

Tue 24th The Irish Proverb tells us that "a friend is like a four leafed clover - hard to find and lucky to have". How often in our day to day lives are we glad of the support of friends? May God richly bless all our friends and help us to let them know we appreciate them.

Wed 25th Teach us, O Lord, during this season of Lent, to remember Your great love to us and all that You have suffered for our sakes. Encourage us to learn more about You and to love You more deeply. Make us strong to overcome temptation that may come our way, and help us to serve You to the best of our ability.

Thu 26th Compassionate God, we bring before You all the people who live in countries still torn by war. Too many innocent children are suffering or dying because of the horrors of war. We pray for the political leaders to find a peaceful solution to end the various conflicts.

Fri 27th Father we pray for those who don't know You - help us to share the gospel and lead others to Christ. Through your Holy Spirit, please give us the words to say when we speak to them.

Sat 28th It has been a short month and perhaps March seems to arrive too quickly! Give thanks that Jesus has walked with us through this past month, and trust Him for the month ahead. His promise never to leave us or forsake us is sure! (*Joshua 1.5*).

We pray for the new Archbishop of Canterbury as she prepares to start a new ministry next month.

Thank you for reading and using our prayer diary, we hope you found it helpful. We would welcome your feedback. If there is any topic you would like included in a future diary, please telephone the Church Office on 609513, or call in between 10 -12 noon Monday to Friday

The Parish of St Andrew's, Reading Street

Prayer Diary

February 2026

Prayer lies at the heart of the Christian life.

God promises to hear us and to respond when we pray.

Sun 1st We ask Your blessing, Father, on all those who have suffered loss. It is difficult to believe that the misery will ease when we know the memories will always be there. We especially pray for Clive Jackson's family and Richard Taylor's family, as they mourn their loss. Help them to face each day with fortitude and grant them Your strength and peace as they begin to rebuild a different life.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to fill each person helping at our services today, and those attending. Pray for good health and for safety in travel in these cold winter weeks. Pray for Michael as he shares God's word about the Presentation of Christ in the Temple this morning.

Mon 2nd We pray for anyone who is feeling alone. They might be stressed by work or missing a friend or partner, or just not able to be the person they would like to be. Walk with them, Lord, and let Your grace shine on them.

Tues 3rd The Lent Course begins today. The theme is "Mission"; pray that as we meet we will be challenged to think more about mission and outreach.

Wed 4th Dear Lord, we pray for our children as they grow up in a world with so many demands from social media, television and peer pressure.

Thu 5th There are so many times when I have said the wrong thing, Lord, or hurt someone accidentally, that I wonder whether I will ever be as sensitive and understanding as I know I should be. Forgive my thoughtless ways and strengthen me to keep on trying!

Fri 6th Grant Your Grace, Lord, to all who are suffering illness and pain. May they be assured by Your presence and comforted by Your love, secure in the knowledge that You will always be there.

Sat 7th Thank You, Lord, for all those who serve You on the oceans of the world. From the smallest tug and fishing boat to large cargo ships and cruise liners - all need brave men and women to crew them. We ask that You keep them safe in the harsh environment of winter seas, and we pray especially for those who volunteer with the Royal National Lifeboat Institute - they risk their own lives to rescue others.

Sun 8th As we meet for worship today, take time to pray for a real spirit of unity. Jesus, Lord of the Church, give us a new love for You and for one another.

Mon 9th Gracious God, we pray for the group who are planning the World Day of Prayer Service to be held next month. Pray that it will be an afternoon of precious fellowship.

Tue 10th The Lent Course continues today. Please pray for those who will attend. At this time of year we often have cold, dark days and long weary nights. Lord be with the elderly and vulnerable. Give comfort and protection to the homeless. Let us know Your presence as we think of Your promise that spring will come again with new growth and warmer weather. May Your love surround us all

Wed 11th *"For we are fellow workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."* (**1 Cor. 3.9**)

Loving Lord, we ask Your blessing on those who work tirelessly in the community on Your behalf – feeding and nourishing, maintaining buildings and fabric and quietly being Your disciples.

Thu 12th Caring God we pray for all those who have been a victim of crime, thinking of those who have been burgled, abused or subject to a traffic accident or road rage. Crime comes in many forms, and whilst it may be dealt with through the courts and police, the victims are often left emotionally scarred or traumatised. We ask that these victims find solace in You and the community around them to give them the strength and courage to return to a normal life.

Fri 13th Some of us know people who have been in and out of hospital during this winter. For some this has involved journeys between home and QEJM Hospital and also transfer to other hospitals in London. Waits for several hours for an ambulance are not uncommon. The personnel manning the ambulances are second to none, but they are often put in a very unfortunate position. Give thanks for these people and please uphold them in prayer.

Sat 14th We pray for all who serve their communities, whether it be in a voluntary or paid capacity. In serving others, we remember that we are serving You.

Sun 15th Pray for the young people. Few young people in our communities seem to have much concern for our services of worship and what they imagine takes place within our doors. Are we putting them off? Are we offering the right things? This is a time for a new start; we have new opportunities. Pray!!!

Mon 16th Pray for schools staff and pupils as they enjoy a half term holiday. Good weather would be a real bonus! Gracious God, keep safe all who travel and give new strength and refreshment to those who need this. We cannot give sufficient thanks for the great schools we have.

Tue 17th Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday – 'Pancake Day', and Lent begins tomorrow. We often hear of people giving things up for Lent, e.g. chocolate. Perhaps we should consider doing something we don't normally do over this time. We could contact people we are not in touch with very often, especially people who may be lonely. A phone call, a letter, an e:mail, or even a short text to let them know we are thinking of them is sure to uplift their spirits. Lord, prompt us!

Wed 18th **Ash Wednesday:** Lord Jesus you suffered for me. Please help me to draw closer to you today and always. Amen. As we journey toward the cross, help us to listen with open hearts—ready to repent, to be transformed, and to follow more faithfully in the way of Christ.

Thu 19th Giving God, bless all those who work in the service of others without reward. We give thanks for the many hours of volunteering dedicated so freely for the benefit of others.

Fri 20th Hear our prayers, Lord, for all people who are feeling lonely or depressed at this time. Give them courage to look outward and recognise that You care for each one of us. Grant Your warmth and light to those especially in need. Sometimes the weekend is hardest to bear!

Sat 21st Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you may look back and realise they were the big things. *"The hope of the righteous brings joy"* – **Proverbs 10 v 28.**

Sun 22nd **First Sunday in Lent:** Pray for our guest speaker, Alan Hare from Day Light. Bless Your servant with courage and clarity. Let his preaching not point to himself, but to You alone—the source of grace, forgiveness, and new life. And may the seeds planted today bear fruit in our lives.

Mon 23rd *"Your prayers worked, you know."* What joy it gives to hear those words from, or about, a friend diagnosed with a terminal condition, and now healed or in remission! Give God thanks! May His Spirit prompt us to be faithful when we are asked to pray!