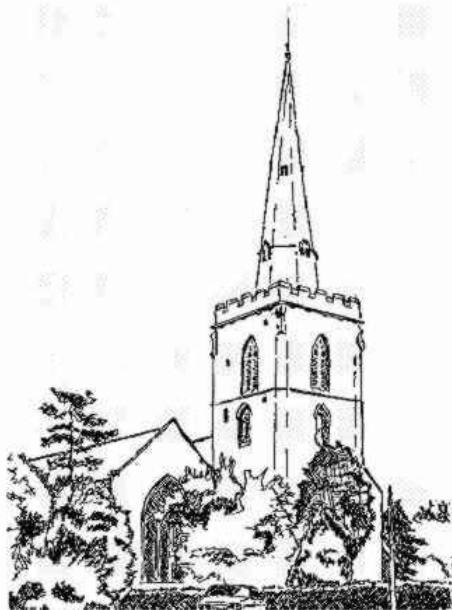


St Mark's Bilton
Monthly Prayer Cycle
March 2010



Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks the door will be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8

St. Mark's, Bilton

Monthly Prayer Cycle for March 2010

1st St David Gen 43:16-end

Let us pray today for St David, the patron saint of Wales. We give you thanks, Lord, for his inspiration and zeal to establish your church in Wales and spreading your word through that land.

2nd Chad Gen 44:1-17

On this day we remember Chad, first Bishop of Litchfield. Almighty God, from the first fruits of the English nation who turned to Christ, you called your servant Chad to be an evangelist and bishop of his own people. Help us to follow his peaceable nature, humble spirit and prayerful life. Amen.

3rd Conrad Close Gen 44:18-end

Let us visit Hillside today and pray for all who live in Conrad Close. May they find joy in your creation, Lord, and give each other mutual support through all the good times and disappointments of life.

4th Haiti Gen 45:1-15

Loving Lord, we pray for Haiti, a country stricken by poverty, storms and now by terrible earthquake. We pray for the people as they struggle to survive and reconstruct, whilst caring for the injured and grieving for lost loved ones.

5th Women's World Day of Prayer

Gen 45:16-end

The women of Cameroon have chosen the theme 'Let everything that has breath praise God' for this year's Women's World Day of Prayer today. We thank you, Father that women across the world unite and pray together: may they all be uplifted and encouraged.

6th Gospel Readings Gen 46:1-7, 28-end

Today, St Mark's Gospel will be read aloud in Church by members of the local community as part of the project to read a gospel in each of the Bilton Churches during Lent. We pray for Bilton Churches Together as we seek to make Christ known throughout our community.

7th St Giles, Bubbenhall

Ps 26,28

On this Sabbath Day let us pray for the congregation of our fellow-deanery church at St Giles, Bubbenhall and their vicar, Rev David Wintle. We thank you, Lord for their worship, work and mission in their part of your Kingdom

8th Commonwealth Day

Gen 47:1-27

Loving Lord, we pray for the peoples of the 53 nations of the Commonwealth. This year the aim is to emphasise the power of Science and Technology in the struggle to cope with health and environmental problems, and to inspire young people to take up this challenge.

9th Lent Lunch

Gen 47:28-end of 48

Today sees the middle one of the five St Mark's Lent Lunches on the Tuesdays of Lent. We thank you, Father God for these times of fellowship and reflection and pray that they may lead to small steps in further proclaiming your love and light in the world.

10th Housegroups Party

Gen 59:1-32

Today the (Yeast) Housegroups will be gathering for a party to complete the 'Vision Evangelism and Growth' study course. Saving Lord, we pray that we will have been inspired to lead your Church into growth, deepening faith and extending our mission.

11th Deanery Synod

Gen 49:33-end of 50

This evening the Rugby Deanery Synod meets at All Saints, Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Let us pray for all members of the synod, the Rural Dean, Martin Saxby and lay Chair Kevin Downham, and ask God to guide them in planning and ordering the affairs of the Deanery so that His will is followed in all the parishes.

12th World Glaucoma Week

Ex 1:1-14

Loving Jesus, in your time on Earth, you restored the sight of all who asked. Today we remember the 60 million people worldwide who suffer from glaucoma, praying particularly that all people have access to the early diagnosis and treatment that is essential to avoid blindness.

13th St Mark's Prayer Circle Ex 1:22-2:10

We give you thanks today, Lord, for the dedicated team at St Mark's who form the Prayer Circle and pray regularly for those whose names have been brought to them who are sick and suffering. We pray that their work may continue and that you will hear their prayers.

14th Mothering Sunday Ps 84, 85

Loving Jesus, as we praise you for the love and care of mothers, we thank you as you gather your people to you, and like a mother, forgive us our sins, drawing us away from hatred and judgement. In your love and tenderness, remake us as your children. Amen.

15th Henry Hinde Infant School Ex 2:11-22

Let us pray today for all the children and staff of Henry Hinde Infants School in Grenville Close. Show them all your love, Lord, that their light may shine in the world to give us all encouragement and confidence.

16th Science & Engineering Week Ex 2:23-3:20

As we remember that Rugby's early growth was based on its engineering industries, we pray that the young people of today will be inspired to make careers in science and engineering and so continue the challenge to improve the lives of the people of the World whilst reducing our impact on the planet.

17th St Patrick Ex 4:1-23

Let us give thanks today for St Patrick, missionary and patron saint of Ireland. We pray that we may trust God as Patrick did and recognise his power and presence in our lives in becoming aware of Christ around us and within us in all situations.

18th Dewar Close Ex 4:27-6:1

Loving Father, we pray for all the residents and staff of Dewar Close Care Home. May they feel the comfort of your Love supporting and encouraging them.

19th St Joseph Is 11:1-10

We give thanks today for the faithful obedience of Joseph in his love and care for Mary and the child Jesus. Give us grace, good Lord, to serve and trust you as he did.

20th Earth Day**Ex 7:8-end**

On this day of the Spring Equinox, as days become longer than nights, we praise you Lord for the signs of Spring, the promise of warm days to come, the sight of crops growing in the fields. Help each one of us to remember that we have a part to play in protecting the life of our planet.

21st Thomas Cranmer**Ps 111, 112**

Today we remember Tomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury in the troubled times of Henry VIII, who gave us the first English Book of Common Prayer, In our prayers we give thanks for his work and for his bravery as a martyr.

22nd World Water Day**Ex 8:1-19**

Loving Jesus, we give thanks that we have reliable and safe water piped into our homes. We pray today for the 1 billion people who have to rely on water that is not clean, and for those who must travel far each day and/or pay a high price for enough water to survive. We pray for all those working to make clean water available to all.

23rd Bilton Allotments**Ex 8:20-end**

Let us give thanks today for the many allotments established in Bilton. We pray that all who rent the allotments will enjoy their creative work and grow produce each year for their families and friends.

24th Oscar Romero**Ex 9:1-12**

On this day 30 years ago, Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador was assassinated by a gunman as he took Mass, because he refused to cease striving for economic and social justice for the poor. Help us, Lord, to be as determined to support the poor and oppressed.

25th The Annunciation**1 Sam 2:1-10**

We give thanks today for the grace and humility of the Virgin Mary who accepted your charge, given by an angel, to bear your son made flesh. We pray that we may join with Mary in obedience and love so that we too may serve you in whatever way we may receive your call.

26th Planter Close**Ex 10**

We pray today for all those who live in Planter Close (Cawston Grange). Loving Lord, we ask that they will enjoy good relationships

within their families and with their neighbours, and that your presence will be known among them.

27th Archbishops

Ex 11

Let us pray today for our Archbishops Rowan and John. Give them your guidance, Lord, in leading the Anglican Communion and resolving the difference that have developed so that your will is done and your Kingdom may come.

28th Palm Sunday

Ps 61, 62

Loving Father, as we remember how your Son chose to enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey, grant that we may follow his example of patience and humility, whilst being resolute in our faith and in following your purpose for us.

29th Holy Week

Lam 1:1-12:

As we move into Holy Week we pray, Lord, that we can focus on these next six days and better understand the pain of the Cross and the glory of the Resurrection.

30th Jewish Passover

Lam 3:1-18

On this day at the beginning of the Jewish festival of Passover, we pray for the countries of the 'Holy Land', that there may be understanding and tolerance between Israelis and Palestinians and an acceptance that compromises must be made if peace is to be achieved.

31st John Donne

Jer 11:18-20

We give thanks for the life and works of John Donne, priest and poet, who died this day in 1631. Though we may not entertain or teach as his poetry and sermons did, help us, Lord to sing with him of the wonders of your love.

(Bible reference abbreviations: Ex - Exodus; Gen – Genesis; Is - Isaiah; Lam – Lamentations; Ps – Psalms; Sam – Samuel)

Lord graciously hear us.

St Mark's Prayer Cycle
We welcome suggestions for prayer topics

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