

If you would like something included in the next prayer letter please contact:

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LET US PRAY

St Michael & All Angels, Macclesfield

April 2021

Opportunities at St Michael's to join with others in prayer

- Start the Week
Monday mornings 7.30-10.00am
- Contemplative prayer
Friday mornings at 9.10am, in the Savage Chapel
- Savage Chapel open for private prayer
Monday to Saturday 11.00am to 1.00pm

Northumbria Blessing:

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever He may send you.

May He guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.

May He bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders He has shown you.

May He bring you home
rejoicing once again into our doors.

**"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, He has caused us to be born again
to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the
dead" ~ 1 Peter 1:3**

This leaflet has been produced to assist us with our daily prayers; we hope you find it useful. Feel free to use as many, or as few, of the suggestions as you feel is right for you, and of course, add your own prayers.

*God of hope,
God-with-us,
God of all time and of every place:
may the earth be filled with the knowledge of you,
and may your light flow over the world like a covering,
bringing protection from the darkness
and from the evil that often frightens and wounds us. Amen*

Easter

Give thanks and praise to God for the new life and eternal salvation offered to us through his grace and mercy. Take some time away from the commercial aspect of the holiday with easter eggs, easter baskets, and the Easter bunny to reflect on the true meaning of Easter. Praying is a simple way to worship God and experience the joy and blessings of a grateful heart.

Thank you Lord, that by your wounds we are healed. Thank you that because of your huge sacrifice we can live free. Thank you that sin and death have been conquered, and that your power is everlasting. Amen.

Spring Time

Father, thank you for a fresh start today. Thank you for the reminder of "renewal" that spring represents to us in the earth you created. I am excited and expectant of your goodness in this spring season. Thank you, Father! Prepare me for all the new and wonderful things you have for my life. Help me to let go of the old things that hold me back, the things that do not bring me life, the things that keep me living in the past. I will cling to my new identity in Christ! Help me to keep "springing forward" in my journey with you!

Our Town:

Pray for the owners of businesses and shops in our town as they prepare to reopen on 12th April as Covid restrictions start to ease and welcome customers back. We pray that everyone continues to follow the rules and heeds the advice and guidance given to protect our NHS from being overwhelmed and to keep everyone safe. We pray for our hospice, hospital and care homes providing vital services in or community, looking after those who are sick, lonely, isolated and vulnerable. Give strength and continued compassion to the staff working in these care professions. Pray for our Hospital and Hospice Chaplains as they care for the patients, staff and families, for words of comfort and for protection. Pray that their presence on the wards, and with those at end of life will bring comfort to the living and the dying, and encouragement to the tired staff. Pray that any anxieties due to missed or cancelled appointments and operations would be eased.

Our World:

Pray for our European neighbours facing a third wave of Covid and renewed lockdown measures. Pray for those working within the health service sector. Pray that everyone who is offered the vaccine takes it and that sufficient vaccine supplies are in place across the world.

Our Church School: Bollinbrook CE(A) Primary:

Bollinbrook: *"a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit" Ps 1 v3*

We give thanks for the dedication and hard work of all the staff at our church school. We pray for rest, relaxation and renewal over the holidays for our whole school community as they take a well deserved break. Praise God for the work of the Headteacher, Lynne le Marinel, as the children wonder at the mystery of Easter through the Easter gardens they have created.

Pray for school children everywhere experiencing difficulties in their home and school environment, made worse in these times in which we coexist with the Covid virus. We pray that children and young people can find their voice to talk about how they are feeling and seek the help they need to improve their mental and emotional wellbeing. Pray for the Governing Board and the parent community.

For our Church:

We pray for all those responsible for planning our Easter services from Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday. Thank you that Easter is such a special time of year when we can celebrate with our church family, especially as we return to worship in our building again, but Lord, help us to always have you as our focus for whatever we do and say.

Pray for Rachel and Martin as they recruit and appoint the new Clergy PA. We pray that whoever is selected feels welcome and supported while learning the job and meeting new people. Pray they find fulfilment in carrying out this vital role in the life of our church.

Pray for our Clergy, Readers, Pastoral Worker and Pastoral Coordinators as they reach out to those in their care and for those in our churches who are reaching out in love and compassion to their neighbours. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel with our families, friends and neighbours.

Our Church Family:

We pray for all who mourn at this time whether it be for someone they have lost recently or at this time in previous years.

Be gentle with the one who walks with grief. If it is you, be gentle with yourself. Swiftly forgive, walk slowly, pause often. Take time, be gentle, as you walk with grief. Amen.

For the family and friends of those whose funerals took place last month: June Morris, John Johnson, Susan Gaskell, and Lynda Palazzo (1st April). Pray for our clergy and readers as they reach out to those who are grieving and for funeral directors at this difficult time.