

Wednesday 21... Today is the first session of our Lent Course, *Exploring the Void*. Pray for everyone who will attend for the next five weeks.

Thursday 22... Pray for the Church Army evangelists who support the elderly and that many more senior citizens will come to know Christ through them.

Friday 23... Pray for the plans for our APCM in April and for those considering standing for election this year. Pray especially for a new Treasurer as Ruth Morris steps down.

Saturday 24 ... Loretta Minghella, who has been Christian Aid's Chief Executive for seven years, has taken up the post as the Church of England's First Church Estates Commissioner. Pray for Amanda Khozi Mukwashi who will be the new CE in mid-April.

Sunday 25 ... 'Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen today that you and I cannot handle. Amen.'

Monday 26... Fairtrade Fortnight begins today. Last year in the UK there were sales of £1.65 billion fair-traded goods. Thank God that there is a huge variety of goods now available in the shops that we can buy to support small farmers in 74 developing countries across the world.

Tuesday 27... Pray for the teams serving breakfast this morning at the Night Shelter and thank God for all who have volunteered to help this year.

Wednesday 28... Pray and give thanks for the retired evangelists of the Church Army, who have shared Jesus' love with their communities and brought many to a living faith.

Please supply any prayer requests for March 2018 by Thursday 15 February to office@stmarysealing.org.uk



Church Army are a mission community of people whose aim is to transform lives and neighbourhoods throughout the UK and NI. They are a leading organisation in the training, equipping and deploying of evangelists, and by "Doing, Advocating, Resourcing and Enabling evangelism", to bring people to a living faith in Jesus Christ.

Mission Secretary: Tim Cheung

Please pray or thank God for...

Thursday 1... Pray for the Church Army's Sheffield Centre of Mission whose work includes outreach in the city centre and on tough housing estates.

Friday 2... Pray for this year's Lent Course, that many people will sign up to attend, and we will be stimulated and challenged as we engage with this together.

Saturday 3... Pray for Jennie Paynter's sister and sister-in-law, who are both having treatment following their operations for breast cancer. Pray for them to get through the treatments and be able to resume their lives again.

Sunday 4... Pray for SAT-7's programme 'Reforming.' Each episode features a testimony from a Christian living with disability. Disability is often met with hostility. Pray for a profound attitude shift in the Middle East Region and for more people to find their identity in Christ rather than in the judgements of those around them.

Monday 5... Pray for our CMS Mission Partners, Ben and Katy Ray, whilst they are on leave in this country. Pray for restoration and reflection as they visit friends, family and link churches. They are planning to visit St Mary's on 18 March.

Tuesday 6... Pray for the CAP Money Course which concludes today. Pray for all those who have taken part, that it will make a lasting difference to how they manage their finances.

Wednesday 7... Many people in our society are lonely and isolated, with no-one to talk to or share their experiences with. Thank God for Polygonian Friends, sharing lunch together each Wednesday. Pray for the team making and serving the food.

Thursday 8... Pray for Interserve who are needing a Christian primary school teacher to go to Cambodia, and also people to work among the refugees in Western Asia, who would be prepared to learn Arabic.

Friday 9... Pray for the family and friends of Janet Salter, as we gather for her funeral today.

Saturday 10... Give thanks for *Grace*, our alternative worship community, which meets this evening.

Sunday 11... Pray for the COSMOS box opening, which takes place today for Open Doors' Building Hope campaign.

Monday 12... Pray for all those we know who have been ill recently, especially those receiving treatment or waiting for operations.

Tuesday 13... Pray for the 1.8 million displaced people in Nigeria, a country often forgotten. Christian Aid partners are currently supporting 200,000 people fleeing the violence of Boko Haram in Borno state in northeast Nigeria, providing clean water and food together with sanitation and hygiene facilities.

Wednesday 14... Ash Wednesday. As we begin Lent together, pray for our service tonight, for quiet, reflection, penitence and receiving of Ashes.

Thursday 15... Bradford Centre of Mission is home to Church Army's Sorted project, a fresh expression of church for young people. Pray for the 150 young people who take part in Sorted and give thanks for the centre's volunteers.

Friday 16... Thank God for the growing awareness of the problem of plastic to our environment, and for the many initiatives to reduce its use.

Saturday 17... Praise God for SAT-7's programmes such as 'Violence in School' which can begin to tackle ingrained prejudices and harmful practices.

Sunday 18... Interserve: We give thanks that, with great difficulty, Elspeth managed to obtain a short visa to visit her family for Christmas and attend her parents' Golden Wedding celebration. We continue to pray that longer visas will be granted to her and her European colleagues serving in South Asia.

Monday 19... Ealing Churches Winter Night Shelter begins at St Mary's tonight. Pray for all 14 guests who will be coming, as they get used to a new venue.

Tuesday 20... Pray for Her Majesty The Queen, who has been patron of Church Army for 60 years.