

THURSDAY 27th August

Anna Poor (*Acorn Camps Hungary*)

Give thanks for our church youth camp with 30 of us and many individual lives touched. It helped us get to know people there better too.

We pray on for the final few spaces of the CORE course to be filled with people who are passionate about teaching God's word to young people 'just a bit better'.

Thankful for accommodation provision for time in Kent over July-Aug; pray for good and encouraging time with family and friends.

Prayer for Implementation of
Truscott Report
Church open for private prayer
9:30am-12noon

FRIDAY 28th August

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

Give thanks for exciting outcomes following the Pastors' retreat day in June. A biblical keys teaching event is initiated by Pastor Pirez for September, for all the families participating in Growing Hope in that community. Pray it will be a great blessing for all, for Pastor Pirez as he teaches God's word, for other Pastors attending, for each family attending, for safety and adherence to Mozambique's Covid rules and for Albano and Armando as they help to organise the day.

Thank God for His mercy and faithfulness, for providing nutrition where there is extensive hunger and malnutrition and where there are currently no church services and no capacity for online church, a way to lovingly proclaim His word and truth and bring hope. Pray for Janet as she encourages trust in God and God alone, rejection of local witchcraft practices and to faithfully follow our Lord Jesus, trusting in Him and being guided by the Holy Spirit.

Contact Chat

SATURDAY 29th August

Persecuted Christians

Pray for God's people in China, where officials took advantage of the Covid-19 crisis to step up their persecution of churches. During the crisis, authorities have banned all online services and accelerated their programme to remove crosses and demolish church buildings in some areas. Ask God to renew in His people a steadfast faith which will draw many others to Christ.

The online sale of Bibles has been banned in China for two years now. Pray that God's word will still spread even to the most remote areas of this vast nation.

SUNDAY 30th August

Persecuted Christians (*continued*)

Pray for Sudan's government as it prepares to make the transition from military to civilian rule in 2022. Give thanks for indications that greater religious freedom is already being considered, and pray that promises made now will become a reality and that the new government will support religious freedom for all its citizens.

10am: service in church plus
YouTube service from St Nicholas:
John 4:1-26 - Peter Rowan
10am Stream from GC/4OC:
Proverbs 8-9 - John Khnana
St Nicholas + GC/4OC children's
work via YouTube
Contact All Together
6.30pm service on Zoom: Psalm 150
- Angus MacLeay



St Nicholas Church
SEVENOAKS

ONE aim: to see God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit honoured
TWO essentials: the Bible and prayer
ONE central task: to make disciples of Jesus Christ

PRAYER DIARY

August 2020

"Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve."

(From the Book of Common Worship,
Collect for the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity - 30 August 2020)



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

EXPLORE GOD'S WORD

EQUIP GOD'S PEOPLE

EXPLAIN GOD'S GOSPEL

MONDAY 3rd August

Thanksgiving

Give thanks:

- For the proclamation of God's word in July.
- For the Centrepoint houseparty.
- For Dan Boshoff's service over the last year.

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

Centrepoint chat

TUESDAY 4th August

Kathryn Bowen (OMF, Thailand)

Praise for good two weeks of lectures for my Masters in Member Care.

Please pray for two more essays to be completed by mid September.

Please pray for me as I update short term opportunities - particularly looking ahead to next summer.

Please pray for further discussions early August with Field Leadership, Homeside and St. Nics regarding my Home Assignment that is currently delayed.

Walking Group

Prayer Gathering

4OCC Prayer Gathering

WEDNESDAY 5th August

Martin Laing (St Nicholas Tearfund Rep)

As the UK lockdown eases, the situation is getting worse in other areas of the world. Pray that those of us with so much will give generously to Tearfund's Coronavirus Emergency Appeal. Pray we look beyond our own comfortable worlds to those beyond our imagination, like Yemen, South Sudan and Bangladesh. Pray that we act with Jesus' compassion.

Pray for the Tearfund Zimbabwe team as they help churches to be beacons of hope in communities hit by drought, extreme poverty and coronavirus.

Midweek summer communion:
1 Corinthians 11 *Truth we can touch* - Gavin McGrath

GC Prayer Gathering

THURSDAY 6th August

Rector's slot

Please pray:

- For Sunday preaching in August, the 10am service in church, and our YouTube and 6.30pm Zoom services.
- For our children's ministry.
- For Rockdale and Weald Heights.
- For our midweek Holy Communion services.

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

SUNDAY 23rd August

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

Thank God for some new people at church since lockdown!

Please pray for wisdom re how to restart Bible Study and

Teens for Christ in person rather than on Zoom!

Please pray for a refreshing holiday in August.

Please pray for an alternative to steroids to become available for William.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August

10am: service in church plus YouTube service from St Nicholas: John 3:22-36 - *Angus MacLeay*

10am Stream from GC/4OC: Proverbs 5-7 - *Giles Wittchell*

St Nicholas + GC/4OC children's work via YouTube

6.30pm service on Zoom: Philippians 3:7-14 - *Dan Halpin*

MONDAY 24th August

Phil & Kathy James (Dunton Green Mission Venture)

Please give thanks for the relationships formed during lockdown, for stories shared and chances to talk about the Lord of Life.

Please pray for us as we prepare to begin our (postponed)

Sunday gatherings in September. Pray for us to get the practicalities around implementing the Covid guidelines right and for no further obstacles to meeting. Pray that those we have met during lockdown will come to hear about Jesus and receive Life in Him.

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

Centrepoint chat

Retired Men's Think-It-Through

Rooted

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

TUESDAY 25th August

Ian & Fran Taylor (Emmanuel Bristol)

Give thanks that Ian's studies at Union School of Theology have come to an end and were enjoyable. Pray that the Lord would use what Ian has learnt to equip him to better shepherd God's flock.

Give thanks for the generosity of St Nicholas over the past 6 years, for supporting Ian in his studies.

Pray for a few weeks' worth of holidays before Ian moves up to working full-time as an associate pastor at Emmanuel Westbury.

WEDNESDAY 26th August

Paul and Helen Shepherd (Africa Inland Mission - Karamoja, Uganda)

Pray for leaders of smaller churches across Uganda who have had no source of income since churches have been shut for 4 months and there has been no offertory. This has been incredibly difficult, forcing many into real poverty, pray they would look to the Lord to provide their daily bread and not lose hope in the God who knows and cares. Pray for us as we wind down ministry and begin to say goodbye and for us all as we mourn the losses of leaving.

Midweek summer communion:
Truth we can touch - Jamie Read

WEDNESDAY 19th August

StJohn & Ellie Perry (with OMF, East Malaysia: serving at Sabah Theological Seminary)

The second semester has started and now includes social distancing, wearing masks and sanitising, as well as managing virtual meetings and courses. Classes run through the day, often with evening Zoom sessions. Pray for students and teachers who are finding the "new normal" expends their energies more quickly than before.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August
Midweek summer communion:
Truth we can touch - Matt Taylor

THURSDAY 20th August

StJohn & Ellie Perry (continued)

If asked for prayer topics, students here urge us to pray for their home governments - especially for Malaysia and for Hong Kong. All generations share a burden to pray particularly for church leaders at this time of uncertainty, for them to be encouragers of faith rather than despair, examples of love rather than hate, and upholders of hope in our risen and coming Lord rather than hope in man's idols.

Prayer for Implementation of
Truscott Report
Contact Houseparty 16-23
August
Church open for private prayer
9:30am-12noon

FRIDAY 21st August

Emma Brewster (SIM South Africa)

Praise: Many opportunities to respond to these Covid times with our ministries as we think through what does a world plus Covid look like.

Pray:

For Freedom is a key ministry in SIM engaging in Anti-human-trafficking – please pray for Sarah and Karine as they lead this – the projection of increased trafficking because of Covid is devastating. Pray for us to be light in the deep darkness of this.

Living in SA: Covid has brought economic depravity, gender based violence – pray for wisdom and discernment in reaching out to vulnerable communities.

Personally: as I support mum from afar during this tough time of isolation.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August

SATURDAY 22nd August

Julia Cameron (Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion)

The centenary of John Stott's birth falls in 2021 and EFAC is working with Langham Partnership to prepare for this. Please pray for the production of good material in English and in African and Indian languages which will instruct and inspire.

Several Dictum / EFAC books will be ready to publish in September. Please pray for one in particular to get known and talked about. *The Leadership Files: From around the world across a century*. It contains profound wisdom for leaders of small groups, for young entrepreneurs, and for leaders of large churches or agencies. It includes an Appendix on good governance, which many boards could find valuable.

An expanded and updated biography of Frances Whitehead, *John Stott's Right Hand*, will also appear shortly. Pray for the book trade to notice these books and to see their value.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August

FRIDAY 7th August

Tony Waghorn (Facilitator for Communications, OMF International)

Praise: for the extra Communications colleagues who were able to join us as we cancelled the physical gathering and went virtual; for Angela Wang, our new US based volunteer Photo Administrator—she has been a great blessing and had enabled photos to be gathered and shared. Pray: for ongoing online bi-monthly Communications training; for two short videos in production promoting our mission discipleship programme, for Serve Asia—for good progress and extra creativity with lockdown restrictions; for new web and intranet systems being developed for OMF, that they will help us to build stronger partnerships, enable ministry communities to communicate better and offer mission training inside and outside the organisation.

Contact Chat

SATURDAY 8th August

Contact Houseparty: 16-23 August - Please pray:

- For wisdom in organising safe, responsible but enjoyable ways to meet up locally;
- For Dan Halpin preaching on Ecclesiastes through the week;
- For speakers preparing various morning seminars for Zoom;
- For unchurched friends to be invited and to attend, especially those who might not have otherwise attended a whole week away on a regular Contact Houseparty;
- That members would be encouraged and would grow to know Jesus better;
- For safety throughout the week especially with Covid-19;
- For friendships formed and grown.

Wedding of Jemimah Dean and
Matthew White

SUNDAY 9th August

Grace and 4 O'Clock Church

Please pray for our new summer series in Proverbs, Christ our Wisdom, asking our Heavenly Father to grow us in wisdom and understanding, that we might live out the right reverence and fear of the Lord. Ask that through this series we'd come to a greater grasp of Christ being our Wisdom from God.

10am: service in church plus YouTube
service from St Nicholas: John 3:9-15
- Angus MacLeay

10am Stream from GC/4OC: Proverbs
4 - Steve Osei-Mensah

St Nicholas + GC/4OC children's work
via YouTube

Contact All Together

6.30pm service on Zoom: Psalm 148 -
Matt Taylor

MONDAY 10th August

Grace and 4 O'Clock Church (continued)

Please also pray for our Bible Study leaders to have a good break and refreshment over the summer, and for all those attending our Grace and 4OC summer focus nights looking at the book 'Caring for One Another'.

Lastly, please pray for me, for Hannah and the other Grace and 4OC leaders to be listening well to the congregations and for the Lord to be leading us in the best construction option so that we'd more effectively know Jesus and make him known, locally and globally.

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

Centrepont chat

Retired Men's Think-It-Through

Rooted

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

TUESDAY 11th August

Implementation of Truscott Report

Pray for the vision, for unity and for loving concern across the church family. Pray for the Truscott Implementation Group, the PCC, the 5 working groups and all the church family as we seek the Lord together concerning how our vision should shape our ministries and structures.

WEDNESDAY 12th August

Sam Allberry (*RZIM Zacharias Trust*)

Pray for my ongoing visa application for America, that if the Lord wills this will go through and enable me to move to Nashville this month. If there is further delay, pray I would be patient and trust the Lord in the whole process.

Pray for various talks I will be writing and recording during this month, including a series of short evangelistic messages for RZIM. Pray these would honour Christ and commend him to others.

Midweek summer communion:
Matthew 26:26-29 *Truth we can touch* - Angus MacLeay

THURSDAY 13th August

Selvan Anketell (*Japan Christian Link*)

Thank the Lord for drawing Keiko Honda to himself in Sevenoaks and using her to bless many other Japanese in Sevenoaks and more recently to serve with the 4OC leadership team.

Pray for smooth preparations for Keiko's move to Japan, Lord willing this autumn, to support her parents. Ask him to give her relationships of encouragement with other sisters and brothers in Christ, and that she would discern clearly the other areas of service he has in mind for her.

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

FRIDAY 14th August

Trinity School

Pray for:

- The summer break to be a time of rest for all.
- Wisdom for the school's leaders as they plan for a full re-opening in September.
- The staff and students who are nervous about returning, that they would know God's peace and assurance.
- God's favour and blessing for all our students in their learning and relationships. That God would work in each challenging situation and turn it around for good.

Contact Chat

SATURDAY 15th August

Mark & Jane Oden (*Naples*)

Give thanks for the opportunity to return to the UK this summer. For the chance that it will provide us to see family, friends and churches and hopefully to rest!

For the chiesa evangelica Neapolis in our absence, that the Lord would watch over his people, that he would strengthen them in their love for him and for each other.

For Sofia as she starts 6th form at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, and for Inez as she starts at her senior school - that both would be strengthened spiritually through these new experiences.

SUNDAY 16th August

Jamie & Helen Read (*Crosslinks*)

Give thanks for the way God has sustained the Crosslinks staff and mission partners across the world during the pandemic. We can all testify that global lockdown does not mean gospel slowdown! Pray that our September magazine would encourage readers to see this and spur us on despite the challenges we face.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August

10am: service in church plus YouTube service from St Nicholas: John 3:16-21 - *Angus MacLeay*

10am All-Age Stream from GC/4OC: Proverbs 3:5-6 - *Simon Collins*

St Nicholas + GC/4OC children's work via YouTube

6.30pm service on Zoom: Psalm 149 - *Matt Taylor*

MONDAY 17th August

Jamie & Helen Read (*continued*)

Lockdown has given me a new appreciation for the work of communications teams. Please pray as we seek to recruit a Media Content Developer by the end of August to help Crosslinks better communicate the urgency of God's mission in the digital world. Pray that the right person would apply and join us.

With limited church visits on the cards for the autumn, I have time to write some new material (talks/sermons). Please pray for clear thinking and faithfulness, despite ongoing work restrictions.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August

Church open for private prayer 9:30am-12noon

Centrepoint chat

Prayer for Implementation of Truscott Report

TUESDAY 18th August

Arthur Parke (*SIM Benin*)

Thank the Lord that life is continuing in Benin, with the virus round the corner, but I know nobody who knows somebody affected.

Our camps are cancelled but in Parakou we are organising a non-residential discipleship training along with practical orientation in computing, writing CVs, reports, job applications and leadership skills - from 3 to 26 August.

Exams have taken place. Pray for my role as advisor when we have the results this month. Someone has been stealing money in my home. Pray for a happy outcome.

Contact Houseparty 16-23 August