

Prayers for April 2023

Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God – Philippians 4:6

1. *‘Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God” Ps 14:1.* 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. **Palm Sunday.** *‘They took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him’ John 12:13* We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.
3. **Monday of Holy Week.** *‘Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?’ John 12:5.* We pray for the people living in Delmonden Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parishes of Etchingham and Hurst Green.
4. **Tuesday of Holy Week.** *‘Very truly, I tell you, one of you will betray me’ John 13:21.* 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. **Wednesday of Holy Week. Pesach (Passover) begins (sundown).** *‘Surely not I, Lord?’ Matt 26:22.* We pray for Revd. David Commander, Rector of the Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst, and Area Dean of the Weald Deanery and also for Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.
6. **Maundy Thursday.** *‘I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you.’ 1 Cor 11:23.* 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. **Good Friday.** *‘One of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once blood and water came out.’ John 19:34.* 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. **Holy Saturday.** *‘So you must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.’ Romans 6:11.* We pray for the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst and with St Mary’s Frittenden and the Vicar, Revd. Pete Deaves.
9. **Easter Day. Alleluia Christ is Risen.** *‘Mary Magdalene went and announced to the Disciples “I have seen the Lord”’ John 20:18.* We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.
10. **Monday of Easter Week.** *Risen Christ, we celebrate your glorious resurrection. You appeared to your friends and disciples, and filled their hearts with hope and joy at your power to overcome death. Lord Jesus, giver of life, as you came to them, so*

come to us, that we may live in your light and strength this Easter and always. Amen.
We pray for the families living in Barretts Road and Heartenoak Road.

11. **Tuesday of Easter Week.** *Loving God, go with me now, and through all the uncertainties of life may I glimpse your presence, a beacon of hope and a signpost along the way.* 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. **Wednesday of Easter Week.** *I cry out to the Lord; I lift up my voice begging him for mercy, I pour out my grievance before him I tell him openly of my trouble. Ps 142:1-2.* 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. **Thursday of Easter Week.** *Living God, such is your love that you lived and died among us, and rose again so that we might live. For that simple yet wonderful message, I thank you, in the name of Christ.* 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. **Friday of Easter Week.** *Jesus Christ, crucified Lord and servant King, take our weakness and our frailty and, by your grace, use us still to achieve great things for your kingdom.* 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. **Saturday of Easter Week.** *‘He said to all “If any want to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily, And then follow me”’. Luke 9:23.* 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. **The Second Sunday of Easter.** *‘Blessed are those who have not seen yet have come to believe’ John 20:29.* 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. *Sovereign God, faithful and true, in you we put our trust, confident that what you have promised shall come to fruition.* 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. *‘He himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”’* We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park and Highgate Hill, and Herschel Place
19. *Sovereign God, for the many ways in which we fail to live as your people, forgive 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. *Gracious God, take what we are and remould us by your grace, so that we will bear the image of Christ within us, and live to his glory.* 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. *Loving God, open our hearts to your grace, and help us to receive the new life you long to give us.* We pray for all living in the area of Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
22. *Loving God, we come to you today, offering not just our faith but also our doubt, praying that you will use both to lead us closer to you.* We pray for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk.
23. **The Third Sunday of Easter. George, Martyr, Patron of England.** *‘The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world – he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.’ Rev 12:9* We pray for all living in Queens Close and Hammonds.
24. *God of all, break through the barriers that shut our minds fast, and help us to see things both as they really are and as you can help them become.* 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 Tezlaff.
25. **Mark the Evangelist.** *O Almighty God, who hast instructed thy holy Church with the heavenly doctrine of thy Evangelist Saint Mark: Give us grace, that, being not like children carried away with every blast of vain doctrine, we may be established in the truth of thy holy Gospel; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.
26. *Loving God, you always see the best in us; teach us to see the best in others, for Christ’s sake, Amen.* We keep in prayer those living in Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.
27. **Christina Rossetti, Poet 1894.** *Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine, love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.* 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 all living in Attwater Lane and Potters Lane.
28. *‘Whatever your task, do it for God’s sake rather than anyone else’s knowing that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.’ Col 3:23.* 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.

29. **Catherine of Siena, Teacher of the Faith, 1380.** *Heavenly Father, your glory is in your saints. We praise your glory in the life of the admirable St. Catherine of Siena, virgin and Doctor of the Church. Her whole life was a noble sacrifice inspired by an ardent love of Jesus, your unblemished Lamb. 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.*

30. **The Fourth Sunday of Easter.** *Lord, hear our prayer. For those who are sick, may the risen Christ visit them with healing power and new hope. For those who have died; May they live forever with Christ in the glory of the resurrection. For those left behind, may they find comfort in your sustaining and everlasting love. We pray for our Vicar, 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.*

Lord, we ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us, so that you would be honoured by our lives, and others would be drawn to you.

Our Lenten resource this year has been:

Diane Houdek: Lent With St. Francis: Daily Reflections. Franciscan Media.