

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 notice sheet for venues
- Fortnightly prayer meeting
alternate Wednesdays, 10:30am in Savage Chapel
This month: Wednesday 8th and 22nd May
- Monthly service of prayer for healing
first Friday, 12:30pm in Savage Chapel
Next services: 3rd May and 7th June
- House & fellowship groups, for prayer and more!
2nd & 4th Mondays of each month, 2pm-3.30pm at 10 Badger Rd
This month: Monday 13th and 27th May
Fortnightly on Mondays, 7.30pm-9pm at The Rectory, 85 Beech Lane
This month: Monday 6th and 20th May
1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month, 8.00pm-9.30pm at various venues
This month: Thursday 2nd and 16th May – contact David B (431606) for venue

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.

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	admin@maccteam.org.uk



The Thorp Memorial window shows Mary, Elizabeth and Anna teaching and leading worship.

LET US PRAY

St Michael & All Angels', Macclesfield

May 2019

On 5th May we celebrate 50 years since the licencing of the first women readers in 1969. To be a Reader is to acknowledge and honour a vocation that often requires willing sacrificial giving of time and energy to the mission of God in the world and the preaching of the Gospel in the church. They bear the privilege and responsibility of the Bishop's licence. Women Readers led the way in women's ministry, having been recognised long before women priests. This anniversary gives opportunity to us all to acknowledge their contribution to ministry, and to thank them for it. They are our sisters in Christ, called and authorized to help the whole Church to participate in God's mission to the world.

Liz Shercliff, Director of Studies for Readers

For Spring:

*Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.*

*Oh, give us pleasure in the orchard white,
Like nothing else by day, like ghosts by night;
And make us happy in the happy bees,
The swarm dilating round the perfect trees.*

*And make us happy in the darting bird
That suddenly above the bees is heard,
The meteor that thrusts in with needle bill,
And off a blossom in mid air stands still.*

*For this is love and nothing else is love,
The which it is reserved for God above
To sanctify to what far ends He will,
But which it only needs that we fulfil.*

Robert Frost

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. During the 11 days from Ascension Day (May 30th) to Pentecost (June 9th) all who take part are asked to:

- Deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ
- Pray for God's spirit to work in the lives of those they know
- Come to realise that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer

See www.thykingdomcome.global for more details.

A Prayer for Marriage Week (May 13th-19th):

*God of love, thank you for marriage;
For shared laughter and tears; for strength in our weakness,
And enough for life each day.
Thank you for the gifts we bring each other,
And bless us as we grow together in love,
Through all that life brings through the years.
Amen.*

[Sandra Millar, Head of Life Events, The Church of England]

Our Church Family:

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

- Willow Rose Rottenbury, Eliza Maggie Atkins and Georgie Isabella Porter who will be baptised on 5th May.

Bless the parents as they celebrate the christening of their child. Watch over them so that they may be examples of your love, peace and joy to their child. Bless the godparents, as they commit to support their newly baptized god-child. Guide them as they offer help and support to that child, now and throughout their amazing journey of life. Bless the grandparents, as they see their family growing. Encourage them to pass on their wisdom with gentleness and truth, offering love and joy to the parents and their grandchild. Bless the family and friends, as their lives change and move on. Inspire them to be a listening presence, a calming influence and a source of joy, as they share new experiences together. Loving God, watch over and protect them all. Amen.

- The families of Alison Wilson and baby Alfie Oldfield whose funerals have recently or soon will be here.

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.

Pray for those getting married in our church:

- Harry Clements and Jen Rimmer on 4th May.

Bless this couple and their future life together. May they grow in love and faith. Amen

For families and children about to sit GCSE and A level exams:

For children and their families about to embark on GCSE and A level exams and for students and teachers everywhere at this 'testing' time .. we pray for them and ask for your peace and love upon them. Amen

Our Church Life:

After some wonderful and uplifting services during Lent and over Eastertide we give thanks for our Team Ministry and their families .. for Martin and Catherine Stephens, for Andy and Louise Williams, for Rob Wardle, Karen Brady and Sue Reid. We thank the Lord for their gifts and talents. Strengthen their faith and joy as members of our Team Ministry and help them guide the life of our church with understanding, wisdom, love and strength. Amen.