

Churches Together in Broadstone Prayer Diary

October – November 2021

Week beginning Sunday 3rd October: Please may we begin this next 2 months of prayer by praying for those with no faith, for those on the fringe of faith and for those who are seeking faith and pray that God the Father will touch them, change them and heal them, and that they will know they have met the living God.

Week beginning Sunday 10th October: Today CTIB will host a service of '*Lament, Loss and Hope*' at the Methodist Church in Broadstone. It is a safe space where the people from our community may come and lament those who have died during the last 18 months. But also, where we can lament whatever, we feel we have lost during Covid-19 and lockdown. The service ends with '*hope*', can we pray for those who are without hope and ask that the love of Christ bring them healing and hope.

Week beginning Sunday 17th October: In this coming week let us give thanks for the community in which we live; for the shops that are all now open, for groups coming together again, for the three '*Music and Market Saturdays*' we have enjoyed, for the sense of community they have promoted and the Council that initiated the event. May we take time each day this week to in the words of the psalmist, '*...praise the Lord and not forget the good things He does for me*' **Psalm 103:2**

Week beginning Sunday 24th October: Shall we dedicate this week of prayer to all those involved in education, the new minister of education, teachers, governors, may they be wonderful roll models for our children and may they demonstrate their commitment to sharing truth and knowledge. Shall we also pray for all those being taught, may learning for them become a thrilling and exciting adventure.

Week beginning Sunday 31st October: From the 1st to the 12th of November the UK together with partners Italy, will host COP26 (*Conference of the Parties*) in Glasgow. For nearly 3 decades the UN has been bringing together almost every country on earth for global climate summits. In that time climate change has gone from being a fringe issue to a global priority. During the 12 days of COP26 let us pray for our planet and the people most at risk from climate disasters, let us pray for our politicians and leaders attending the conference, and tell them that we want a cleaner, greener and fairer future for our planet. And may we commit to take action to reduce our church's carbon footprint.

Week beginning Sunday 7th November: In this week of remembrance let us pray for those who work for peace. Let us pray urgently for world peace and for those seeking ways to build bridges of hope. During this week of Remembrance pray that the Holy Spirit will work in all our hearts and minds and wills and give us a new longing to live at peace with each other and with God.

Week beginning Sunday 14th November: This week let us focus on 'home', those with no home, those homes with only one parent, for homes under strain, for those whose home life is stained by disappointment and despair. Then, let us give thanks for our homes and our place in God's family, the church.

Week beginning Sunday 21st November: We pray for CTIB 'Peace and Justice Group', that they would have courage to challenge injustice wherever it is found, to battle on behalf of those who are oppressed, and carry the burdens of those who are weighed down. The Lord who hears our prayers thank you for all those involved in the Peace and Justice Group, please give them godly wisdom, discernment, and uncommon favour. ***'This is what the Lord says to Zerubbabel: It is not by force nor by strength, but by My Spirit, says the Lord of Heaven's Armies' (Zechariah 4:6).***

Week beginning Sunday 28th November: Today is the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is a period of 4 weeks set aside by the Church in which we prepare for the coming of the King of Kings Jesus Christ. In some of our churches the colour of the cloth used on the altar will change from green to purple, the colour of royalty. In Godly Play on the first Sunday of Advent we remember the prophets who pointed the people to Bethlehem. The prophets themselves did not know what would happen in Bethlehem but knew it would be very important. In this first week of Advent let us remember and give thanks for those who pointed us to Jesus Christ and helped us build strong foundations for our faith.

Prepared by Broadstone Methodist Church.