

Please bring a prayer topic dear to you today, a friend, family member, thanksgiving or request to God, whatever you need to lay before God.

### **Friday 28th**

Please pray for the ministry team that visits those who are housebound or sick. This is a much appreciated activity which means much to