

This Prayer Calendar is provided to encourage us to pray for one another within the fellowship of Affinity.

Information is provided each month by our **member** agencies, churches and organisations. We also include prayer requests from churches within our wider network. If you wish information for prayer to be included in the Prayer Calendar please send it to us at least five days before the end of the month in which you would like it to appear.

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- 1** **Crosslands'** annual conference 'Theology for Life', starts today (1 - 3 February). Please pray for all the students and other attendees to be encouraged to follow Jesus where they are, and that they would lay solid theological foundations together to serve God's kingdom and others in their local churches. Pray for those speaking on 'the Word made flesh', Ecclesiastes, 'engaging our cultural imaginations', and other topics.
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- 2** Please pray for the survivors of a terrible Christmas Eve massacre in Plateau State, Nigeria. An estimated 295 people were killed, mostly women, children and those unable to run away from the extremist militias. Around 25 Christian villages were targeted in the carefully coordinated attacks on 24 December, with 1,500 homes burnt, eight church buildings destroyed and 30,000 people displaced. Lift up to the Lord the grieving Christian communities who **Barnabas Aid** are seeking to support, especially the injured and the newly homeless. Pray that they will be given courage and hope, as Christians in parts of Nigeria continue to suffer violent persecution because of their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
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- 3** **Edward Connor Solicitors** give thanks for God's recent provision in new staff members joining their team. Please pray that God would help them in their search to find senior Christian employment lawyers as they look to meet growing demand.
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- 4** Please pray for primary school pupils who have recently heard **Lovewise's** 'Growing up... Growing wise' presentation and for secondary school pupils who have recently heard their 'Pornography: Dangers & Decisions' presentation. Pray these students will engage with and respond positively to the truths that were presented. Pray for people to book places at the Lovewise Annual Conference in March (both in-person in London and on Zoom), which will focus on the importance of following God's perfect design for marriage.
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- 5** Please pray for the **Church Society's** 'Fellowship of Word and Spirit Conference' over the next three days (5 - 7 February), at King's Park Conference Centre, on the theme of 'Revival – Spiritual renewal in the Bible, history and today'. Pray for clear, bold talks and an edifying time for all. Pray also for the speakers Simon Vibert, Bob Evans, Andrew Atherstone, and Eddie Scrase-Field.
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- 6** The **Evangelical Movement of Wales (EMW)** will be opening bookings for their Summer Camp today (6 February). Please pray for the technical aspect of the opening – they get hundreds of bookings within the first hour which is always a challenge for the office staff and IT systems. Please also pray for the teams that are being put together to serve on camps. Close to three hundred individuals will be involved this year in the programme. Pray that the Lord would provide leaders and officers who are Christ-like and are motivated by love for him. Pray also that the Lord would bless them as they prepare for camps.
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- 7** **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**, seek to engage with local people and friends by organising Saturday evening events. A recent board games evening attracted a good number of people some they have not met previously. The church plans to host a Chinese New Year event this weekend (10 February). Please pray that some of those contacted through these various outreach events will come on a Sunday or sign up for Christianity Explored.
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- 8** Please pray for **Cor Deo's** 'Bible Feast' which is happening over the next three days (8 - 10 February). This is a time when people are invited to 'feast' on the word of God over an intensive period. They will be walking through and enjoying Ephesians and Colossians.
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- 9 Please pray for many Christians to respond to the government's consultation on gender questioning children in schools. Several Christian teachers have lost their jobs for refusing to agree with social transition of young children. **Christian Concern** continue to support Christian teachers and parents against these injustices.
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- 10 Give thanks for the **FIEC's** growing team of Local Directors across the country, particularly for the new appointment of John Samuel to serve in Hampshire and Dorset. Please pray that John will settle into this role well and that God will use him to bless the independent churches in the region.
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- 11 Please continue to pray that **SASRA's** work within the Army and RAF will grow. Pray for God's help as the SASRA headquarters team plans events over the year ahead. Please also pray for the spouses and children of Scripture Readers, that they would run with endurance the race that is set before them (Heb 12:1).
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- 12 Please pray for **Peterhead Congregational Church** as they plan, in association with other churches, a series of Lent Bible Studies. Pray that many will come seeking to know more about the Lord. Pray too for the election of new church deacons, that all might be in the will of God.
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- 13 **London Seminary** has several 'Visit Days' this month and next for prospective students considering a call to pastoral ministry. Pray that the Lord would raise up men as pastors and evangelists, and that they would be well trained and equipped for ministry. This week (15 February), the Pastors' Academy at London Seminary is hosting a day on the 'Stresses of Pastoral Ministry'. Pray that this would be helpful and encouraging to those who attend.
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- 14 Pray for the many older people everywhere who **Faith In Later Life** supports. This Valentine's Day, pray they will come to know the richness of God's unrelenting love for them and that they will know the impact of this love on their lives today, and for all eternity.
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- 15 Please pray that the **Christian Schools' Trust** Biennial Christian School Leadership Conference, which starts today (15 -16 February), will be a blessed success. The conference will be on the theme of 'Sustaining Godly health and courage as a senior or middle leader'. Please also pray for the number of groups who are in the process of starting a Christian school.
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- 16 Pray for refugees from Sudan who have fled to Abéché in Chad's Ouaddai province. Since the start of the conflict, more than 80% of the Sudanese registered refugees have been received, many of them injured and requiring treatment at the University Hospital Centre. Pray for the **African Inland Mission** team who are in the area to know how to best respond to this situation.
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- 17 Several new people – believers and seekers – from a range of backgrounds, have been attending **Radcliffe Road Baptist Church, Bury**, recently. Please pray for the crucial task of embracing and integrating these new people, seeing the church grow and God's work progress.
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- 18 Give thanks for opportunities **Daylight Christian Prison Trust** has to run Christianity Explored courses in prisons. Please pray that as prisoners spend time looking at Mark's Gospel they will see who Jesus is, why he came, and what it means for them to follow him today.
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- 19 Praise God for the recent baptism of a young man at **Grace Baptist Church, Southport**. Please pray as the church follows up with those who have expressed an interest in finding out more about Christianity and those who have expressed a desire to be baptised.
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- 20 Please pray for the new **Crossteach** workers in Warwickshire. Pray that they would settle into their roles quickly, and forge good relationships with the schools and churches Crossteach partner with.
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- 21 Pray that God will strengthen and build his church through the **Free Church Of Scotland (FCoS)**. Pray that the FCoS will see healthy revitalisation across the denomination and that God will draw people to know him. Pray that their smaller congregations would particularly know God's strength, power and plans.
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- 22 Please pray that **UFM Worldwide's** 'Called to Serve' day this weekend (24 February) at their Swindon office would be a huge help to those who come, as they explore whether they should consider global mission as an avenue of service for them.
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- 23** Pray that staff and students at **Oak Hill College** will remain rooted and grounded in Christ, convinced that in him their labour will bear fruit, and that apart from him they can do nothing useful in his service. Pray for the College's Open Morning happening tomorrow (24 February), that the Lord will connect them with people who will join in September to begin the adventure of training for Christian ministry. Please also pray for the students graduating this summer who are still discerning their immediate future, pray the Lord will lead them to a place where he can use them powerfully in service of the gospel.
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- 24** The women of the **True Freedom Trust** are meeting in London today (24 February) for their annual conference. Pray for them as they fellowship together and learn from 2 Corinthians.
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- 25** Please pray for **Grace Baptist Partnership's** annual gathering for prayer and praise at Dunstable Baptist Church happening next month (Saturday 9 March). Pray especially for Bill James from London Seminary who will be preaching at the event.
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- 26** **Sharing Christ Internationally (SCI)** is a ministry seeking to reach Mongolians with the gospel. An evangelistic Facebook video received 185,000 views and thousands of 'Likes' from Mongolians in just three days in early January. Afterwards the Facebook account was professionally hacked. This is just a reminder that the gospel is always under attack in Mongolia, please pray for protection and for the gospel to advance despite trials.
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- 27** Give thanks with **Caring For Life** for every housing bid that has been answered and for every safe home and flat that has been made available to the vulnerable men and women Caring For Life support. Please pray that safe homes will continue to be found for those in desperate need.
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- 28** Please pray as **CARE** work with allies in Parliament on numerous issues: There are new moves to further liberalise abortion laws, pray that these will be thwarted. CARE are engaging with the UK Government on how best to identify and support genuine victims of modern slavery, please pray for these meetings and that real change will come. Finally, pray that Ofcom will implement age verification on online pornography speedily following the recent 'Online Safety Bill'.
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- 29** **Little Hill Church, Wigston**, will be considering appointing more elders and deacons in the next couple of months. Pray that the Lord will lead them and keep the church peaceful and united, whatever the outcome.
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If you would like more information about the Affinity Members mentioned in the Prayer Calendar, you will find their website addresses on the Affinity website – www.affinity.org.uk.

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