

## Prayers for May 2026

***Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' [Lk 1.38]***

1. ***Philip and James, Apostles.*** *Thus says the Lord: Stand at the crossroads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way lies; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls. [Jer 6.16].* 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 during their interregnum.
2. *Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 373. In God we have boasted continually, and we will give thanks to your name forever. [Ps 44.8].* We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.
3. ***Fifth Sunday of Easter.*** *You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy. [Ps 30.11].* We pray for the people living in Delmond Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parish of Holy Trinity, Hurst Green during their interregnum.
4. *English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era. Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and shield. Our heart is glad in him, because we trust in his holy name. Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us. [Ps 33.20-22].* We pray for all living in Red Oak and Hensil Lane.
5. *Move on steadily, and know that the waters that carry you are the waters of My love and My kindness, and I will keep you on the right course. [Frances J. Roberts].* We pray for all who worship and serve in the Roman Catholic Church of St Barnabas and Fr Damian Ilodigwe.. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.
6. *"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. [Matt 5.14-16].* Bless and guide the King and all members of the Royal family. We pray for all living on Horns Corner and Horns Hill.
7. *In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. [Ps 71.1].* We pray for all living on Moor Hill, Talbot Road and The Hawthorns; Stream Lane and Hastings Road.
8. *Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, c.1417. "All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well" [Julian of Norwich].* We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.
9. *Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. [Ps 100.1-3].* We pray for all living in Oakfield and Theobalds. We remember the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst with St Mary's Frittenden during their interregnum.
10. ***Sixth Sunday of Easter.*** *When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, [Jer 29.13].* 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 the families living in Barretts Road and Heartenoak Road.

- 11 *Praise the Lord. Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of his faithful people. [Ps 149.1].* We pray for all who live in Tongswood Drive and Whites Lane.
- 12 *Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952. For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; [Job 19.25].* We pray for all who work in and own shops, pubs, restaurants and businesses in the High Street, in our village. We pray for all who live in Cranbrook Road and Sandrock Cottages.
- 13 *God is my best friend. He cares about the things I care about. He loves me even when I'm unlovable. He is always there to listen and advise; when I need to talk things over. [Sally Jo Shelton].* 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. Bless and guide those living in Fairview and Northgrove Road.
- 14 **Ascension Day.** *God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. [Ps 47.5-6].* We pray for those living in Gills Green and Wellington Cottages, Tubs Lake and those living in Bedgebury. We pray for Revd. Nicola Harvey, Vicar of Marden and Area Dean of the Weald Deanery, Curate Rev Vicki Young and all the parishioners of Marden.
- 15 **Matthias the Apostle.** *O Almighty God, who into the place of the traitor Judas didst choose thy faithful servant Matthias to be of the number of the twelve Apostles: Grant that thy Church, being alway preserved from false Apostles, may be ordered and guided by faithful and true pastors; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* We pray today for all ordinands and those in training for Licensed Lay Ministry. Bless those living in Gingerbread Lane, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and The High Street and for the parish of Goudhurst and Kilndown, and their Vicar, Revd. Rachel Robertson.
- 16 *Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. [Ps 84.11].* We pray for those living in Gunther Court, Hartnokes and Basden Cottages, and also for the parishes of Ticehurst and Flimwell and their vicar, the Revd. Canon Dr Jason Radcliff.
- 17 **Seventh Sunday of Easter.** *Sunday after Ascension Day. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you. [Ps 84.12].* 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 *He is my King; in my heart He's hid. He is my joy all joys amid. I am a drop in His ocean lost His coracle I, on His wide sea tost, a leaf in His storm. [Marjorie Milne of Glastonbury].* We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park, Herschel Place and Highgate Hill.
- 19 *Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury, Restorer of Monastic Life, 988. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. [Mal 4.2].* 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 those living in Murton-Neale Close and Camerons. We pray for the parish of Cranbrook and their Vicar Revd. Richard King.

20. *Alcuin of York, Deacon, Abbot of Tours, 804. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. [Ps 23.2-3].* We pray for all living on Slipmill Lane, Slipmill Road and Sopers Lane. Pray for the parishes of Ewhurst and Bodiam during their interregnum.
21. *Helena, Protector of the Holy Places, 330. My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing. [James 1.2-4].* We pray for all living in the area of Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
22. *Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven. [Ps 148.11-13].* We pray today for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk. We pray for all living in Queens Close and Hammonds.
23. *The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. [Lam 3.25-26].* We bring to you in our prayers today, all living in Western Road and School Terrace, Rye Road and Highfield Close.
24. **Pentecost. Whit Sunday.** *Come Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire; Thou the anointing Spirit art, who dost the sevenfold gifts impart. [John Cosin 1595-1672, Revised English Hymnal 182].* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.
25. *The Venerable Bede, Monk at Jarrow, Scholar, Historian, Christ is the Morning Star, who, when the night of this world is past, gives to his saints the promise of the light of life, and opens everlasting day. [Venerable Bede].* We keep in prayer those living in Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.
26. *Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605. Faith is to believe what you do not see, the reward of this faith is to see what you believe. [Augustine of Canterbury].* 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 also for Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners.
27. *Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre. He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills. He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry. [Ps 147.7-9].* We keep in prayer the residents of Water Lane and Gun Green.
28. *Lanfranc, Prior of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Scholar, 1089. Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the*

*unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. [Isa 55.6-7].* We pray today for all living in Herschel Place, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and all new homes in our village.

29. *O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples. [Ps 96.1-3].* We remember today all those in care in the village. We pray for the staff and residents of Bowles Lodge and Hawkhurst House.
30. *Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. [Jer 17.7-8].* We pray for Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury, the Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover, Estella Last, Archdeacon of Maidstone and Iain Blythe the Diocesan Secretary. We pray for the work and ministry of the Anglican Consultative Council.
31. **Trinity Sunday.** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [Matt 28.19].* We pray for our churchwardens, lay ministers, members of our PCC and also for those members of our fellowship who live outside the parish. We pray for all those clergy ministering to us during our period of vacancy.

***‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; [Lk 1.46-48]***