

Friday 27th

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

Saturday 28th

There have been many Jehovah's Witnesses on the streets recently. Ask God to confound their schemes and deliver those they try to lead astray from their clutches and direct them to Jesus.

Sunday 29th

Please pray for the Sunday School and everyone involved. Give thanks for dedicated teachers who look after kids every week and do the preparations as well. Give thanks for Gaynor Haldenby who oversees the whole enterprise.

Monday 30th

Prison Fellowship tries to meet the needs of convicts inside prisons and help people who are released back into the community to become rehabilitated. Please pray for all who seek to rehabilitate ex-prisoners and those being helped.

Tuesday 31st

Please pray for someone in an overseas situation that you know about. Perhaps a situation no one else will pray for today.

Contributions can be sent to john.stansfield5@btinternet.com or left in the pigeon hole before 7th of the month.

Thought for the Month Relationships

Having good relationships is the key to a happy human life. People who enjoy loving and stable relationships to family and friends perform better at school, work, on the sports field and in life in general. People who have dysfunctional lives have many more problems, have fewer economic resources and are lower performers in many areas of life. Going from a stable state to a chaotic state is very easy and happens to many people for many reasons. Some of these can be: accidents, arguments, getting into bad company and so on, the list is endless. One of the most important aspects of Christian ministry is about relationships. The main emphasis is on the relationship each individual has with God. The next level of emphasis is with those relationships in the life of anyone person.

When a car breaks down it needs the attention of a garage mechanic to fix it. Similarly when relationships break down they need a bit or a lot of maintenance. Sometimes the owner can fix his own car, other times not. So with relationships, sometimes eating humble pie, an apology or making restitution can fix things. Sometimes it needs the intervention of a third party to act as mediator to bring parties together. If you know of relationships which are fractured or just plain bust, please pray this month for the parties involved, ask God to pour His balm on troubled relationships, and bring about healing.

tabernacle : penarth

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

prayer diary : july 2018

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart,
as working for the Lord."
Colossians 3:23

A few years ago I was working alongside someone doing some DIY. I was doing a bit of plastering for them, and when it came to a difficult corner they said to me, "Don't worry too much about that bit - nobody will see it because it will be behind a cupboard."

It reminded me of when I did a tour of one of the great British Cathedrals, and saw the back of a gargoyle up on the main roof. It was a very long way up from the floor, and quite difficult to make out the details, but it was beautifully finished - even on the back side where no-one would ever see the craftsmanship. The Dean of the Cathedral who was showing me around said, "The masons knew no human would ever see their work, but they were doing it for God. They even worked hard on the bits no-one would see."

What are the things in your life that are done in private which no-one will ever see but God? When you do your job, or serve the Lord, is it always done "as to the Lord"? It is sometimes easy to cut corners when no-one is watching, but we serve God and should endeavour to render Him our best at all times.

Roger Grafton

Sunday 1st

Many countries in the eastern half of Africa, from Egypt to South Africa have suffered years of drought. Ask God to restore sufficient rain to these places to alleviate famine and hunger.

Monday 2nd

Pray for the ladies who meet every week for Women's Hour and those who are invited to speak. Pray for them as they have a break over the summer.

Tuesday 3rd

Please pray for the outreach activities in Penarth Holiday Week which the church will support. Ask God to guide and bless those who plan and execute these events.

Wednesday 4th

Leadership Council meets today to consider the work of Tabs. Please pray for the proceedings.

Thursday 5th

Please pray for students and staff at the Baptist College. At the end of term ask God to bless those graduating to new ministries, and give the staff respite over the summer before the start of the new academic year.

Friday 6th

Pray today for young people, anyone you know who needs to know Jesus, those who are in difficulties, difficult teenagers, struggling young married people, anyone needing a touch from God.

Saturday 7th

Present a petition to God today for a fellowship you have visited on holiday, where you had a good or bad experience, pray for that fellowship today.

Sunday 8th

Pray for those who will be ministering in services in Tabs today. Pray for the preacher, the band and all the helpers, give thanks for those who volunteer their time, treasure and talent to serve Tabs in services.

Monday 9th

On an ordinary working day most people will not have much time for God. Pray for those who work, that their efforts may bring glory to God in their attitudes in the workplace.

Tuesday 10th

Home Mission is the way Baptists help each other to do ministry. The most prominent aspect of Home Mission is support for ministers in small churches. Money raised in Wales is mostly spent in Wales supporting ministry in deprived area. Please pray for all aspects of Home Mission.

Wednesday 11th

Today pray for those who minister at Arcot House. Think of the food distribution, Breakfast Club and those who need such services. Give thanks for those who volunteer week by week at the food bank, Pharaoh's Pantry.

Thursday 12th

Today in Northern Ireland is celebrated for the Battle of the Boyne. Pray for the leadership in Northern Ireland to get the power sharing government working and for them to cultivate cross community harmony and cooperation.

Friday 13th

It is very easy to remain insular and live in your own little world. Sometimes it is good to think about others and your relationships in general. Pray for those around you, particularly family and friends, (see piece at the end).

Saturday 14th

Today is Bastille Day, the national day of France. Pray for President Macron to be led by God in justice, equity and truth. Give him a vision for all the people of France.

Sunday 15th (St Swithun's Day)

Swithun was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester and subsequently patron saint of Winchester Cathedral. Born: Hampshire Died: 2 Jul 862 AD, Winchester Buried: Old Minster, Winchester. Today is St Swithun's day, which reminds of the rain. Pray for places where rain is a rare event, and for those people who do not have a source of clean drinking water. Pray for efforts to extend water availability by Christian and other organisations. Give thanks if you enjoy a tap in your house.

Monday 16th

Operation Mobilisation (OM) France exists to partner with the French church in training, discipleship and missions. It is meeting the great challenges in France through church planting, creative outreaches with local churches, youth ministry and a support team enabling other ministries to function well. Working closely with pioneer church planters, OM France year teams and short term campaigns have been focusing on the Loire Valley region of France for the last nine years.

Please pray for outreach by OM in France.

Tuesday 17th

Holiday Club – 'Guardians of Ancora' - will be held between 23rd – 27th July. Pray for Claire Grafton and all those involved.

Wednesday 18th

Some of the young people from Tabs will be going to Soul Survivor next month. 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.

Thursday 19th

Think about Christians who suffer for their faith. Ask God to uphold those who suffer in His name, and grant that they be good witnesses to Jesus in the face of persecution and death.

Friday 20th

Friday night is youth night in Tabs. Ask God to grant refreshment and rest on those who participate in leading this ministry over the holiday. Ask God to provide occupation for young people with time on their hands in the next few weeks.

Saturday 21st

Today please pray for the ministerial team at Tabs, Roger and Claire Grafton, Owen James and the elders. Ask God to give them wisdom as they meet the needs of the church and community.

Sunday 22nd

Please remember the itinerant preachers in Tabs who go week by week to support the ministry of other churches. Please pray for the churches where they go to lead services and the quality of that service.

Monday 23rd

Remember the other churches in Penarth, pray about their outreach, witness and ministry in this town.

Tuesday 24th

Please remember the work of the Gideons as they place scripture in different places. Pray for 'Blitz' campaigns which visit one place for a specified time with a large team and go to many places in the same locality.

Wednesday 25th

Praise God for the events held in Arcot House. Lift up to God the ongoing work with debt counselling, CAP job club and the setting up of a Debt Centre.

Thursday 26th

Pray for the Welsh Assembly and ask God to oversee the workings for the benefit of all the people of Wales.