

Monday 1 March: We pray for the churches in Ipswich that they would be a beacon of light and hope in their communities and bring many to know Jesus Christ.

Tuesday 2 March: We pray today for those who have lost someone dear to them during the pandemic: that they may be sustained and comforted by their friends and families and be aware of God's unceasing love for them.

Wednesday 3 March: We give thanks for the scientists and all involved in the development, manufacture and delivery of vaccines, which gives us hope of a return to normal life.

Thursday 4 March: We give thanks for the Ipswich Night Shelter and for the people that have been helped during this winter.

Friday 5 March: We give thanks for parents and teachers who have provided home-learning for our young people during the pandemic.

Saturday 6 March: We pray for our Government and for scientific and medical advisers, as they continue to tackle the pandemic, that you would give them wisdom, knowledge and compassion.

Sunday 7 March: We pray for our church leaders - David, Sarah and Keith, who have lead us during these difficult times, that you would guide, encourage and strengthen them.

Monday 8 March: After weeks of home learning, we pray for teachers and pupils at our church school, due to return to the classroom today.

Tuesday 9 March: We give thanks for the NHS, for the doctors, nurses and health care professionals, for their dedication, skill and selflessness, as they tend to all in their care.

Wednesday 10 March: We pray for those in hospital with Covid-19 and other illnesses, that they would receive the treatment they need. We remember their families, who may be separated from them at this difficult time.

Thursday 11 March: 'Carry each other's burdens and in this way, you will fulfil the law of Christ' (Galatians 6:2). Thank you for the many acts of kindness and for the many people who have volunteered to help those in need during the pandemic.

Friday 12 March: We pray for those running FIND and the Ipswich Food Bank and give thanks for all who have been helped through this vital resource.

Saturday 13 March: 'But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved' (Ephesians 2: 4-5). Praise God that He is the same yesterday, today and for ever.

Sunday 14 March: We give thanks for our Mothers and those who raised us, remembering too those for whom this is a difficult time.

Monday 15 March: 'Let us not be weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up' (Galatians 6:9). We thank you for the gifts and talents you have given each one of us, and pray you would help us to use them wisely in your service.

Tuesday 16 March: We give thanks for Andy our Verger Administrator, whose technical skills have helped the church to meet online over the past year.

Wednesday 17 March: Many people will have lost their businesses or jobs during the pandemic. We pray there will be opportunities ahead as society starts to return to some sort of normality over the coming months.

Thursday 18 March: 'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good' (Genesis 1:31). Help us to become more aware of the harm we can cause your precious creation, so that we may preserve it for future generations.

Friday 19 March: We give thanks for the work of Mission Direct in Zambia and other countries, building schools, homes and safe houses to help the most vulnerable in society.

Saturday 20 March: 'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress' (James 1:27). Mission Direct's Partners in Zambia run community schools and provide support for vulnerable families. We give thanks for many lives changed through their work.

Sunday 21 March: Today we give thanks for Christopher, our Director of Music, our choir, band and music group for their commitment and dedication in using their musical gifts and voices in worship.

Monday 22 March: We pray for Christians across the world who are persecuted for their faith. May you be their strength, comfort and guide in the face of adversity.

Tuesday 23 March: 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not human masters' (Colossians 3:23). Lord Jesus, we pray that you would guide and encourage each one of us, as we seek to serve you in our lives.

Wednesday 24 March: We pray for the World Health Organisation and for the success of Covax and other global initiatives that seek to secure vaccines for people of all countries.

Thursday 25 March: We pray for people who feel the loneliness of isolation, that friends and neighbours would reach out to them.

Friday 26 March: We pray for the Inspire Ipswich initiative, that many would come to know the Lord.

Saturday 27 March: We remember families affected by conflict and war. We ask you Lord, that you will be their daily strength, comfort and shield.

Sunday 28 March: Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, as we remember our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and His journey to the Cross.

Monday 29 March: We ask that your Holy Spirit will inspire and direct us in our choice of giving, remembering that we are only giving back that which is truly yours.

Tuesday 30 March: 'Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning, great is your faithfulness' (Lamentations 3:22-23). Father, we thank you for your unconditional love for each one of us, and for the perfect plan you have for our lives.

Wednesday 31 March: As spring approaches, we thank you for the signs of new life in our gardens and the countryside, and the promise of warmer and longer days ahead.

St.Margaret's Church

I P S W I C H



Prayer Diary

March 2021

Prepared by Geoff Spiller