St Mary, Greenhithe

Thank God that we are now able to plan for our roof and masonry repairs to start this spring. Please pray He will lead and guide all those involved in the final planning stages and that the shortfall in our finances will be supplied when needed.

Pray for God's blessing on St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe, as they host joint services whilst St Mary's is closed and for God to protect our congregation, numerically, until we are able to meet again at Greenhithe.

For all Charlie and Gareth Lloyd-Evans, Mandy and Jen, Ben and Rod and the PCC.

St Peter & St Paul, Milton

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for February and March *For Graham and Linda Herbert and the PCC.*

St Peter and St Paul, Shorne

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for February and March. *For Ted and Sylvie Hurst and the PCC*

St Peter and St Paul, Swanscombe

We pray for the ongoing ministry of Rev Charlie, Rev Jean, our LLM's Mandy & Jennie. We pray that with God's help we are able to arrange for the repair of our font. We ask for God's blessing on our churchwardens, organist, members of the choir and for all who are learning to ring the bells at St Peter & St Paul's.

For Charlie and Gareth Lloyd-Evans, Jean Budgen, Church Wardens and the PCC.

Heavenly Father,

Bless each parish, church and school in our Gravesend Deanery to build us up for the blessing of this area and for your glory. Help our leaders, ordained and lay, and help us all to work together and know the fruit of your Holy Spirit in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gravesham Street and School Pastors

Pray for the Friday and Saturday night patrols; for School Pastors. Pray for Steve and Ruth in their roles as Coordinators; for the Management Team and Jordan Meade as Chair. We all look to God for strength and guidance and pray for those patrols where members have been unwell, for healing and strength and for more volunteers to come forward.

Prayers for the **April and May 2023** edition of the Gravesend Deanery Pray-ers leaflet **no later than 9am, Monday 20th March please** to:

Marion Fielder-White fwmarionfw@gmail.com 01474 823381

Thanksgivings and Prayers Gravesend Deanery



February and March 2023

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ......Colossians 4v2-3

A message for all of us from Revd Nigel Bourne, Area Dean Dear friends.

'I am the Lord's servant. May it be to me as you have said'.

In reflecting on the life and ministry of Jesus, February and March take us from the Presentation of Christ as an infant, (back a bit) via the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary, on to the eve of Passiontide. That's a lot to take in! In addition, as individuals, as churches and as a nation (and world) there will be ups, downs and uncertainties to navigate. Prayer can sometimes help us to understand, but even more significantly, somehow we (and others) are changed and possibilities open. Both the prayer itself and the possibilities which follow bring glory to God and a measure of healing to the brokenness and confusion that often surrounds and threatens to overwhelm - the awesome beauty and majesty of God's mission in Christ can break in and energise and direct us afresh. I think Mary must have been a great pray-er! Thank you for this ministry of prayer as it has its effect in our Deanery.

Lord as we seek to serve you, may the ministry of Jesus ever inspire us and may each of us echo the faithfulness of Joseph and Mary. In Jesus' name. Amen

Pray for all the schools, playgroups and nurseries in the Deanery; for those attending, for staff, parents and carers and for Governors.

St Aidan, Gravesend

Please pray for "Warm Spaces" opening up around the town offering companionship, hot drinks and snacks. For those struggling to 'make ends meet' For those existing in inadequate housing - for 'Sanctuary' and the House of Mercy. For the Ash Wednesday Christian Aid Bread & Cheese Lunch at St George's Hall For Lenten observance, Bible studies and courses For Michael and Amy Payne and the PCC

All Saints, Perry Street

Pray for attendance to increase on Sundays, at our Saturday Cuppa, and Messy Church third and last Saturday monthly and for our Wednesday toddler group.

Pray for all who are finding it hard to manage at budget at this time and are in need of help.

Pray for all who are sick, for the recently departed and for all who mourn. *For Fr Clive Jones and Fr Simon Walker, Wardens and PCC.*

St John, Higham with Merston

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for February and March *For Fr Clive, Churchwardens and PCC*

Huggens College, Northfleet

We give thanks for the community of the College, the residents of the thirty bungalows, the members of staff and their families, and the College Trustees.

Pray for our coming together for social events and activities.

For anxieties we share about the rising cost of living and the pressures that are on health care providers.

For the College Chapel, its regular pattern of daily worship and the fellowship that flows from this. For services in Lent and Passiontide.

For College Chaplain Philip Davies, and for Julia Davies and their family.

Holy Family, Gravesend

For our congregation and parish; for all the plans for February and March. For Ted and Sylvie Hurst; Church Wardens Ruth and Sylvie and the PCC

St Margaret, Ifield

Give thanks for the volunteers who are maintaining our churchyard during these winter months

Pray for all who will be involved in arrangements concerning ministry in our three parishes until April.

For Ted and Sylvie Hurst, Chris Benson and the PCC and Carey Laughland

St Botolph, Northfleet

Give thanks for our faithful and ever-growing congregation, for all the love and support which surrounds us in our lives, our services and events, where we feel God's Spirit in the wake of Fr Cyril's death.

For a Holy Lent, as we focus on 'Dust and Glory', 40 Lenten Reflections.

For our plans for Messy Church on 12th March at St Botolph's Hall.

Pray for those struggling with bereavement, winter days, worries about bills and the future; that they may find hope.

For Church Wardens Pauline and Wendy and the PCC

St Mark, Rosherville

We still mourn the loss of Fr Cyril, but as we move forward from the Christmas message of hope, we put our faith and trust in God to help us find a new priest. We pray for Fr Neil as he continues to conduct our services and support us. We also pray for local families who are struggling to heat their homes and feed themselves. We ask God to bless our weekly Warm Welcome.

For Church Wardens Keith and Sarah and the PCC

Christ Church, Milton

As we approach the season of Lent, pray for us as we prepare to walk as one people with our Lord on the road to the cross.

Pray for those among us who may feel that they are being called to ordained or lay ministry. May our Heavenly Father affirm his will for them and show them the way forward. Give thanks for our choir and their contribution to our worship and pray for new members to join them

For Andrew and Alison Davey, Jacqueline Littlewood, Wardens and the PCC

St George, Gravesend

Continued prayers for those on our deanery course.

Bless our work in local residential homes, and we pray for all residents and staff For our local schools and a good half-term break

We ask for God's blessings upon a Holy and fruitful Lent and our preparations for Easter. Prayers for our Annual Gift Day. For our Curate, Fr Mark and his post-ordination training and study residential

For those being baptised and for their parents and Godparents

Jim and Sarah Fletcher, Mark and Natalie Edwards, Emma Oliver, Ministry Team and PCC

St Mary, Chalk

Give thanks for Christmas Eve nativity service; may the "Great Invitation" be accepted. Pray for our Vision for the coming 5 years and Rededication day on 26th March. For the Barn project decision to be taken later this year; for Loaves and Fishes events to bring more families into church life and that that we may all grow in faith through Lent. Pray for Mark and Carol on placement with us. Give thanks for the beauty of the mature woodland area beside the church.

For Nigel & Sue Bourne, and for the PCC, for Nigel in his role as Area Dean.

St Mary, Wrotham Road

Give thanks for all the new people who came to our Church over Christmas, we pray they felt God's touch in their lives.

Pray for our very successful Messy Church

We give thanks for all our new mums, and dads who come to our Toddler Group.

We pray for all the things we have planned for our Church this year and pray people from the new estate will join our congregation.

For Trudi and Shaun Oliver and the PCC