

Cults Parish Church

Prayer Diary June 2018



Fields near Fetteresso © C Michael Hogan
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Oor Faither in Heiven
Hallowt be Thy Name
Thy Kingdom come
Thy Will be dune
On the Yird as in Heiven
Gie us oor breid for this incomin day
Forgie us the wrangs we hae wrocht,
as we hae forgien the wrangs we hae dree'd,
An say-us-na sailrie, but sauf us frae the ill-ane
An Thine be the Kingdom, the Pooer an the Glory,
Noo an forivver, Amen.

The Faith Journey Core Group hopes that this Prayer Diary will be a useful daily companion that will help unite us in prayer at Cults Kirk. Please send your contributions or requests for the July diary by June 17th to Andrew Fairhead. andrew.fairhead@btinternet.com Phone 01224 861926.

At 7pm on the last Wednesday of each month, everyone is welcome to meet in Morven at the Kirk Centre for prayers of thanksgiving and intercession, and to talk informally about praying. (You don't have to talk if you would rather just be there in silence.)

Our prayer team prays in private for individuals, or about more confidential matters on your behalf. Please put your written request into one of the prayer boxes at the Kirk or the Kirk Centre, or let Shuna know and she will confidentially notify the team.

Friday June 1 *How special and blessed the bond can be between two people. It is one of your most precious gifts to us, O Lord. We pray for all who may be entering a close relationship and all who are committing themselves to one: for brides and grooms and all those forming long-term partnerships, for those bonded as friends and family.*

Saturday June 2 This world seems dominated by people who speak and act offensively. Father, is it possible that, in one of Your mysterious ways, they are doing Your work? Might it be so! When they ride roughshod over norms and morals, might they be strengthening these in the rest of us? At least may our own sense of what is right and wrong be tested, and may we be given the determination to defend those beliefs.

Sunday June 3 *We give thanks for the efforts that have over the years been made by our Church to welcome and guide children, young people and families, and we pray, Lord Jesus, that the Holy Spirit will bring new workers to us: one for youth and another for children and families. We pray that when they come, their lives will be enriched by their work, by us, and by the Lord they serve.*

We give thanks also for the goodness and compassion of those who work and volunteer for charities, such as those taking part in the Aberdeen Kilt Walk today, including the Christian Aid teams. May the support they receive from the rest of us do good in this needy world.

Monday June 4 Let us bring to God our care and respect for dedicated teachers who this month might be marking exams, taking children on trips, and in so many other ways encouraging children to do well.

Tuesday June 5 *How precious is a pair of sparkling eyes! We thank God that there are always so many of these at our Music to Remember sessions. May we all relish the task of keeping old people's eyes shining.*

Wednesday June 6 (A children's prayer) Lord Jesus, help me to understand what You meant when You said "I will be with you always". It's strange, because I can't see You! But I mustn't think You are spying on me and waiting for me to do wrong. You are my friend. I can ask You whether something is right or wrong; and Your love for me will make me feel better when I am sad.

Thursday June 7 *Father, hear our fervent prayers for those who are affected by illness. May we be able to help those whose body and spirit is threatened by a long-term condition to know they are upheld by You. May we encourage and support those who are caring for them. May we walk with those worried by the prospect of tests or the development of a disease. Give us kindness that makes their life a little better.*

Friday June 8 We ask God to bless those who lead our Friday café, and those who come, particularly in this month the P7 pupils, coming to meet their older peers.

Saturday June 9 *Let us give thanks again for charity workers, who are serving not only their charities but all of us, by making us aware of needs and giving us the chance to contribute. We pray today particularly for those who, on behalf of The Leprosy Mission Scotland, are hosting an afternoon tea at our Kirk Centre.*

There is an important event for the Church of Scotland as well today: an information day in Dunblane for anyone wondering whether ordained ministry might be their call in life. May the Holy Spirit help them to know God's intentions for them.

Sunday June 10 We pray for all those who lead, serve and worship in our "cluster group" of local churches, and particularly that younger members will be encouraged to feel that they belong. May "Praise in the Park" at Hazlehead today encourage us all to work, worship and witness together.

Monday June 11 *We know that accidents and natural disasters happen, but the tragic consequences are difficult to understand. Let us bring before God the victims of the ones we've heard about recently, and also those who, after many years, are still grieving or bearing mental or physical damage. Might they be able to draw strength and comfort from the One who loves them, and from the kindness of other people.*

Tuesday June 12 If and when two puzzling world leaders meet, we pray that they will not puzzle each other but will develop a relationship they may not have known before. Lord, we pray You will be present at its birth and throughout its delicate growing.

Wednesday June 13 *(From the charity "Embrace the Middle East".) God of all true reconciliation, we continue to pray for Your peace and justice to prevail over violence and oppression in Palestine and Israel. We ask for hope for those who are feeling desperate in Gaza today; for every precious life to be protected; for an end to all violence, fear and abuse of power; and for the international laws that protect life to be adhered to and enforced.*

Thursday June 14 Our Kirk's work with children and families is vital for us and vital for them, we believe. Lord, by Your Grace, may this afternoon's Messy Church give all who are there a sense of the joy of following You.

Friday June 15 *We pray that Kirks all over Scotland will be blessed with many guests during this weekend of Invitation, guests who will be surprised by the breadth and depth of what is on offer. May our Friday café be buzzing even more than usual, and this evening's sports quiz bring forth hilarity and hidden talents.*

Saturday June 16 Our invitation weekend continues with social events offering dancing and a heart-warming Christian film. We thank You Lord Jesus that fellowship in You has so many facets. We pray that our guests will be glad they came, and that we'll see them again.

Sunday June 17 *We pray that God will bless JAM's efforts to fund hygienic toilet facilities for a distant community that has none. May the lesson in helping their neighbours influence our children's development; and in that community, may lives be saved and a better future begin.*

Monday June 18 Lord, I thank You for beauty, not just the visual kind, but for the beauty of human interaction. In public and private, I am touched by it in so many different ways. Through my Church family I feel supported and sustained. Thank You.

Tuesday June 19 *It's ironic though timely that in this year of young people we realise how difficult life is for those living in the shadow of knife, gun and acid crime. Often, they are drawn into that culture because they are traumatised. Their society is without role models for them. Let us pray that ways will be found to give them hope and vision.*

Wednesday June 20 World Refugee Day reminds us painfully of the inequality in the world. So many people are living in danger, and quite possibly have had their homes and security destroyed. May we not begrudge giving them a chance to have something of the privilege that we enjoy. May we be instrumental in giving them hope.

Thursday June 21 *We pray that the desperate economic plight of the Venezuelans can be remedied soon, and that they will be given the wise leadership that all people deserve.*

Friday June 22 A prayer for our Session, Board, core groups and committees that have been meeting throughout the year to serve our Kirk and Christ's. Let us acknowledge our debt to those who work so hard, even if their labours are of love.

Saturday June 23 *Many people will be glad that our strawberry-tea season is beginning. We give thanks that we are able to offer our attractive facilities to community groups, and we pray that the Aurora Country Dance Group will have a happy and successful morning.*

Sunday June 24 (Remembering God wants to use us as a channel of his love:) "To Your loving care, Father, I commend all those who are dear to me, especially Be in every wounded heart, every troubled home; with all those who suffer pain and distress; giving the blessing of Your peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (from Dunkeld Cathedral's prayer leaflet.)

Monday June 25 *Lord, thank You for everything that happened to me today. For all the good things, but also for the things that challenged me. You are doing it all to take me on my journey. There is plenty about which I am not sure what to do next, and I pray for Your guidance now Be with me tomorrow and always. Amen.*

Tuesday June 26 Jesus doesn't want religion to be used to control people. He wants the eyes of the people we meet to be opened to the reality of God's love for all. He wants us to live lives that say and do the right things because God's love is in our hearts. (Shuna)

Wednesday June 27 *Let us thank God for Archbishop Michael and "that sermon" at last month's royal wedding. He will have touched the hearts of more than a billion people. "There's power in love!" Father, move us all to try out what he said. Amen.*

Thursday June 28 Part of love's power is in the comfort it allows us to bring to those who thought love had left them with the departure of a dear one. That is why our Bereavement Group has been so endearing to the friends who go to it. Lord, make us all more familiar with the way such love works.

Friday June 29 *With the summer holidays approaching, let us pray for parents who, without school meals, struggle to feed their children. May they find help if needed at foodbanks, and may those be generously stocked by ourselves, who don't have such worries. We remember the boy's lunch shared among so many by Your Grace, Lord Jesus.*

Saturday June 30 We thank God for our local Archway charity and its work to improve life and opportunity for people with learning disabilities. Blessed are the carers, and those who are cared for.