



Prayer Diary for May 2025

Fairmilehead Parish Church

Thursday 1st “As a new month begins we pray for God to prompt us to offer warm hospitality to all in need, bearing in mind Hebrews ch.13 v.2, *“Don’t forget to be kind to strangers, for some who have done so have entertained angels without realizing it.”*

Friday 2nd Following the death of Pope Francis who was a voice of compassion and justice, we pray for our brothers and sisters at St Mark’s and St Peter’s Churches who mourn such a huge loss.

Saturday 3rd On Press Freedom Day Lord, grant journalists the courage and integrity to report the truth, even when it is difficult or unpopular. In countries such as Nicaragua, China, Eritrea and Turkey, protect journalists from intimidation, and violence. Inspire those in power to respect the freedom of the press and listen to varied opinions.

Sunday 4th Heavenly Father, on International Firefighters Day, we ask for Your protection over all firemen as they face dangerous situations and risk their lives to save others. Watch over them and shield them from harm.

Monday 5th On International Midwives Day, consider the unique role of midwives in supporting mothers through the journey of childbirth, and ask for guidance for these skilled experts and for deep blessings for those under their care.

Tuesday 6th In Deaf Awareness Week, Lord, we thank you for the beauty of sign language and its role in removing communication barriers for the community of the deaf.

Monday 26th This week on Thursday our new Bible Study group meets. A safe place where all can bring questions, doubts, and a desire to understand more as the group explores a book which touches our pain, our faith, and our view of Your presence in the world. We pray it is meaningful and spiritually enriching for all who attend.

Tuesday 27th We give thanks for the beauty of spring around us - for blossoming trees, warming skies, and the quiet promise of new life. As the earth renews itself, renew our hearts too. Fill us with hope, with courage, and with the grace to walk in Your love as we go out and about in our parish.

Wednesday 28th On World Hunger Day, we pray for world leaders and international aid organizations involved in hunger relief, asking for divine insight to guide their actions. Ask for them to be given wisdom in finding sustainable solutions and promoting justice in food and water systems.

Thursday 29th Today is Ascension Day! Risen Lord, draw us close to you. Stay with us and bless us with your gracious presence that our hearts may burn within us as we recognize your risen presence in your Word, the Bread and Wine, and in the lives of those in whom you live.

Friday 30th Yesterday was the International Day of UN Peacekeepers: God of compassion, walk alongside all of your global peacekeepers, who work to create a more just and peaceful world. Equip the United Nations community with a sense of urgency and humility.

Saturday 31st Loving God, as May comes to a close, we pause and take time now, to breathe deeply and to look back with honesty at the month now ending. We thank you God for walking with us through this month, for the moments of joy, the quiet lessons, the hidden blessings. We lay before You now all that we carry - the worries we couldn’t shake, the prayers still unanswered, the things we wish we had done differently. Take them from us we pray, as we move into a new month. Help us leave behind what no longer serves us. Amen.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

[Philippians 4:6-7](#)

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Wednesday 7th Tomorrow is World Red Cross Day: Thank God for its foundation in Switzerland, for its neutrality in wartime, its work locating missing people, and for the bravery of its members, such as Muslim Red Crescent workers killed in Gaza.

Thursday 8th 80 years ago, the whole country celebrated Victory in Europe; pray that our country will continue to stand firm and speak out for justice and peace and protect innocent countries from invasion by powerful neighbours.

Friday 9th Pray God's blessing on all Prison Chaplains, *"helping people know that God's presence doesn't stop at the prison gates, and neither does God's love and grace... walking around the halls, work sheds, exercise yards... offering bereavement care, giving out reassurance... because God is there, and each day I go to work I pray that someone will know that they are cared for."* (Rev. Gary Caldwell)

Saturday 10th For Fairtrade Day, we offer prayers for all involved in Fairtrade, including producers and consumers, asking for fair treatment and justice for employees. Ask for us to have the wisdom to make ethical choices, the power to act on injustices, and the strength to support new Fairtrade initiatives.

Sunday 11th As Christian Aid Week starts today we pray for our fundraiser after worship today. We give thanks that our fundraising aids the work Christian Aid is doing in small countries to provide vital training, so communities can survive the hugely detrimental effects of global warming, like prolonged droughts and freak storms, by planting resilient crops, conserving water and making their own fertilizers.

Monday 12th On International Nurses Day, we pray for all nurses in our parish. We pray for each nurse to be blessed with strength, wisdom and a soothing word to speak. Give them joy and laughter to lift a weary soul. Pour into their hearts your compassion. Give them gentle, healing hands for those in their care.

Tuesday 13th In Mental Health Awareness Week, we pray for hope, comfort, and protection to everyone facing the challenge of mental illness.

Wednesday 14th All of us have been horrified by recent deaths from stabbing of innocent youngsters. In Knife Crime Awareness Week, we pray that our law-makers and police may find ways to stop the sale of dangerous knives, and our systems identify and treat those likely to be dangerous.

Thursday 15th As our new walking group sets off today, we ask You to bless our steps, our conversations, and our fellowship. May each monthly walk be more than exercise, may it be a time of connection, joy, and spiritual renewal. May our laughter, encouragement, and kindness fill our time together.

Friday 16th A Prayer for Water Saving Week: We pray for all children who live in dry and dangerous lands? We remember today the millions of people around the world who still thirst, who walk miles each day to find water that is often unclean. We lift up the work of Water Aid and all who strive to bring safe, clean water.

Saturday 17th Today we celebrate Christian Aid's 80th Birthday with a service at St. Giles' Cathedral, attended by the First Minister, John Swinney, and Ms Temwa Priscilla Kasakula, Christian Aid's Global Advisor for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health, who is at the General Assembly. Ask for God's deep involvement in her work with young people in Malawi about Christian inter-personal ethics, helping them to form caring and responsible relationships, and avoiding unwanted teenage pregnancies.

Sunday 18th Pray for God's special blessing on The General Assembly, which started yesterday. We lift in prayer our Elder Duncan Wilson who is a commissioner this year.

Monday 19th Today at the General Assembly, the Most Reverend Hosam E. Naoum, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem is speaking. We pray for all those ministering in the land of Christ's birth. We pray that soon peace takes root where division has endured and that compassion rises where fear has grown.

Tuesday 20th The General Assembly is to consider a Report on Assisted Dying. Polls show that a clear majority of Christians appear to be in support of a change in the law. Pray that discussions on this challenging and sensitive matter will be motivated by compassion, non-adversarial in tone, and not be seen as a battle between ideological campaigners.

Wednesday 21st Rev Tafadzwa Kasere, Presbyterian Minister From Zimbabwe, currently studying for a Masters degree at Edinburgh University School of Divinity on a Desmond Tutu Scholarship, is presently attending the General Assembly. Pray for a special blessing on every Desmond Tutu African scholar, that they may return as enthusiastic leaders in the world church, with new insights into the bible and a new understanding of their faith.

Thursday 22nd Do we know someone battling diabetes? Lift them up in prayer! Lord, be with them each day, helping them with self control about what they eat. In Diabetes Prevention Week, heal their bodies and lift from them any discouragement.

Friday 23rd In Foster Care Fortnight, we give thanks for all who care for vulnerable children in their homes: for kinship carers, adoptive parents and foster carers. May these children and their carers know Your warm companionship. Lord, prompt more individuals and families to open their hearts and their homes to children needing a place to belong.

Saturday 24th Pray for Crossreach's *"The Elms"* residential home in Edinburgh for those living with Dementia. Bless and inspire the staff with wisdom and empathy as they work, and fill their hearts with hope, faith and love.

Sunday 25th On the International Day for Missing Children, we remember Jesus was lost in a great city and was restored to his loving family. Lord, watch over all missing children and protect them with your love. Guide those searching and bring the children back to the loving arms of their families. Shield each child from harm, and grant them strength and courage.