

Thu 25... Pray for God's perfect peace, mercy, justice and love to reign in Gaza and Israel and across the Holy Land.

Fri 26... Pray for Steve as he prepares to be licenced as Rector in his new parish.

Sat 27... *CAP:* We pray for Nigel Davidson from CAP, who will be speaking at the St Mary's service on 28th January, that he will help us understand how we can support those in debt and poverty locally.

Sun 28... Today we have a speaker from Christians Against Poverty, a Christian debt counselling service. Many people have overstretched themselves with spending at Christmas and are now struggling to make ends meet. Thank God for CAP and the work they do.

Mon 29... *CMS Mission partners:* Pray that Ben and Katy will be able to develop a hub for design and business development for people with disabilities. Also pray that they will find a space for a church to gather on Sundays.

Tue 30... *CAP:* We pray for this government, that they will show compassion in raising social security benefits (mainly Universal Credit) to a level where it provides a basic income covering food and heating costs.

Wed 31... Tonight Steve is Licensed as Rector of Lyddington and Wanborough, and Bishopstone with Hinton Parva. This is the day when he legally ceases to be our Vicar. Pray for Steve and Jennie, and ourselves, as we begin a new phase of church life.

Please supply any prayer requests for February 2024 by Wednesday 24th January 2024 to clarehawkes000@gmail.com



January 2024

CAP - Christians Against Poverty

Transformed lives. Thriving churches. An end to UK poverty. This is the world we want to see.

Across the UK, millions of people are experiencing a poverty crisis, leaving them feeling trapped, desolate and abandoned. We are Christians Against Poverty. We cannot accept a society where poverty exists.

So we take action. And we also experience the daily privilege of seeing people discover hope as they begin to work with CAP and their local church. Tens of thousands of lives have been positively impacted through the powerful combination of practical help, restorative church communities and Jesus' love.

Please pray or thank God for...

Mon 1... "I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. He replied, Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God, That shall be better than light and safer than a known way"

Tue 2... *CAP:* We pray for Mark Dishley, the local CAP Debt Centre Manager, based in Acton, for empathy and compassion as he makes the first face to face meetings with CAP clients in the area, and helps them plan a route to becoming debt-free.

Wed 3... *Church Army:* Pray for evangelists starting new projects, that they are guided by the Holy Spirit and will feel God's love and encouragement in all they do.

Thu 4... *Ukraine:* Alison Giblett, CMS Mission partner in Ukraine asks for prayer for all who have formed strong relationships with God, that they will continue to grow in their faith, and form new churches in their villages.

Fri 5... "I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown. He replied, Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God, That shall be better than light and safer than a known way"

Sat 6... Today we have a prayer breakfast, as we pray for our church during the Interregnum. Please join us!

Sun 7... Steve and Jennie's last day. Thank God for them and pray that we may enjoy our celebration of their ministry with us for the last 25 years.

Mon 8... The Food Cupboard opens today for the first time since before Christmas. Thank God for the new volunteers who are joining the team.

Tue 9... There is a staff meeting this morning. Pray for a smooth move for Steve and Jennie as they pack for the journey to Wanborough. Polygonian Friends resumes today.

Wed 10... *CAP:* We pray for Julia Sarson and her team as they run the local CAP Job Club, based at St Paul's Church Ridley Avenue, that they will help clients gain the skills and confidence they need to obtain work.

Thu 11... The bible reminds us that the whole earth belongs to God. Recognising this, how can we exercise restraint and fulfil our God-given responsibilities towards his world? Are there practical steps each of us can make this year?

Fri 12... *Church Army:* Pray for the CA's Research Team for sensitivity and wisdom as they do internal research to help Church Army evaluate and learn from its work.

Sat 13... *Interserve:* pray for the Indian teachers attending Dyslexia and SEN courses on and off-line, and for Christine's guidance and instruction.

Sun 14... Pray for Wai Meng and Alex leading and preaching today, and Cosmos as they begin a new term.

Mon 15... Give thanks that SAT7 is broadcasting messages of peace, unity, and faith across the Middle East region, giving hope to the people in the midst of all the suffering and pain.

Tue 16... Our monthly Prayer meeting is tonight, and will now be on the THIRD Tuesday of every month this year. As well as praying for St. Mary's, we shall be praying for our community and the needs of the world. "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you".

Wed 17... Pray for the progress of the Ukrainian army to regain their territory, and an end to the war.

Thu 18... Music is such an important part of our worship together on Sundays. Pray that we may increase our team of musicians, we especially need those who play keyboard. Could this be you?

Fri 19... Ben and Katy Ray our CMS Mission partners in Tanzania have left Neema Crafts and are now working with SAFI in Usa River. SAFI is working to promote livelihoods for people with disabilities in Tanzania. Pray that God will provide the resources and connections to do this work.

Sat 20... Pray for all those accessing a food bank this January. Pray for donations and all who volunteer.

Sun 21... Pray for Wai Meng and Jonny Baker leading and preaching today. As this is the third Sunday, there will no longer be an evening service.

Mon 22... *Church Army:* Pray for the new team members recently joining the Research team, that they will settle in and be valuable contributors to the work.

Tue 23... Pray for our church as we prepare for a new phase in church life.

Wed 24... Pray for our Warden Ruth, Secretary Wei Hei and the whole PCC as it prepares necessary paperwork ahead of our meeting with the Archdeacon next month. Pray for Polygonian Friends and thank God for the opportunity this gives for people to meet and eat together. Pray for those for whom loneliness is a daily reality.