

dark cavernous night before it flickers out." We may wish our lights to shine a great deal more clearly. Pray for this now.

**Thursday 23rd** As the days become colder and nights darker, pray for all those who struggle to heat their homes. Wrap them in Your love Lord, provide for their needs and stir us, Your people, to share generously, that no one may be left in the cold.

**Friday 24th** For United Nations 'Day, let us not give up its quest for a more civilised, co-operative and peaceful world. On this Day, schools throughout the world celebrate the diversity of their student bodies and hold cultural performances, concerts and food fairs. Pray for the UN to be more favourably treated in our media.

**Saturday 25th** "You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you." (John Bunyan) If we allow ourselves to apply that question to our lives, does it face us with difficult choices or wonderful opportunities? Only we ourselves can answer that.

**Sunday 26th** On International Brain Tumour Awareness Day, thank God for progress in Brain Cancer treatment. Surgeons have described as a "game changer the new "ultra-rapid" method of genetic testing which "is improving care and treatment for thousands of Brain Cancer patients". This method, already used in 50 operations, has had a 100% success rate in diagnosing the exact type of tumour. There are currently more than 100 identified types of brain tumour, and clinicians need to identify quickly which kind a patient has to determine the most effective way to treat them.

**Monday 27th** Today is World Day for Audiovisual Heritage : Our church heritage from the 1930s is often much admired, but its systems only just cope with our audio/visual requirements. Pray for the Property Committee,

who have to deal with our now quite elderly buildings, requiring many repairs, to be met with minimum funds.

**Tuesday 28th** Botswana has led the world in coping with HIV infections! Thank God that it was the first country in the world with a high level of infections to achieve the World Health Organization's Gold-Tier status for elimination of mother-to-child transmission; Praise God for this amazing achievement!

**Wednesday 29th** Give thanks for the gift of our pop-up café, for the welcome, friendship, and conversations shared there. Bless all who come through its doors, that they may find warmth, community, and a glimpse of Your love.

**Thursday 30th** Tomorrow is World Cities Day; Cities are projected to house 70% of the world's population by 2050. Pray for the Youth Climate Changemakers movement, mobilizing local action for urban sustainability. Ask God to bless the crucial role of young people in addressing climate challenges, especially as it affects people living in cities.

**Friday 31st** When the world celebrates Halloween today with costumes and scary things, help us to remember that You Lord are the Light in the darkness. Thank You that Your love is stronger than fear, and that we belong to You. Keep us safe and kind, as we shine Your light wherever we go.

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## Prayer Diary for October 2025

### Fairmilehead Parish Church

**Wednesday 1st** On International Music Day, give thanks for the many people who contribute to the music at our church.

**Thursday 2nd** Today is the International Day of Non-Violence, known in India as "Gandhi Jayanti", marking the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. Lord, we pray urgently and persistently for everyone involved in the peace-making negotiations from Israel and Palestine, that the healing Holy Spirit may be present in hearts formerly closed to it, and for war-determined leaders in Israel and Hamas to have their mindsets changed.

**Friday 3rd** Today we remember George Bell, peace-maker, and leading advocate of ecumenical co-operation between churches. Thank God for Bell's work to help those orphaned by the war, for the speedy exchange of prisoners of war, and for his vital role in securing safe haven in Britain for Jews who wanted to escape the terror of the Nazis.

**Saturday 4th** On World Animal Day, and Memorial Day for St. Francis, thank God for so many beloved pet animals, through whom, in God's wonderful world plan, our hearts as children learn the joys and sorrows of love.

**Sunday 5th** As we celebrate our Harvest Thanksgiving today, in this season of plenty, make us mindful of those who hunger and thirst and move our hearts to

be generous in love, just as You have been generous to us.

**Monday 6th** Korea's De-Militarised Zone with all its fortifications, landmines and barbed wire, has become a sanctuary for 6,000 species of wildlife (including 100 endangered ones) such as rare cranes, Siberian Musk deer, Asiatic black bears, and yellow-throated pine martens. On World Wildlife Day, Thank God for the way he can turn evil into good! "It's ironic, isn't it? Weapons meant for killing have become the greatest protectors of life." says Kim Seung-Ho, conservationist.

**Tuesday 7th** Yesterday was the birthday of William Tyndale, Bible translator. Pray for all who are translating our bible into foreign tongues to be as inspired as he was and thank God for new translations of our own bible, such as the "Passion Bible", which can be inspiring.

**Wednesday 8th** Thank God for all the generous donations given on Sunday at our Harvest service which have now reached the foodbank and will help children in need across Edinburgh.

**Thursday 9th** We remember today those who are housebound who cannot be with us in church on a Sunday. Surround them with Your peace and presence and remind them that they are always part of Your family. May our Harvest gift be a blessing to them.

**Friday 10th** On the World Day against the Death Penalty, let us not ignore Amnesty International's latest Report on the Death Penalty in 2024 which reveals an alarming increase of 32% in recorded executions compared to 2023.

**Saturday 11th** Today is the International Day of the Girl Child whose 2025 theme is "The girl I am will lead the change we need": We need to help girls to break out of

the cycle of poverty, lack of education, and child marriage - often as young as thirteen.

**Sunday 12th** On World Hospice and Palliative Care Day, pray for our local Marie Curie Hospice, with its great expertise in treating cancer patients. Lord, bless our Marie Curie staff who work mostly in the community, visiting patients in their homes, whilst keeping a small residential part of the hospice open. Pray for better funding for this work.

**Monday 13th** In the healing of the man at Bethesda, Jesus poses a surprising question: whether the crippled man truly wants to be healed and makes him face this deeper question of whether he truly wants healing, and whether he can be rescued from the pool of despair and his dwindling stock of hope. Perhaps we, or someone we know, face(s) the same question. Pray for them or yourself.

**Tuesday 14th** In National Adoption Week, pray for everyone thinking of adopting a new child to receive excellent professional advice. Pray for God's special blessing on each adoptive child.

**Wednesday 15th** On the International Day of Rural Women, let us recognise what all the research shows--the vital role that women play in social and economic change. They are so eager to accept education and training in new skills. If you give such women mini-loans, they will start new businesses—for instance, given a sewing machine, creating new clothes. Ask God's blessing on all these.

**Thursday 16th** A defibrillator is one of the first things you meet at the doors of our church, advertising our concern to offer help to people with coronary problems. On Restart a Heart Day, pray that everyone locally will know where to find this.

**Friday 17th** On International Conflict Resolution Day, pray this prayer for conflict zones such as Burma, Ukraine, Gaza,

Colombia: In our war-torn world, pray for protection for the innocent, vulnerable, and marginalised; replace war-mongers with peacemakers.

**Saturday 18th** Lord, on UK Anti-Slavery Day, we pray for you to shine a light on victims of modern slavery in Britain; bring an end to this exploitation, and inspire action against modern slavers, whether they are fishermen or girls often brought here from places in the Arabian Peninsula. Father, rescue them from this illegal trade; and we pray for those enslaved to find they can open their hearts to you, the God of Hope, and be filled with joy and peace, freedom and healing. We pray also for the perpetrators to repent and stop their involvement in this criminal trade.

**Sunday 19th** Do you know someone suffering from chronic or recurring pain? Pray for him or her to have God's special healing Holy Spirit in order to be able to cope. Or perhaps it is yourself? Thank God for how powerful it can be.

**Monday 20th** As schools open again after the October break, we pray for pupils, teachers, and staff. Bless them with energy, patience, and joy in learning and teaching. Keep classrooms safe and welcoming and help every child to grow in wisdom, kindness, and confidence.

**Tuesday 21st** If being a Christian were against the law, would there be enough evidence to convict you? This question can be a useful wake-up call for our consciences. But it is a truly dangerous question in the parts of Ukraine invaded by the Russians. No one but ultra-keen Russian orthodox church members will pass this test. Others (especially evangelicals) have been imprisoned; some report torture. Pray for strength for all Christians whose faith is truly being tested.

**Wednesday 22nd** Malcolm Muggeridge, for most of his life an atheist, became a Christian in later years. "I should like my light to shine, if only fitfully, like a match struck in a