

Prayers for February 2023

God of love and life, restore us to your peace, renew us through your power and teach us to love all that you have created and to care for the earth as your gift and our home.

1. **Brigid, Abbess of Kildare.** *We pray for the work of the food bank working out of the Baptist Church Hall and all the volunteers, remembering Brigid's charitable nature. We pray for all who live in Conghurst Lane, Ridsen, Foxhole Lane. In our Deanery, we pray for the parish of Headcorn and The Suttons, and the Vicar, Revd Fiona Haskett.*
2. **The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas).** *Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people; a light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.* We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.
3. *What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you claim to have faith but fail to show it in works? James 2:14* We pray for the people living in Delmond Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parishes of Etchingham and Hurst Green.
4. *Almighty God, open my eyes afresh to your greatness, your power and your glory, here and everywhere.* We pray for the ministry in and from the St Laurence Parish Office. We give thanks for the loving and faithful ministry of our Churchwardens, Alison and Liz. We pray for all living in Red Oak and Hensil Lane.
5. *We have all gone astray like sheep; each going our own way, but the Lord has laid on him the offences of us all. Isaiah 53:6.* Bless all the doctors, nurses and staff who work in our local doctors surgeries and at Benenden Hospital and the Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.
6. **Children's Mental Health Week.** *We pray for all children struggling with mental health and for the work of Young Minds and other charities.* We pray for all shops and businesses in the High Street, and in our village. We pray for all living on Horns Corner and Horns Hill.
7. *Loving God, grant us grace to be honest with you, with others and with ourselves. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* We pray for all living on Moor Hill, Talbot Road and The Hawthorns; Stream Lane and Hastings Road. Bless and guide the King and all members of the Royal family.
8. *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7.* We pray for the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst and with St Mary's Frittenden and the Vicar, Revd. Pete Deaves.
9. *Loving God, make a difference to me, so that I may make a difference to others. Amen.* We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.
10. *Jesus looked up to heaven and said 'Father the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people. John 17:1-2.* We pray for the families living in Barretts Road and Hearten Oak Road.

11. *Let us unwaveringly hold fast to the hope we profess, for he who has promised is faithful. Heb 10:23* We pray for all who live in Tongswood Drive and Whites Lane and for the parish of Goudhurst and Kilndown, and the Vicar Revd. Rachel Robertson.
12. *Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it. Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures. Help us to become instruments of a new creation, Founded on the covenant of your love.* We pray for all who live in Cranbrook Road and Sandrock Cottages. We pray for the parish of Cranbrook and for their search for a new Vicar.
13. *Gracious God, we have heard your call, give us grace to act upon it.* Bless and guide those living in Fairview and Northgrove Road. We pray for all who worship in the Parish of Marden and the Vicar, Revd. Nicola Harvey.
14. **Valentine, Martyr at Rome.** *We pray for all those getting married this year.* We pray for those living in Gills Green and Wellington Cottages, Tubs Lake and those living in Bedgbury. We pray for all members of the Methodist Fellowship in Hawkhurst.
15. *Brothers and sisters, do not speak evil of one another. Who are you to judge your neighbour? James 11a, 12b.* We pray for all who worship and serve in the Roman Catholic Church of St Barnabas and for Father Patrice. Bless those living in Gingerbread Lane and The High Street.
16. *Lord Jesus Christ, we go in your strength, knowing that whatever we may face you will be sufficient for all our needs.* We pray for those living in Gunther Court, Hartnokes and Basden Cottages, and also for the parishes of Ticehurst and Flimwell and the Vicar Rev Ashley Evans.
17. **Random Acts of Kindness day.** *Wherever there is a human being, there is an opportunity for a kindness. Lucius Annaeus Seneca.* We pray for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk. We pray for all who worship in the Baptist Church in our village, and for the Minister Revd. Ben Gotts and his family.
18. *To God who is always forgiving, always loving, always offering a new beginning, be honour and glory, praise and thanksgiving, this day and for ever.* We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park, Highgate Hill, Herschel Place Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
19. *Dear God, we come from four corners to walk together on the path of life. Just as a tiny acorn grows into the mighty oak, let the seeds of knowledge grow within each of us.* We pray for all the schools in our village, for the Headteachers, Staff and pupils and in particular for the Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School. We pray for all those living in Murton-Neale Close and Camerons. We also pray for all living in Oakfield and Theobalds.
20. *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that hope may blossom within you through the power of the holy spirit. Rom 15:13* We pray for all living on Slip-mill Lane, Slipmill Road and Sobers Lane. Pray for the parishes of Ewhurst and Bodiam and the Rector Canon Christopher Irvine.

21. **Shrove Tuesday.** *This day is for feasting: for eating, not wasting, for chewing and tasting all that God makes! This day is for singing: our ears will be ringing, with songs we are bringing to God - full of praise!* We pray for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways. Church Walk, Queens Close and Hammonds.
22. **Ash Wednesday.** *Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return.* We bring to you in our prayers today, all living in Western Road and School Terrace, Rye Road and Highfield Close. We pray for the parish of Staplehurst, and the Vicar Revd Silke Tezloff.
23. *Heaven and Earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. Matt 24:35* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.
24. *Almighty God, by the ministry of faithful pastors and teachers, keep us steadfast in your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, now and for ever.* We keep in prayer those living in, Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.
25. *Little Children, let us love, not in word or empty promise, but in deed and reality. 1 John 3:18.* We pray for all living in Attwater Lane and Potters Lane. We pray for Revd. David Commander, Rector of the Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst, and Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners.
26. **First Sunday of Lent.** *God, as we walk through the potholes of life, the valleys, the pits of life, guide us with your hand, keep our feet steady, and our vision on you.* We pray today for all living in Herschel Place, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and all new homes in our village. We keep in prayer the residents of Water Lane and Gun Green.
27. **George Herbert, Priest, Poet.** *Let all the world in every corner sing, my God and King!* We pray for Justin Welby, our Archbishop, The Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, the Bishop of Dover and Stephen Taylor, Archdeacon and Diocesan Secretary, Andrew Sewell, Archdeacon of Maidstone. We pray for the work and ministry of the Anglican Consultative Council.
28. *Thus said the Lord God, the Holy one of Israel: Come back, be at peace, and you will be safe; your strength lies in quietness and being still. Isaiah 30:15.* We pray for our Vicar and Area Dean of the Weald Deanery, Fr Rodney Dreyer and his family. We continue to pray for our Churchwardens, and all the members of our PCC. We remember all the members of our fellowship who live outside the parish.

Sovereign God, before all, above all, within all, beyond all, go with us now and remain with us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.