

# Cults Parish Church

## *Prayer Diary July 2018*



Children separated from parents  
at the Mexico-USA border.

God will provide.

...but it is our job to deal with this sort of thing.

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 August diary by July 20<sup>th</sup> to Andrew Fairhead.  
[andrew.fairhead@btinternet.com](mailto: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.

**Sunday July 1** *My dear Lord, I have to ask sometimes: “Do You provide?” Of course, I know You do! My faith affirms it, and the thought can encourage anyone in a crisis. But the rest of us must never tire of ensuring that Your provision is delivered. Your Will will be done, but we must play our part.*

**Monday July 2** Loving God, there are some for whom the moments contain worry, sadness, and even fear of what is unfolding. Even when we are brought low, still support us. You have made us resourceful for the times of trial. You have sent us Your Son to share the burdens and show us the way. May Your Holy Spirit provide the vigour when it is most needed.

**Tuesday July 3** *On Thursday, the nation celebrates the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the NHS. We thank our Lord Jesus for His presence in the Christian values of its birth, which will be acknowledged in churches and cathedrals. May we strive to make His church similarly beneficial to our nation today.*

**Wednesday July 4** While most of us enjoy life, we must pray for those who are clinging on to it. Lord, though their physical strength may be weak, keep alive their hope, which will bring them peace and the confidence to go forward. Make us quick and kind to give them our company, and to support those who are anxiously giving them their love and energy.

**Thursday July 5** *On Easter Day, we took home sunflower seeds from Church. They seemed dead, like our hopes sometimes; but now they, or other seeds we have planted are flourishing into fine, upright and beautiful plants. Thank You Father for Your jubilant Resurrection message that all our difficulties, errors and pain will be as nothing in the glorious, heavenly life we have in front of us.*

**Friday July 6** As the schools break up, we pray for happy holidays for the children, parents and teachers. May the change of daily pattern not bring challenges, but opportunities for all to discover new things about themselves, each other, and God's world.

Today is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Piper Alpha disaster, which will awaken deep troubles for some. Let us pray for all who work in dangerous industries, particularly those charged with safety will tirelessly carry out their duties.

**Saturday July 7** *Let us pray for all who strive to make care homes fit for that name. We give thanks for the Friends of Tor-Na-Dee, who are providing today's strawberry tea.*

*Graeme and Jessica will be married today in our Church. Loving God, we cherish the relationships that enrich our lives, and will help everyone to find and enjoy them.*

**Sunday July 8** Lord, help us to find and know You in fresh ways. Be present at our new Breakfast Church, and make the story of Daniel in the lions' den as encouraging to us as it is surprising. It shows us how we should trust that You will provide.

**Monday July 9** *We pray for Shuna and the Reverend Keith Blackwood of Mannofield Church, who this week are carrying out Christ's work in Garelochhead as padres for army cadets. We pray that the cadets, staff and volunteers will be helped by their presence, and we give thanks that faith is integrated into the training and regular life of our armed forces.*

**Tuesday July 10** Nine times out of ten we go our way as if our safety, our liberty, our well-being was of our own making: as if we didn't need those who protect us, supply our food, make our clothes, build our homes, clean our streets. (Rev. Dr. Sam Wells) Let us give thanks for our tradespeople as many of them take their traditional fortnight's holiday; and do the same the next time we use their services.

**Wednesday July 11** *Lord Jesus, we are ashamed by those in the USA and elsewhere who are making our religion outrageous by claiming their government laws, which may grievously harm people, are Divine. You Who spoke out against the abuse of power, make us brave to hold up Your true church and shame these false prophets.*

**Thursday July 12** Holidaying away from home has many benefits for us and for the places and people we visit, but there can be unwanted consequences. Let us pray for the islanders of Skye, a community threatened by the number of admirers and the consequent rising prices. Let us pray that we can be sensitive to the effect of our actions and expectations on others.

**Friday July 13** *Holy Spirit, You've been at the World Cup! Thanks to You, this global tournament has kept alive a conversation between countries even when there are political tensions between them. We thank You for our sporting instincts as we enjoy the other exciting spectacles this summer.*

**Saturday July 14** Father, we should be more aware and outraged by the violence against the powerless, such as sex-trafficking and slavery, that is perpetrated all over the world, even in Scotland. Let us support our local branch of the International Justice Mission at the strawberry tea this morning. May the funds raised make a difference.

**Sunday July 15** *Let us again pray for our new Breakfast Church, whose story today is David and Goliath. Lord God, we feel like David when we take on new challenges for You, but we know that belief in You allows us to achieve so much.*

**Monday July 16** Like David, I won't get far if I'm not suited to the task. Lord, help me remove any armour that hampers me, so I can do Your work in the simple ways I know.

**Tuesday July 17** *Let us give thanks for the staff, volunteers and bakers who make our Hub café such a popular place for its welcome, good food, and company. Let us pray that others will come forward to keep up its momentum.*

*Holy Spirit, let warm blessings overflow at our Guild's tea party this afternoon, and keep the group strong to do its faithful work at home and abroad.*

**Wednesday July 18** Lord, we are being harmed by our fascination with the screens we have at home or carry around with us. We pray particularly for the people, often young, whose addiction to games is causing them to miss out on real life. We pray for their parents and guardians too, wondering what to do for the best. May we at least be helped now by having the problem acknowledged, both in the home and in society.

**Thursday July 19** *Our friends in the Camphill movement are celebrating 70 years since its foundation. Lord Jesus, we commend them to You, not only for the culture they bring to our community, but also for the example of sacrificial love that the staff and co-workers give. We pray for the flourishing of all the children and adult residents.*

**Friday July 20** We pray that the delicate relationship between the USA and North Korea can continue to develop with the good faith that will be essential to its progress.

**Saturday July 21** *The charity Me Too returns to the Hub to give this morning's strawberry tea. May the proceeds allow even more information to be compiled in support of parents and carers of young people with special support needs.*

*We ask God to bless Matthew and Laura at their wedding today, and grant that the happiness of their marriage, and His blessings, continue for all time.*

**Sunday July 22** Let us join those at Breakfast Church in thanking God for the life and inspiration of Ruth, who someone dear to her said "Leave me and my problems. Go and enjoy your life", she responded "No. Because I love you, I will stay and help." Later, Jesus Himself responded in the same way to those in need.

**Monday July 23** *Lord, You have given us freedom to govern our worldly affairs, but we wish our politicians would conduct themselves more according to the values the great faiths have taught us. Relations such as those between the Scottish and UK governments, and between the UK and European parliaments might then be less abrasive and more conciliatory.*

**Tuesday July 24** Lord, come to the aid of those who suffer around the world – in Yemen, Venezuela and Central America, in Myanmar, and other places we name now. May those causing the trouble realise the human cost is too high, and begin negotiating.

**Wednesday July 25** *Let us all pray the benediction at the end of this diary.*

**Thursday July 26** We pray that our nation will learn from the Grenfell tragedy, and find the compassion to care sincerely for the survivors and those who lost loved ones there. May we take seriously our shared responsibility for the safety and wellbeing of others.

**Friday July 27** *The arts depend these days on generous patrons, but humans have always had a gift for creative expression. Let us pray that young people will always be given opportunities to explore the arts, and with Aberdeen's new International Youth Arts festival set to open, let us pray particularly for the performing arts.*

**Saturday July 28** How hard the volunteers work for the caring charities, in fundraising and in carrying out their mission. Today's strawberry tea is given by the volunteers of Inspire, which helps those with special needs find appropriate employment and homes, and even creating jobs and homes for some. God bless their work.

**Sunday July 29** *If all the world's a stage, then Your love, Father, is a showstopper – a revelation which stops our acting, and rings in our head. We pray to You for all who are putting the final touches to this week's holiday club, intending to pass Your gift of love on to the children in our community.*

**Monday July 30** Lord, we thank You that this week in our Church, and in many other churches this summer, children are having fun with Christians of all ages at holiday clubs. May they discover Your plan for them, and allow Jesus to show them how to follow it.

**Tuesday July 31** *(A children's prayer.) Father God, You created the world and made me part of it. I'm learning to do lots of things as I grow up, but most of all, please make me good at making people happy. Amen.*

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Let us go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast that which is good, rendering to no one evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honouring all people, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us now and forever. Amen.

