

Have you considered joining with a small number of others (perhaps a prayer partner or forming a prayer triplet) to meet regularly to pray together?

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

- Contemplative prayer
Friday mornings at 9.10am, in the Savage Chapel
Also, **monthly on 1st Tuesday & 3rd Sunday evenings**
see noticesheet for venues
- Fortnightly prayer meeting
alternate Wednesdays, 10:30am in Savage Chapel
This month: Wednesday 13th and 27th March
- Monthly service of prayer for healing
first Friday, 12:30pm in Savage Chapel
Not this month: next service 1st March & 5th April
- House & fellowship groups, for prayer and more!
2nd & 4th Mondays of each month, 2pm-3.30pm at 10 Badger Rd
This month: Mondays 11th and 25th March

Lent Pilgrim Discussion Groups (during Lent)

Mondays (starting 11th March)

11am at St Michael's Church led by Revd Martin Stephens

8.00pm at 4 Mount Pleasant, Prestbury Road, Macclesfield led by David Mayers

Tuesdays (starting 12th March)

7.30pm at 12 Ryles Park Road, Macclesfield led by Sallie Bancroft

Please come along for fellowship, prayer and to explore the Lent Pilgrim book with others. The books are available to purchase at £2.99 from the Church Office or the Hope Centre.

If you would like something included in the next prayer letter

please contact a member of the clergy:

Martin Stephens	01625 426 110	teamrector.macc@gmail.com
Karen Brady	07419 820 864	revkarenbrady@gmail.com
Sue Reid	01625 421984	clergypa@gmail.com



LET US PRAY

St Michael & All Angels', Macclesfield

March 2019

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

(Philippians 4:5-7 NIV)

In prayer we seek to discern God's will for us individually and collectively and to align ourselves with His purpose for us in all aspects of our lives. To that end we bring our concerns, petitions and aspirations before Him in prayer and thank Him for all the blessings we enjoy, as well as asking His forgiveness for the times we have failed Him in things we have done, or not done.

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.

*O gracious and holy Father,
Give us wisdom to perceive you, diligence to seek you,
Patience to wait for you, eyes to behold you,
A heart to meditate upon you, and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

For the season of Lent:

For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. (1 Corinthians 1:25-30)

Ash Wednesday marks the start of the observation of Lent, a season of self-examination, study, and preparation for Easter. We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things and to give ourselves to him this Lent. Give your Church the courage to give up her preoccupation with herself and to give more time to your mission in the world. Give your world the courage to give up war, bitterness and hatred, and to seek peace. Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy in our families, neighbourhoods and communities. Give us the courage to give up our selfishness as we live for others, and to give time, care and comfort to those who are sick. We pray for our Lent Pilgrim discussion groups in church and in people's homes. Strengthen and encourage us to reach out to others we don't know well and start a conversation. Pray for wisdom in the keeping of Lent. May we all learn of Christ and witness to Christ in what we do.

Mothering Sunday:

"As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem." (Isaiah 66:13)

*Loving God,
Thank you for mums and children and for all the joy of family life.
Be with those who are grieving because they have no mother;
Be close to those who are struggling because they have no children;
Be near to those who are sad because they are far apart from those they love. Let your love be present in every home,
And help your church to have eyes to see and ears to hear the needs of all who come. Amen.*

Our Nation:

As we prepare to leave the European Union on 29th March 2019

*God, at this time of heavy responsibility,
as decisions about future relationships
with our neighbours in Europe are being taken,
we pray for our leaders:
that they will lead wisely;
that they will listen attentively;
that they will exercise grace;
and that they will know peace
in their deliberations. Amen.*

Our Church in the Community:

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Pray for our church fundraising project and our building in general and for all the fundraising volunteers involved in this project. We pray for guidance and vision as we discern what is to be included in our overall scheme. We pray that we can release gifts in the church, as people come together to make the project happen. Let us be bold, outward focussed and enthusiastic as we invite people on an amazing journey as God grows His kingdom in our town.

Our Church Family:

Pray for those who have or will be sharing special times in our church:

- Jon Ashley being baptised on 24th March
- Our wedding couples attending Marriage Preparation on 3rd March
- The families of Dennis Whitehead, Phyllis Chapman, Shabina Miah, Glenys Thomas, Joan Swindells, Muriel Farrow, Julie Jones & Carol Reilly whose funerals have recently or soon will be here.

*Father, you know our hearts and share our sorrows.
We are hurt by our parting from those whom we loved:
when we are angry at the loss we have sustained,
when we long for words of comfort,
yet find them hard to hear,
turn our grief to truer living,
our affliction to firmer hope
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Our Church Life:

.. that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith (Ephesians 4:12f)

We give thanks for all our volunteers in our church for the richness and diversity and gifts these individuals bring to the life of our church.

Everlasting God, strengthen and sustain all those who volunteer in our churches; that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people; and grant that together they may follow Jesus Christ, offering to you their gifts and talents; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

We pray for our Annual Meeting on 24th March as we review highlights of the past 12 months. As we meet and discuss the life and work of this part of your family we pray that you would be a part of our discussion. Remind us that we are called to be bearers of Christ's life, light, and love to all we meet. Help us to live in such a way that we draw closer to your vision for us and journey faithfully in your Way.