

**St Peter's Church**  
**July 2021 Prayer Diary**

*"Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth." Psalm 54:2*

**1** Pray about all the plastic waste that pollutes our oceans and washes ashore on our beaches. May God our Creator help us to find ways of reducing our worldwide use of plastic and thank Him for all those who endeavour to combat this problem.

**2** At this time of year, many people enjoy picnics and barbecues. Thank God for these times of meeting up with friends and family outdoors, sharing food and fellowship together.

**3** Tomorrow is American Independence Day. Pray for the people of the USA that they may continue to strive for peace, justice and freedom in the world.

**4** *Grant, O Lord, we beseech you, that the course of this world may be so peaceably ordered by your governance, that your Church may joyfully serve you in all godly quietness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**5** Remember those in our church who volunteer as deputy churchwardens. Thank God for their willingness to serve and their faithfulness in their duties.

**6** World Chocolate Day. Thank God for all his good gifts of delicious food and ask that these may be produced sustainably and traded fairly.

**7** Pray for our children that they may come to love and serve God through their creativity and play.

**8** Pray for all those who provide care for the elderly, the infirm and those in our society with many complex needs.

**9** Give thanks for the work of Christian song and hymn writers, composers, and performers. Think of the positive impact they have had on our worship lives.

**10** Remember all the young people who have to make crucial decisions about their future that may affect the rest of their lives. Give them wisdom to make careful choices and choose the right path.

**11** *Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see, and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**12** Ask God to give insight and wisdom to all the members of SAGE who advise our government in medical and scientific matters. Help them to provide accurate information and the wise use of data.

**13** We pray for all those who come to our church through funerals, marriages and baptisms. Help us to meet their needs with the love and power of Christ.

**14** Many people in our neighbourhood have lost jobs or income during the pandemic. May those who are anxious or depressed over their circumstances find help and support to rebuild their lives and plan the future.

**15** Pray for our local MP Karin Smyth and ask that God will guide her in parliament as she seeks to represent the interests of all her constituents. May she know His grace whenever asked to vote on contentious or divisive issues.

**16** Pray for those who lead Intercessions in our church and ask God to inspire and bless them in their prayers.

**17** Pray for the St Oswalds Church, as we share a barbecue with them, that we may continue to enjoy a close relationship and grow in love and faith together.

**18** *Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as a mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**19** Pray for those who are unable to come to church because of illness or weakness or other pressures on their lives.

**20** Pray for those who work in the prison and probation services and remember especially the work of prison chaplains. Give them sensitivity and firmness as they deal with young offenders or habitual criminals.

**21** At the start of the school holidays, pray for children and families that they will enjoy times of fun and relaxation safely together.

**22** Pray for Claire and all those who work with her in The Ark. Pray that many families will come and enjoy a warm welcome over the summer holiday period.

**23** As the Summer Olympics begin in Tokyo, pray for the athletes and all those taking part and for the people of Japan as they host these events.

**24** Pray for Christians in sport, that they will be good witnesses for Christ through their words and the way they compete.

**25** *Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**26** Remember the work of our local Food Bank in Withywood, particularly as some parents may struggle to feed their children during the long summer break.

**27** Ask God to pour out the gifts of the Holy Spirit on each one of our church members so that we may continue to worship and serve him in ways which give honour to Him.

**28** Think of particular friends or family members who do not yet know Christ that they may have opportunities to hear the gospel for themselves and that God will give them faith to believe.

**29** There may be many Christian events taking place this summer. Ask God to be powerfully present at those gatherings so that all those who attend may find themselves blessed and experience joy in Christ.

**30** Ask God to watch over all those who are travelling on holiday at this time, both abroad and in this country. We ask for safe journeys by sea, road or air.

**31** Remember those who are unable to take any holidays because of work or family commitments or through lack of money. May they find times of rest and refreshment in other ways.