

## Week 4, 19<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April

"When Christ died, He died for you individually just as much as if you'd been the only man in the world." " I think that if God forgives us we must forgive ourselves. Otherwise, it is almost like setting up ourselves as a higher tribunal than Him. " C S Lewis.

This week we pray for the parishes of Enmore and Goathurst.

- We pray for school staff and children as they return to school for the summer term. We remember colleges, nurseries, preschools and childminders and pray that they are a place of safety, enjoyment and learning.
- This week we pray for Elizabeth our Queen as she celebrates her birthday on 21st. We thank her for her service.
- St. George, the patron saint of England and William Shakespeare's birth are celebrated on 23rd. We pray for our country and all who live here. Thank you that we can worship freely and can be inspired by our faith.
- When we walk through the countryside, we remember those unable to enjoy the spring air on their faces or the sounds all around us.
- We pray for all who are trapped in situations beyond their control. Please Heavenly Father may they feel Your presence and be comforted. Guide us we pray to ways we can help. In Jesus name. Amen.

## Quantock Villages Benefice

### Prayer Diary – April 2021



## **Week 1, 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> April**

**"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."** John 3 :16

**Alleluia, Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

This week we pray for the whole benefice.

- In Holy Week we pray that we will continue to grow in faith. Father, help us to remember Christ's sacrifice and celebrate His resurrection, this week and always.
- During the school holiday, let us pray for all families, large or small.
- It is World Autism Awareness week. We remember that for some families life is not easy and their experiences may be different to ours. Please help us in our understanding.
- We pray for our clergy past and present and to all involved in providing pastoral care. We thank them for their service and pray that they are encouraged as we all continue to learn about different ways to 'be church.'
- We lift up Bishop Peter as he considers his plans for the future and we pray for his continued recovery.

## **Week 2, 5<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April**

**"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship."**

Romans 12 :1 NIV

This week we pray for the parishes of Spaxton and Nether Stowey.

- We pray for the Spring Harvest events that are online this year.
- Let us pray for our village shops. Thank you for those who run them and all they have done during the pandemic to keep supplying our community.

- We pray for and are thankful for all involved in food distribution. From food merchants, farmers and delivery drivers to school canteens and food banks.
- Lord help us to remember communities around the world where food and water is not plentiful.
- In Bowel Cancer Awareness month we pray for all who are unwell. For those who are waiting for test results, hospital appointments etc. And for all facing life changing circumstances.

## **Week 3, 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**"Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."** Matthew 6:34

This week we pray for the parishes of Aisholt and Over Stowey.

- Let us pray for all suffering from stress or anxiety. As we come out of lockdown many will find it difficult to adjust. Lord help us to be gentle with ourselves and others during this time.
- A year after lockdown memories of loss will be magnified by first anniversaries. Loss for families and friends; loss of businesses and incomes; loss of opportunities and education. We have all changed through this past year but we thank God that He is unchanging in His steadfast love for each one of us. Help us to be his hands and feet as witnesses to His love.
- Thank you, Heavenly Father, for the continued commitment of all in the NHS.
- We give thanks for the joy of wildlife and family pets. We pray for veterinarians, animal sanctuaries and all who provide care and protection for God's creatures.