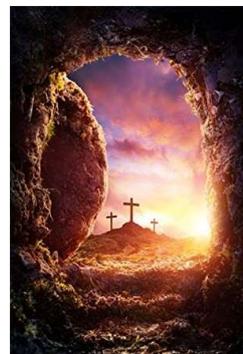


Prayers for April 2025

HE IS RISEN INDEED!



1. *Psalm 119:109-112. Today we look a little further to see how the Bible helps us to keep God's commandments. Lent is a time to use the Bible more fully in our life of prayer. **A Prayer:** Lead me O Lord towards the transformation of all things in Christ that I may share in Your Glory. **A Saying:** What then does the Lord require of you, only this: to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly before your God.(Micah 6:8) We pray for all who live in Conghurst Lane, Risden, Foxhole Lane. In our Deanery, we pray for the parish of Headcorn and The Suttons during their interregnum.*
2. *Psalm 119:113-116. Use this Lent to deepen your own awareness of the needs of others and do something very practical about it. **A Prayer:** Lord, You have given me so much and have kept me in safety; help me to be aware of the needs of others and generous in response. **A Saying:** "In as much as you have done it to the least of these My brothers and sisters you have done it unto Me" (Jesus). We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.*
3. *Psalm 119:117-120. "Hold me up and I shall be safe". Trust is letting God have total care of our lives. Walking with Him in every possible department of our life. **A Prayer:** Take me, dear Lord today into the experience of Your holy Presence that I may not stray from Your commandments. **A Saying:** "Without God we cannot; without us God will not". (St Augustine) We pray for the people living in Delmond Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parishes of Etchingham and Hurst Green.*
4. *Psalm 119:121-124. Not my way but Yours Lord. Here is one more way of preparing for the days that lie ahead: a careful examination of the ways in which we have been blind and deaf to the call of the psalmist for perfection. **A Prayer:** Lord God help me to draw closer to Jesus and know Him as my Saviour and my Judge. **A Saying:** The entire life of a good Christian is nothing less than holy desire. We pray for all living in Red Oak and Hensil Lane.*
5. *Psalm 119:125-128. How often do we say "Why doesn't God do something' about suffering. It is good to ask this question quite radically and honestly in Lent and then - there is only one thing to do - repent and turn more fully to God. **A Prayer:** Give all who suffer this day, Lord, the comfort and strength of Your presence. **A Saying:** If suffering is always the result of sin, some people would be permanent invalids. We pray for all who worship and serve in the Roman Catholic Church of St Barnabas and for their Minister Father Ethelbert Ukpabi. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.*
6. *Psalm 119:128-132. The psalmist reminds us that true happiness, true joy comes only in completeness to those who see that in God we have all that we need. **A Prayer:** O turn to me and be merciful to me; give me grace to love You more. **A Saying:** He who is master to himself has a fool for a scholar! Bless and guide the King and all members of the Royal family. We pray for all living on Horns Corner and Horns Hill.*

- 7 *Psalm 119:133-136. Tears of real sorrow will bring us close to the heart of Jesus. **A Prayer:** Lord Jesus, let me come to You this day in complete honesty as far as I can; forgive me Lord and help me to do better. **A Saying:** "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners". We pray today for all the schools in our village, in particular for Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School, the Headteacher Jodi Hacker, the staff, governors, volunteers, and parents. We pray for all living on Moor Hill, Talbot Road and The Hawthorns; Stream Lane and Hastings Road.*
- 8 *Psalm 119:137-140. In this psalm the writer is never tired of speaking of God's Word. "Be still and know that I am God". In a very noisy busy world we must find time to be still, to listen and to learn. **A Prayer:** Help me Lord not only to take the Sacrament of the Altar seriously but also the sacrament of the Word. **A Saying:** "Hear the Word of the Lord: Thanks be to God". Bless all the doctors, nurses and staff who work at Benenden Hospital and the Hawkhurst Community Hospital. We pray and give thanks for all who work in the emergency services. We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.*
- 9 *Psalm 119:141-144. God's righteousness is the pattern for our daily lives. **A Prayer:** Come Holy Spirit and help me to do the holy will of the Father. **A Saying:** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We remember the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst with St Mary's Frittenden and the Vicar, Revd. Pete Deaves.*
10. *Psalm 119:145-148. "Before the morning light I rise and call". The day must begin with God, because a day which does not, usually lives without God and ends without God. **A Prayer:** Be present O Lord, and protect us through the silent hours of the night, that we may rest in Your love in peace. **A Saying:** Lord, hurry me into holiness. We pray for all who work in and own shops, pubs, restaurants and businesses in the High Street, in our village, especially during the period of the road closures. We pray for the families living in Barretts Road and Heartenoak Road.*
- 11 *Psalm 119:149-152. The most important way of obeying God is to love Him and love others through and as a result of that love. **A Prayer:** Lord Jesus, You have shown us how to love; help us to love others in You. **A Saying:** God is love, and those who love, dwell in Him. We pray for all who live in Tongswood Drive and Whites Lane.*
12. *Psalm 119:153-156. Christ has pleaded our cause by His saving death. Tomorrow we shall enter the last week of that wonderful life of service and sacrifice. It will be good for us, then, to ponder this great act of love and ask ourselves: how far have I responded that love? **A Prayer:** Lord Jesus, help me to love You today as You love me. **A Saying:** The deeper our love for God the deeper is our love for our neighbour. (St John of the Cross) We remember today the Food 4 Families food bank in Hawkhurst, for the volunteers and for all those who need its services. We pray for all who live in Cranbrook Road and Sandrock Cottages. We pray for the parish of Cranbrook and their Vicar Revd. Richard King.*
- 13 **PALM SUNDAY.** *Psalm 119:157-160. He came unto His own and His own received Him not. This is a week to make a special effort, not to do anything new, but just to be more with Him as He goes His way on the final few days of His life "from that poor manger to His bitter cross". **A Prayer:** Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus, come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus. **A Saying:** This is a true saying and worthy of all to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. 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. **Monday in Holy Week.** Psalm 119:161-164. Jesus is the completely holy man; there was never any cause to persecute Him, except that His holy life showed up the wickedness of others. **A Prayer:** Keep my eyes and heart fixed on You Lord Jesus, that I may share this holy time with You. **A Saying:** If anyone sin, we have an advocate with the Father Jesus Christ the righteous and He is the propitiation for our sins. We pray for those living in Gills Green and Wellington Cottages, Tubs Lake and those living in Bedgebury. We pray for all members of the Methodist Fellowship in Hawkhurst.
15. **Tuesday in Holy Week.** Psalm 119:165-168. This for us must be a week of praise and penitence. Praise because of the wonders that have happened for us in this loving act of sacrifice; penitence because it is for our sins that He suffered and died. **A Prayer:** Thanks be to Thee, O Lord Jesus Christ, for all the pains that Thou has borne for me. Help me to love Thee more. **A Saying:** I am come that they might have life and have it more abundantly. (Jesus). We pray today for all ordinands and those in training for Licensed Lay Ministry. Bless those living in Gingerbread Lane and The High Street and for the parish of Goudhurst and Kilndown, and the Vicar Revd. Rachel Robertson.
16. **Wednesday in Holy Week.** Psalm 119:169-172. Forgiveness is something that we ought to have much in our prayers and thoughts this week. "He died that we might be forgiven". **A Prayer:** We beseech You, O Lord to send into our hearts and the hearts of all people everywhere the spirit of compassionate love. **A Saying:** God works through the loving tender hearts of His children. We pray for those living in Gunther Court, Hartnokes and Basden Cottages, and also for the parishes of Ticehurst and Flimwell during their interregnum.
17. **MAUNDY THURSDAY.** Psalm 119:173-176. The word Maundy comes from the Latin **Mandatum** which means commandment. It refers to the words of Jesus to his disciples: "A new commandment I give you that you love one another". Here is the heart of the Gospel spoken by the most loving Heart of all. **A Prayer:** O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for Thee. **A Saying:** The Bread which we break is it not a sharing of the Body of Christ? 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 their Minister Revd. Ben Gotts and his family.
18. **GOOD FRIDAY.** We come to the end of our journey with Psalm 119. It is a piece of writing that again and again reflects the life of the Perfect Man, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Today we can come back with loving hearts to our Saviour as He hangs on the Cross. Spend time looking on His loving act of sacrificial love for us. **A Prayer:** Almighty Father hear our prayer and look with mercy on us and bring us safely home to You; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. **A Saying:** There is a balm in Gilead, To make the wounded whole, There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul. We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park and Highgate Hill.
19. **HOLY SATURDAY.** So we pause as he lies in the tomb. **A Prayer:** Bring us O Lord at last into Your everlasting kingdom to be with You for ever. All shall be Amen and Alleluia. **A Saying:** We shall rest and we shall see, we shall see and we shall know, we shall know and we shall love, we shall love and we shall praise, behold our end which is no end. (St Augustine) We pray for all those living in Murton-Neale Close and Camerons. We also pray for all living in Oakfield and Theobalds.

20. **EASTER SUNDAY. ALLELUIA FOR NOW CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD."BEHOLD I AM ALIVE AND I WAS DEAD, AND I AM ALIVE FOR EVER MORE AND I HAVE THE KEYS OF DEATH AND HELL. AMEN. ALLELUIA.** We pray for all living on Slipmill Lane, Slipmill Road and Sopers Lane. Pray for the parishes of Ewhurst and Bodiam and the Rector Canon Christopher Irvine.
21. *Ever-living God, give your Church the courage to witness that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead, and accept this our sacrifice of thanks and praise. Amen.* We pray for all living in the area of Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
22. *Lord, may other people come to share our joy in the Risen Christ, and put their trust in him through the work of the Church. Amen.* We pray today for those who live in Cophthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk.
23. **George, Martyr, Patron of England, c.304.** *Oh Lord, Thou knowest how busy I must be this day. If I forget Thee, do not Thou forget me. Amen.* We pray for all living in Queens Close and Hammonds.
24. *This is the day which was made by the Lord, let us rejoice and be glad. Alleluia.* 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. *Christ is risen from the dead, He is no longer subject to death. Alleluia.* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.
26. *Father, Easter is the celebration of the greatest love of all, may we remain faithful to the risen Christ, and discover the reality of His love in our lives. Amen.* We keep in prayer those living in Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.
27. **Second Sunday of Easter.** *All praise and glory to You, eternal God. After his resurrection, Your Son gave his peace and joy to the Apostles - may all who are baptised come to know the peace of God in their hearts, and be instruments of His peace in the world. Amen.* 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 Area Dean of the Weald Deanery and also for Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners. We keep in prayer the residents of Water Lane and Gun Green.
28. *"Go quickly and tell the disciples that the Lord has risen" Alleluia.* We remember today all those in care in the village. We pray for the staff and residents of Bowles Lodge and Hawkhurst House. We pray today for all living in Herschel Place, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and all new homes in our village.
29. *Eternal God, you raised us to new life with your Son, and you want us to set our minds the things that are above - look with favour on all who put their trust in the risen Christ. Amen.* We pray for the Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, the Bishop of Dover and Iain Blythe the Diocesan Secretary. We pray for the work and ministry of the Anglican Consultative Council.

30. *O Lord, open our minds so that we may understand more of the mystery of your saving love in the Risen Christ. Amen.* We pray for our Vicar, Canon Fr Rodney Dreyer and for his family. We pray for our churchwarden, all members of our PCC and also for those members of our fellowship who live outside the parish.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!