

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** This Easter Monday, pray for churches embarking on new, or continuing, activities this time of year such as holiday clubs, toddler groups, Easter gatherings and other ministries. Pray for **Access Insurance** as they help their church clients manage the risks they face.
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- 2** Please pray for Felix Ngole, being supported by **Christian Concern**, whose case in the Employment Tribunal starts today. Felix had a job offer withdrawn after he refused to say that he would 'embrace and promote' homosexual rights, whilst ensuring the employer that he would not discriminate. Five years ago Felix won a landmark victory in the Court of Appeal after he was expelled from university for expressing his Christian views on sexual morality. Now he faces another challenge that could bar him and other Christians like him from employment.
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- 3** The **International Presbyterian Church (IPC)** is hosting its first ever 'Spring Getaway' this week (2-5 April) in Keswick. Please pray for this great opportunity for those in the IPC to get to know other believers and enjoy fellowship with one another. The event comprises three days of worship, teachings, and communal activities. Reuben Hunter, the Senior Associate Minister at IPC Ealing, will be the main speaker.
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- 4** Give thanks for military personnel who heard the Easter message at **SASRA** supported events last weekend. Pray this would resonate in their minds and ask that hearts would be convicted and have understanding, that many more would be brought near to God by the blood of Christ.
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- 5** Please pray for Lee Gatiss, Director of **Church Society**, speaking to ministers in the Anglican Province of Chile this week (5-13 April). Pray for fruitful speaking opportunities and gospel-rich connections to be made with those he meets.
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- 6** Please pray for Barry King, leader of **Grace Baptist Partnership** and pastor of Wimbledon Baptist Church, as he preaches at the 50th anniversary of the Thailand Lahu Baptist Convention tomorrow (7 April) in Chiang Mai, Thailand.
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- 7** **London Seminary** is having a special week of prayer this week (7-14 April) regarding the need for more men to be called to pastoral ministry. Please join in prayer for this critical need, a shortage of candidates is affecting training institutions nationwide, and churches are struggling to find pastors. Give thanks for the vital ministry of women workers and pastors' wives in our churches – pray for London Seminary's Women's Day on 13 April.
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- 8** **Affinity** is launching a new podcast today (8 April) delving into the heart of gospel ministry and church unity across the UK. Pray that the Lord will use this podcast to inspire and inform listeners about the incredible work he is doing.
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- 9** Ramadan ends today (9 April). It is renowned for being a month in which Muslims fast in daylight hours, but for many Muslims, it is also a time of trying to draw closer to Allah. Since Muslims often focus on spiritual matters during Ramadan, **ReachAcross** workers often find opportunities to have in-depth conversations with them about God, prayer, salvation through faith in Christ and not by works, etc. Pray that as Muslims seek Allah, they may instead find salvation through the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
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- 10** A fresh attempt to legalise assisted suicide in Scotland threatens the most vulnerable across the nation. Pray for **CARE's** campaign team as they work with MSPs, allies, and the media to make many clear and powerful arguments about why the Scottish Parliament should reject this legislation. Pray for God's blessing on our work and for success in what we're doing.
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- 11** **Solas** have just come to the end of the student mission season, they have been speaking at CU's and on campuses in St Andrews, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Lancaster, Reading, and Canterbury recently. Thousands of students have heard something of the gospel. many for the first time. Please pray that the word sown would bear fruit in their lives and that many would put their faith in Christ. Pray too for the many Christian students involved in follow-up with people who expressed an interest during these events weeks. A new Solas book 'Have You Ever Wondered?' was published earlier this month (2 April), please pray that many non-Christian people will find it, read it and that it will lead people to Jesus.
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- 12** Pray that the student pastor who is joining **Little Hill Church, Wigston**, for three weeks this month will be blessed by being with the church and further equipped for future ministry.
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- 13** Please pray for **UFM Worldwide's** Irish (13 April) and Scottish (20 April) spring conferences. All are welcome and please pray that those who come will be challenged, encouraged and equipped as they hear about cross-cultural ministry.
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- 14** Thank the Lord for those **Caring For Life** beneficiaries who have recently come to faith in Jesus and who are now attending various gospel churches. Please pray that the Lord will be at work in the hearts of all those who attended recent Easter bible studies.
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- 15** 'I have seen the Lord!' (John 20:18) Lift to Jesus the millions of people around the world who are still awaiting these words of joy in their own language. And also for the Bible translators at **Wycliffe** who are working so that all people will know Jesus through the Bible.
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- 16** **Iden Green Congregational Church** has had several opportunities to share the gospel with local people in the last few months, especially at a mission in February. Please pray for opportunities for follow-up, further opportunities to share the gospel and to see some fruit.
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- 17** Operation Forgiveness is an early intervention knife crime initiative by **London City Mission** that equips young people with the power of forgiveness. It's delivered by local churches to local schools. Tomorrow (18 April) they are giving all people the opportunity to 'Experience Operation Forgiveness' for themselves, and find out how churches can get involved. Please pray for this event, that it will inspire Christians and churches to take practical steps to address knife crime in local communities.
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- 18** Pray for the **Evangelical Movement of Wales** Pastors' Wives' Conference happening this weekend (19-20 April). The conference is an opportunity for fellowship between pastors' wives and for teaching and mutual support. The majority of the sessions this year will be given by women, please pray that God will use their personal experiences to encourage and inspire attendees.
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- 19** Give thanks for the recent **Lovewise** Annual Conference at which the blessings of self-control during courtship were clearly presented; pray that many more young people in our nation would hear and respond positively to such teaching. Pray also for good fruit from Lovewise involvement at two meetings tomorrow (20 April): an education event run by Christian Concern (stall selling Lovewise resources) and a conference for members of Christian Medical Fellowship (Lovewise's Deputy Director will be speaking on the topic of Gender).
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- 20** Please pray for the **Free Church of Scotland** conference 'In A Big Country' happening today (20 April). Ask God to help the speakers present well and make the event successful for all. Pray for many rural churches where there is a significant population and opportunities for redevelopment. Pray for believers in these areas to be granted wisdom and opportunity to share the gospel in their community.
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- 21** Several people come to regular outreach events held at **Blenheim Free Church, Maidenhead**, but none have transitioned to regular Sunday services where they can hear the gospel more fully proclaimed. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will persuade them to come on a Sunday.
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- 22** Please pray for the new Expedition programme run by **Crosslands**, aiming to inform and equip those preparing to plant or revitalise. Please pray for those interested in the programme to be prayerful and reliant on God as they look at training options, and that Expedition might contribute to the growth of God's kingdom.
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- 23** Please pray for the Closing Service of the current session of the Reformed Theological College, part of the **Reformed Presbyterian Church in Ireland**, happening today (23 April) in Limavady. Pray too for a good intake of new students in September.
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- 24** With the cost of living crisis, **Christian Schools' Trust** are aware that charities, like themselves, are seeing a decrease in financial support. Please pray that God will sustain these important ministries in every way and meet financial needs.
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- 25** Pray for the students and lecturers at **Edinburgh Theological Seminary**. Ask God to help them with their studies, to grow stronger in their faith and help the lecturers to communicate well. Pray for students who have exams coming up at the end of April and beginning of May.
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- 26** Pray for the 36 **True Freedom Trust** volunteers attending a residential training session this weekend (27-28 April). Pray the training would prove beneficial as they seek to provide support and teaching in the fields of sexuality and gender.
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- 27** Pray for the **Free Church of Scotland** Camp 'Leaders and Cooks training day' which is taking place today (27 April). Pray that it will be a time of equipping and preparation for leaders and cooks, and ask that the Lord would give wisdom to those speaking and those leading the day. Give thanks for the work of the Camps Coordinator Mairi, and Camps Supervisor Donald in all they do to organise and run the camp programme.
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- 28** Give thanks that many prisoners continue to request Bibles and New Testaments & Psalms from **Daylight Christian Prison Trust**, wanting to have copies to read for themselves. Please pray that they will read them and God will speak to them through his word.
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- 29** Please pray for 'Thrive', **the FIEC's** retreat for women in ministry, which starts today (29 April) in Derbyshire. Pray for those leading, and those attending, that they would be refreshed and equipped to serve Jesus faithfully and with joy.
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- 30** Please pray for Dave Steward, who recently joined the **Association of Grace Baptist Churches (South East)** as their Operations Manager, as he begins to serve in this new role. Pray also for churches in the closing West Anglia Association that are planning to join AGBC(SE) later this year. Lastly, pray for new pastors to be found for the churches within the network currently facing vacancies.
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gospel churches in partnership

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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