

Benefice of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley

A Prayer and Bible Reading Diary July 2019



***Welcome** to this Prayer and Bible Reading Diary. Each day has a focus for prayer, including for those living in different roads in the benefice, and an Old and New Testament reading from the Church of England's lectionary. The diary can help us all pray together, as a community. There is no right or wrong way to pray. Include the prayers in your day, in whichever way is most natural for you. All prayer is precious to God, is heard, and a very valuable ministry.*

***Traditional church colour this month:** **Green** all the way through summer and autumn, all the "Sundays after Trinity", until All Saints Tide at the beginning of November. Green time is known as "Ordinary Time"; green symbolising growth, as we reflect and deepen our faith, after Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection remembered in the earlier stages of the Church Year.*

Monday 1st July: Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests and evangelical divines, 1797, 1813, 1873. Ezra 1, Romans 9:1-18. *Prayer:* For Rev. James Russell, whose Collation Service, at St Mary's, Overton, is today; for his future ministry. *Anchor Yard, Kingsclere.*

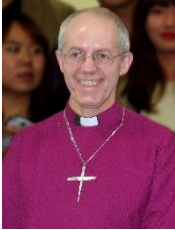
Tuesday 2nd July: Ezra 3, Romans 9:19-end. *Prayer:* For our politicians, of all persuasions; for a new spirit of listening, taking on board others' views, coming up with a way forward in Brexit, which will reconcile people and bring about a resurgence of goodwill. *Ash Grove, Kingsclere*

Wednesday 3rd July: Thomas the Apostle 2 Samuel 15:17-21, John 11:1-16. *Prayer:* That we can celebrate "Doubting Thomas" in our church community, by having the confidence to share our uncertainties and doubts, helping us all know we are human, and be encouraged by the very loving response Jesus himself had to Thomas. *Ashford Hill Rd, Ashford Hill.*

Thursday 4th July: Ezra 4:7-end, Romans 10:11-end. *Prayer:* Of gratitude for the abundance of nature at this time of year, in gardens, and in the beautiful countryside. For protection of wildlife. *Ashford Hill Rd. Headley*

Friday 5th July: Ezra 5, Romans 11:1-12. *Prayer:* That Brexit will somehow become less all-encompassing, and focus can return speedily to mental health, education, provision of social care and other vital issues.

Ashford Hill Rd, Thatcham.



Saturday 6th July: Thomas More, scholar, John Fisher, bishop, martyrs, 1535. Ezra 6, Romans 11:13-24. *Prayer:* For Christian leaders in this age, as they seek to influence society/politics; that they can

find effective language, and messages of compassion and fairness be heard widely. *Basingstoke Rd, Kingsclere.*

Sunday 7th July: 3rd Sunday after Trinity Deuteronomy 24:10-end, Acts 28:1-16. *Prayer:* For all times of worship in the benefice; that as informal, “extrovert” worship has become so popular, that the needs of naturally quieter, contemplative people, are acknowledged, and opportunities nurtured.

Monday 8th July: Ezra 7, Romans 11:25-end. *Prayer:* For the Standing Committee meeting tonight; for wisdom and compassion in all work done by PCC’s and other groups, who plan the future for the benefice.

Tuesday 9th July: Ezra 8:13-end, Romans 12:1-8. *Prayer:* For all people needing help physically, with daily life; that they can find carers, and if necessary, residential care, as needed. For good provision by government. *Bear Hill, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 10th July: Ezra 9, Romans 12:9-end. *Prayer:* For all who care for loved ones at home, round the clock. *Greenham Place Rd, Headley.*

Thursday 11th July: Benedict, abbot, 6th century. Ezra 10:1-17, Romans 13:1-7. *Prayer:* For all Christian communities today, which as St Benedict intended, create a moderate, loving path throughout faith and action, avoiding excessive zeal or excessive following of the law. *Brimley Hill Court, Kingsclere.*

Friday 12th July: Nehemiah 1, Romans 13:8-end. *Prayer:* For all professional carers, and staff in care homes, that they are helped and supported to be compassionate and knowledgeable. That enough are recruited, to meet increasing need. *Brimpton Common, Reading.*

Saturday 13th July: Nehemiah 2, Romans 14:1-12. For people who have dementia; for family members, as they adjust, and try to find the best way of caring for loved ones. *Byfields Rd Kingsclere.*

Sunday 14th July: 4th Sunday after Trinity Deuteronomy 28:1-14, Acts 28:17-end. *Prayer:* For Harry, and Godparents and family, as he is baptised today.

Monday 15th July: Swithun, bishop, 9th century, Bonaventure, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1274. Nehemiah 4, Romans 14:13-end. *Prayer:* For the ABC very young children's service this morning at St Mary's, they explore their theme "stormy weather". For all who host and teach, and all who come along. *Bushnells Drive Kingsclere.*



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Tuesday 16th July: Osmond, bishop, 1099. Nehemiah 5, Romans 15:1-13. *Prayer:* For the Archdeacon's visit today, to look at building and re-ordering plans for St Mary's; that compassion and service to others (Jesus's teaching) is behind the purpose of everything. *Cannon Heath, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 17th July: Nehemiah 6:1-7:4, Romans 15:14-21. *Prayer:* For all bible study taking place; especially those studying James tonight. *Canon's Court, Kingsclere.*

Thursday 18th July: Elizabeth Ferrard, deaconess, 1883. Nehemiah 7:73b-end of 8, Romans 15:22-end. *Prayer:* For all families with young children, in the benefice; especially those who struggle in any way, that they find support and friendship. *Cedar Dv. Kingsclere.*

Friday 19th July: Gregory, and his sister Macrina, teachers of the faith, 4th century. Nehemiah 9:1-23, Romans 16:1-16. *Prayer:* For Ben, our vicar, in his ministry and in his home life. *Chapel Lane, Ashford Hill.*

Saturday 20th July: Margaret of Antioch, martyr, 4th century. Nehemiah 9:24-end, Romans 16:17-end. *Prayer:* For neighbourliness; that there is the right balance between respecting privacy, and noticing and responding, if a neighbour is in need. *Common Road, Headley.*

Sunday 21st July: 5th Sunday after Trinity. Deuteronomy 30:1-10, 1 Peter 3:8-18. *Prayer:* For the widest understanding of prayer; from quiet listening and waiting, to the more vocal ways – all precious to God.

Monday 22nd July: Mary Magdalene. 1 Samuel 16:14-end, Luke 8:1-3. *Prayer:* For the people of Kyankowe, for all fundraising, and of gratitude for our friendship links. *Coppice Rd Kingsclere.*

Tuesday 23rd July: Bridget, abbess, 1373. Nehemiah 13:1-14, 2 Corinthians 1:15-2.4. *Prayer:* For staff and pupils at Kingsclere and Ashford Hill schools, as they break up for the summer holidays. *Cottington Cl. Kingsclere*

Wednesday 24th July: Nehemiah 13:15-end, 2 Corinthians 2:5-end. *Prayer:* For families with young children, as the holidays start; for enjoyment of time together. *The Dell, Kingsclere.*

Thursday 25th July: James the Apostle. 2 Kings 1:9-15, Luke 9:46-56. *Prayer:* For teachers to have a time of rest; especially those who feel exhausted through many demands and responsibilities. *Ecchinswell Rd Kingsclere.*

Friday 26th July: Esther 2, 2 Corinthians 4. *Prayer:* For St Mary's Holiday Club, as plans are made to provide activities, friendship, and encouragement in faith, for local children. *Elm Grove, Kingsclere.*

Saturday 27th July: Brooke Foss Wescott, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1901. Esther 3, 2 Corinthians 5. *Prayer:* For families and individuals who can't have a holiday, for whatever reason. *Evergreen, Headley*

Sunday 28th July: 6th Sunday after Trinity. Song of Solomon 2, 1 Peter 4:7-14. *Prayer:* For Henrietta, to be baptised today, and her Godparents and family.

Monday 29th July: Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Our Lord. Esther 4, 2 Corinthians 6:1-7:1. *Prayer:* For people living with broken relationships amongst their friends or family; for reconciliation and healing. *Fawconer Rd Kingsclere*



Tuesday 30th July: William Wilberforce, social reformer, anti-slavery campaigner 1833. Esther 5, 2 Corinthians 7:2-end. *Prayer:* For courage always to challenge oppression and inequality wherever we see it; to support organisations who do this. *Fielden Court, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 31st July: Ignatius of Loyola, founder of The Society of Jesus (Jesuits) 1556. Esther 6:1-13, 2 Corinthians 8:1-15. *Prayer:* For the Knit and Natter friendship and charity knitting group, meeting for the second time today. *Fieldgate Court, Kingsclere.*

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