

MONDAY 25 APRIL In parts of India there has been a rising number of **attacks** by Hindu extremists on **Christian worship services & prayer meetings**. Please pray that the moderate & peaceable elements in Indian society will prevail over the hostility of the militants; & that Christians will be able to attend prayer & worship without fear.

TUESDAY 26 APRIL Because of civil war in Ethiopia, **children are dying of starvation** in hospital in Mekelle, the regional capital of Tigray, where most of the fighting is taking place. Please ask God to bring the violence to an end & pray that humanitarian aid will be given safe passage so that food reaches people in desperate need.

WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL

Lord, forgive me my frequent acts of faithlessness, the anxieties that sometimes cripple my life and the sense of hopelessness that gets me down.

Forgive my fear, my weakness, my hard-heartedness and self-centredness.

Take hold of my life all over again, make me a source of hope, joy and confidence, and by your Spirit enable me to be a beacon of your light and love.
AMEN

[Adapted from a prayer by David Clowes]

THURSDAY 28 APRIL Let's thank God for the **Care Van**, run by *Bethany Christian Trust* in Glasgow, Edinburgh & now also Perth to help homeless people who have fallen through the existing networks of support. Please pray that this service will always have all the resources it needs.

FRIDAY 29 APRIL *Bethany* ask us to pray for staff & residents at **Anne Hope House**, a residential community for women who have been homeless. Please also remember new residents as they move into the community &

former residents as they transition into living in their own accommodation.

SATURDAY 30 APRIL The **Missionary Aviation Fellowship (M.A.F.)** ask us to pray that God opens the door for them to work with more Non-Governmental Organisations in **southern Madagascar**. Doing so would enable M.A.F. to change lives by delivering medicines & food to children & adults currently suffering from acute malnutrition.

SUNDAY 31 APRIL When **medical emergencies or natural disasters** occur in the Third World, essential transport is often not available locally. Please pray that whenever tragedy strikes, **MAF** is able to respond.

Please use as many of these suggestions as you can, and please let me know if there is anyone or anything you would like to see included in future months. Bill (billandmags@talktalk.net or 672347).

St Mungo's Church, Penicuik Prayer Prompts April 2022

Welcome to the April issue of St Mungo's Prayer Prompts - some things you might want to thank God for, speak to Him about or ask Him for.

MONDAY 4 APRIL Let's continue to plead with God to bring peace where thousands of individuals are dying, many more have had their lives uprooted & whole communities are being destroyed by needless wars - in **Ukraine, Syria, Yemen, Ethiopia** & elsewhere.

TUESDAY 5 APRIL Let's thank God for the establishment of **Renew 26** in our area - & also pray that the recent national "hard launch" will lead to the setting up of local groups all over Scotland.

WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL Tomorrow sees the birth of the **Penicuik Trinity Community Church**. Let's thank God for bringing us together in this visible way, & let's keep our eyes fixed on Him as He shows us bit by bit how He wants His church in this area to be.

THURSDAY 7 APRIL

***Father God,**
may we allow Your Spirit
to settle upon us,
leading us from old ways
to new hopes,
assured that in every ending
there is the opportunity
to explore something new of God.*
AMEN

[Pray Now]

FRIDAY 8 APRIL Let's thank God for initiatives in the Third World to respond to climate change, such as the establishment of local **market gardens in Mali**, bringing stability to families previously on the brink of starvation.

Please pray that opportunities & training will always be available for those who need them.

SATURDAY 9 APRIL

Lord God, help us to hear the cries of people around the world still suffering from the injustice of poverty, exploitation and abuse.

May we be the ones to bring them out of the darkness of suffering into the light.

In Jesus' name,

AMEN

[From a prayer by Tearfund]

SUNDAY 10 APRIL Life is dire for most people in **Afghanistan**. *Tearfund* ask us to pray for adequate rapid short-term relief; for wisdom & strategy for long-term recovery; & for peace in the whole country.

MONDAY 11 APRIL *Crossreach* ask us to pray for the safety of staff & residents at **Balmedie House**, a care home for older people in Aberdeenshire. Please remember new residents as they settle into their new home, & those who have lived there for a while as they adjust to changes around them.

TUESDAY 12 APRIL Let's thank God for the **Crossreach Counselling Services North & West** - for all the children, young people & their parents/carers who are distressed & struggling; for the counsellors, who have had to learn new skills to offer safe support over the phone; & for the Business Support team & the Clinical Staff teams as they face complex challenges in their daily work.

WEDNESDAY 13 APRIL Last week the final legal restrictions imposed in Scotland because of **covid** were due to be lifted. But let's still pray for wisdom for authorities as they continue to monitor the situation & for all of us as we try to live responsibly on a daily basis.

THURSDAY 14 APRIL Let's continue to thank God for all the **local foodbanks**, & pray that, as prices rise much faster than incomes in the coming months, they will continue to have enough resources to support all the people who come to them for help.

FRIDAY 15 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY

Lord Jesus Christ, whoever we are, whatever we've done, we know it's never too late to respond to your love.

For you are always ready to forgive, to pick up the pieces of our lives and help us start again.

You made this possible when you chose to die in our place on the cross. Your love is so great that you were willing to do that even for me.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, that you offer me your help and mercy today and every day.

AMEN

[Based on a prayer by Nick Fawcett]

SATURDAY 16 APRIL Let's thank God for **Penicuik Churches Together (PCT)** & **Kirk in Penicuik (KIP** - the local Church of Scotland congregations) for the way they show us - & the community round about us - that despite historical differences we are one Church, serving one Lord & proclaiming one Gospel.

SUNDAY 17 APRIL EASTER DAY

Lord, the resurrection of Your Son has given us new life and renewed hope.

Help us now to live as new people.

Grant us wisdom to know what we must do, the will to want to do it, the courage to undertake it, the perseverance to continue to do it, and the strength to complete it.

AMEN

[New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book]

MONDAY 18 APRIL Please pray for God's protection over **Afghan Christians** who were unable to get out of Afghanistan when the Taliban took power & are now moving from one hiding-place to another in fear of their lives. Please pray too that outside contacts will be able to get practical aid to them.

TUESDAY 19 APRIL **Scripture Union Scotland (S.U.)** ask us to pray for the re-starting of their **events & activities**, including a residential weekend at Lendrick Muir for P5-P7 children from 13-15 May.

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL **S.U.** locally ask us to pray that volunteers in East & Midlothian will soon be able to return to schools & **re-start S.U. groups**, & that the children who come along will discover for themselves who Jesus is.

THURSDAY 21 APRIL The **Leprosy Mission (TLM)** ask us to pray for their work in **Nepal**, including the **HEAL Nepal** project which brings cutting-edge treatment & care to highly endemic districts in the south of the country.

FRIDAY 22 APRIL **TLM Nepal** also ask us to remember the **FOUND** project, which supports people with disabilities to find employment. Please pray that the scheme will attract business owners & employers.

SATURDAY 23 APRIL In February, 2021 the military seized power in **Myanmar** & deposed the elected government. Since then hundreds of unarmed citizens have been killed by the army & hundreds more imprisoned. *Tearfund* ask us to pray for "safety, protection, courage and hope for the future - for us and those we serve", & for a restoration of peace & democracy.

SUNDAY 24 APRIL Let's thank God for **Love Russia**, & pray for its essential **work with vulnerable people** there - orphanage leavers, mums in crisis, at-risk children, adults with learning difficulties and/or disabilities & those coping with extreme poverty.