

THURSDAY 29th April

StJohn & Ellie Perry (*East Malaysia*)

on Home Assignment with OMF

Our deputation speaking has started despite lockdown - on 6 April we 'visit' the Nottingham OMF prayer group on Zoom. Online connection has been a real blessing, linking us in real time with prayer support while in Asia. Some have been praying for decades now, and we yearn to be able to travel and to connect properly again.

Women's Bible Study Groups

Centrepoint Bible+chat

Webinar on Depression and Anxiety - *Kirsty Birkett*

FRIDAY 30th April

StJohn & Ellie Perry (*East Malaysia*)

on Home Assignment with OMF

Our church in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah has returned to their building, and the choir is back practising in groups outside. Many are unable or reluctant to return yet, and also believe rumours of vaccination dangers. The Malaysian Council of Churches encourages folk to join together again, and to get their jabs as part of their Christian care of others.

Sevenoaks School Assembly -
Simon Heather

Women's Bible Study Groups

Yr 10 Bible Study

SATURDAY 1st May

Trinity School (*Helen Read - Assistant Chaplain*)

Give thanks for:

- The recent donation enabling us to start a meals ministry to support staff in times of crisis. Pray that this tangible expression of Christ's love would be a blessing.
- Ongoing provision for the foodbank.
- Janet Phythian starting a Growing Hope garden in the playground.

SUNDAY 2nd May

Trinity School (*continued*)

Pray for:

- Wisdom for the pastoral needs brought to the chaplaincy.
- Many staff have received and read 'Hope in times of suffering' by Jeremy Marshall. Give thanks for several follow up conversations.
- Sixth Form CU as we prepare students for transition to University.

8am Holy Communion - *Gavin McGrath*

9.15am: service in church (streamed): 1
Cor 15: 1-11 - *Gavin McGrath*

10am service at Lady Boswell's
(streamed): Hebrews 11:1-7 - *Angus MacLeay*

11am: service in church (streamed):
Exodus 1 - *Matt Taylor*

Contact All Together

6.30pm service on Zoom: Hebrews 11:1-7 - *Angus MacLeay*



St Nicholas Church
SEVENOAKS

PRAYER DIARY

April 2021

*"The Lord is a refuge for the oppressed,
a stronghold in times of trouble.
Those who know your name trust in you,
for you, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek you."*

(Psalm 9:9-10 NIV)

Note: Details of services are correct at time of publishing but will remain under review and will depend on government restrictions. Please check our website for more up-to-date information. In line with current COVID guidelines, our small groups and home groups etc. will continue to meet online during April.



All the details in our monthly Prayer Diary can be found on PrayerMate: www.prayermate.net

Our Vision: To know Jesus and make him known locally and globally...and so we prayerfully and lovingly proclaim Him ... in order to Reach, Nurture, Equip and Send ... for His Glory.

MONDAY 5th April—Easter Bank Holiday Monday

Thanksgiving

Give thanks:

- for God's word preached in March and at our Easter services.
- for our Toolbox seminars.
- for the appointment of a new church office admin assistant, Susan Clarke.

TUESDAY 6th April

Julia Cameron (*Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion*)

Living in Love and Faith, issued by the House of Bishops, tends towards a liberal view of scripture. On 6 April we publish a biblical response by Martin Davie, with a Foreword by Michael Nazir-Ali. Please pray it will help churches to stand firm for the authority of scripture.

We mark John Stott's Centenary on 27 April. Please pray that new generations will learn from his life and principles in an age where we quickly forget.

Walking Group
Joint Prayer Gathering for all congregations

WEDNESDAY 7th April

Sophie-Ann Rebbettes (*Crossteach*)

Praise God for some opportunities to go into schools in person and the conversations we've been able to have with pupils. Pray for schools using our various Easter resources, that many pupils would hear about Jesus's death and resurrection.

Leadership team meeting
Rooted

THURSDAY 8th April

Sophie-Ann Rebbettes (*continued*)

Praise God for lessons we recently taught on hardships. Pray that pupils would see what difference knowing God makes in hard times. Pray for certain schools we haven't really heard from since lockdown. Pray we would be able to reconnect.

SUNDAY 25th April

Nick & Dorothy Jones & Family (*Drung Church, Ireland*)

Give thanks for a great Christianity Explored Course on Zoom and pray for good soil and fruitful people!

Please pray for the Lord to provide us with a Ministry Trainee for September.

Please pray that we can return to church soon.

8am Holy Communion - *Gavin McGrath*
9.15am: service in church (streamed): John 21:15-25 - *Angus MacLeay*
10am service at Lady Boswell's (streamed): Acts 2:37-47 - *John Khnana*
11am: service in church (streamed): John 21:15-25 - *Angus MacLeay*
Contact All Together
6.30pm service on Zoom: 1 Peter 2:18-252 - *Jamie Read*

MONDAY 26th April

Martin Laing (*St Nicholas Tearfund Rep*)

Pray that God will guide the UK government to [reverse the decision](#) to cut aid as soon as possible. Pray for the people of Yemen, and elsewhere, who have been impacted by this cut. While conditions ease in the UK, people are being pushed deeper into poverty by coronavirus in [Yemen, Afghanistan, Chad](#) and many other nations. Pray for an overflow of compassion for those in great need.

Pray for peace in northern Mozambique and an end to the [terrible cruelty](#) inflicted on civilians, including young children.

Women's Bible Study Groups
Retired Men's Think-it-Through
Lady Boswell's assembly
Simon Heather teaching youth ministry module at Cornhill
Campaigners meeting + Zoom catchup science
9.15 Congregational leadership team meeting
Hope Explored

TUESDAY 27th April

Janet Phythian (*Growing Hope, Farming God's Way, Mozambique*)

We pray for justice, peace in the killing fields, God's kingdom increased, in the midst of the ongoing poverty, violence and the complicated socio-economic situation in the north of the country.

Women's Bible Study Groups
Home Groups

WEDNESDAY 28th April

Janet Phythian (*continued*)

We give thanks for compassion and donations which provided rice and beans for 216 families to replace food destroyed during cyclone Eloise in March.

Praise the Lord for provision of 742 packets of vegetable seed as we begin sowing this year, praying for hope from despair as we link with 9 churches and 166 rural families.

Men's Bible Study Group
Women's Bible Study Group
Contact Bible Study
Marriage Course

WEDNESDAY 21st April**Philip & Sunny Glass (*Futako Tamagawa, South Tokyo - network partners with Japan Christian Link*)**

We're really grateful for all your prayers. Our heavenly Father has kindly been sustaining us and our new church family, and we've got lots of opportunities to speak the truth in love with other Christians at various gathering throughout the week. We'd love prayer for our language skills to improve, and for boldness and opportunities to tell the gospel to a non-Christian in our block of flats we've recently made friends with.

Bible & Bagels
Men's Bible Study Group
Women's Bible Study Group
Marriage Course
Evening Congregational Leadership Team meeting

THURSDAY 22nd April**Dan & Pippa Halpin (*Oak Hill College, London*)**

Praise God for wonderful modules and opportunities to learn and grow, such a privilege: especially on preaching and the book of Revelation (Dan) and Wisdom Literature (auditing for Pippa). Pray for our hearts to be rejoicing in the Lord each day as we wait for things to open-up more and especially pray for content patience with no prospect anytime soon of Pippa returning to work or Dan returning to in person teaching.

Women's Bible Study Groups
Centrepoint Bible+chat
11am Congregational leadership team meeting
Jeremy Marshall speaking at The Kings Centre, Chessington

FRIDAY 23rd April**Mark & Jane Oden (*Naples*)**

Give thanks for the evangelistic course we ran in March with several guests. Please pray for conversions especially for Cristian, Cinzia and Fabrizio.
Give thanks for the 5 new members to the church, Concita & Rosario, Chiara & Francesco and Tina. Please pray for them to quickly feel part of the family.

Women's Bible Study Groups
Yr 10 Bible Study
Angus MacLeay and Ian Dobbie at General Synod 23 and 24 March

SATURDAY 24th April**Mark & Jane Oden (*continued*)**

Church has still been able to meet physically despite a new lockdown in Naples. Please pray for the Lord's continued protection on us as a church and for our new series in James, that we would grow in our whole-hearted devotion to him!

FRIDAY 9th April**Phil & Kathy James - Dunton Green Outreach (*The Gathering*)**

Please pray that the service on Easter Sunday would have enabled those attending to rejoice in the risen Lord Jesus and to proclaim the message boldly.
Please pray for wisdom and patience to know when to start regular services again.

SATURDAY 10th April**Arthur Parke (*SIM Benin*)**

It has been a joy to experience answers to prayer this past month, but there is still no-one offering to relieve me! Don't give up.
Each evening 9.45 p.m. is prayer time in my house with my 'boys'. Pray for a meaningful time of sharing. We can be up to ten.
April 11 is the day for Presidential Elections in Benin. Already prayers for peace are the main concern of the politicians and population. Pray the true God will overrule for us, please.

SUNDAY 11th April**Jamie & Helen Read (*Crosslinks*)**

Thank God for the launch of 'Inside Mission', our podcast video available on the Crosslinks blog, taking people behind the scenes of mission around the world.
Pray for 4 candidates on selection panels this month looking to serve in Spain and Cyprus. Pray that the Lord of the Harvest would thrust out these workers in the face of Covid and for the sake of Europe's unreached people.

9.15am: service in church (streamed):
Luke 24: 13-35 - *Gavin McGrath*
10am service at Lady Boswell's (streamed): Acts 2:14-24 - *John Khnana*
11am: service in church (streamed):
Psalm 16 - *Matt Taylor*
6.30pm service on Zoom: 1 Peter 2:11,12
- *Simon Heather*

MONDAY 12th April**Kathryn Bowen (*OMF, Thailand*)**

Please pray about revisiting home assignment and the logistics that go with that.
Please pray for Songkran (Thai New Year) 13-15 April. Low key celebrations again this year.
Please pray for wisdom as inquiries come in for short term placements.

9.15 Congregational leadership team meeting

TUESDAY 13th April
Persecuted Christians

The court case of Christian pastor Zafar Bhatti, who has been in prison in Pakistan since 2012, has recently been adjourned again until 15 April. Thank God that Zafar's needs in prison are being met but please pray that his appeal against a blasphemy conviction would succeed. In 2019 a judge said there was no evidence against Zafar and that he should be released. His appeal hearings have been adjourned on numerous occasions.

Home Groups
Jeremy Marshall speaking at
Faith in Later Life

WEDNESDAY 14th April
Persecuted Christians

Pray for an end to the kidnappings and killings in Nigeria. Give thanks to God for the escape of some of those abducted and the release of others. Pray for the families and communities of those who have been killed. Pray for protection for all Christians in Nigeria and particularly for those who serve persecuted Christians and speak up for their rights. Ask that God will build unity in His church there, so that it might be a beacon of light throughout the nation.

Men's Bible Study Group
Marriage Course

THURSDAY 15th April

Tony Waghorn (*Communications and Media Facilitator, OMF International*)

Our upcoming Blessing Muslims video has now been translated into 11 languages! Thank God for Anna's hard work on the translations and the surrounding promotional social media material. Please pray that it would challenge many in Spanish, German, Thai, French, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Chinese, Spanish & Portuguese speaking countries.

FRIDAY 16th April

Tony Waghorn (*continued*)

We have just brought together a group of people either involved in producing or promoting OMF videos (19 March). Pray that with their help we will be able to develop plan to support an effective video programme through OMF. Pray for my boss Tim and our team as we continue to work with our international leaders to express OMF's work, identity and vision in clear ways, especially on a possible short statement to describe what we offer to everyone who interacts with us.

SATURDAY 17th April

Arabella Paul (*The Faith Mission*)

I thoroughly look forward to being in Woodchurch Primary School every Tuesday (for 5 weeks) from 20 April to teach the Old Testament. Please pray that the children will be enthused and inspired.

From Thursday 22 April, I will be in High Halden every Thursday (for 5 weeks) to teach the New Testament. Please pray for the Lord's anointing and that the reality of Jesus' life, death and resurrection will have an impact on young lives.

SUNDAY 18th April

Selvan Anketell (*Japan Christian Link*)

Thank the Lord our small local Japanese Bible group has continued via zoom this past year and for emerging leaders. Pray we each grow in faith, hope and love as we study and discuss the book of Revelation, for new people and for new faith.

9.15am: service in church (streamed):
John 21:1-14 - *Angus MacLeay*
10am service at Lady Boswell's
(streamed): Acts 2:25-36 - *John Khnana*
11am: service in church (streamed):
John 21:1-14 - *Angus MacLeay*
Contact All Together
6.30pm service on Zoom: 1 Peter 2:13-
17 - *Steve Osei-Mensah*

MONDAY 19th April

Selvan Anketell (*continued*)

Keiko, who hosted the meetings, now lives in Japan and, following recent diagnosis, is undergoing chemotherapy. Give thanks for God's peace in her heart and ask him to restore and strengthen her for fruitful ministry.

Lady Boswell's assembly
Simon Heather teaching youth ministry
module at Cornhill
Hope Explored

TUESDAY 20th April

Sam Allberry (*UK Zacharias Trust*)

Please continue to pray for all of us at the UK Zacharias Trust as we continue to come to terms with the scandal surrounding Ravi Zacharias and the global ministry organisation. Pray for right lessons to be learned, and for the UK team as they discern the right way to move forward.

I am still committed to moving to Nashville and so won't be a full-time part of the UK ministry as it moves forward, but plan to be a regular adjunct speaker for them. Pray for me as I look for a new way to raise support for my own ministry and start a new visa application to work in the US.