

Tearfund is a Christian international relief and development charity, working in over 50 countries. Christ Church supports Tearfund's partner LAMB Hospital in Bangladesh.

- Give thanks for LAMB, which began as a mission hospital in remote rural Bangladesh, and has grown into a full healthcare system. Pray for safe births and good healthcare for a very poor community.
- Pray for LAMB as a Christian organisation showing God's love faithfully to everyone in the area, where Christians are less than 1% of the population.
- Give thanks for LAMB's vision to help a million people prepare for disasters, particularly floods, and pray for God's blessing to achieve it.
- Thank God for LAMB's training for local pastors – recently this led 13 small churches in one district to work together to lead their communities to agree what they'd like to improve. They started with making sure widows have enough to eat.

East Africa appeal

- This spring there is famine in South Sudan, and food shortages in Somalia, northern Kenya and southern Ethiopia. 16 million people are at risk. Pray for food, clean water, and medical services for everyone who needs them.
- Pray for the 17,000 people Tearfund is supporting with food supplies in South Sudan, for them to regain their strength.
- Give thanks for people being generous - the DEC appeal raised £50 million. Christ Church gave to Tearfund and to DAI's appeals.
- Pray for peace across the region, particularly in South Sudan, the world's youngest country. Pray for the church to give a lead in peace-making.
- Pray for the drought to end, and for farmers to be able to start again and make a living once more.

Global poverty in the general election

- Back in 1971 Britain promised to give 0.7% of national income as aid, and since 2013 we've been doing it. Give thanks that most of the parties have said they'll put a commitment to continue in their manifestos, and pray that the next government keep to it, and that the UK's aid saves many lives.
- Pray that the next government also commit to keeping the UK's climate promise from 2015's Paris Agreement. We said we'd cut our carbon emissions faster and help limit how much the world warms to as far below two degrees as possible. Pray that this happens quickly enough to rebalance the climate and avoid many more droughts, and pray that candidates hear voters speaking about climate change during the election campaign.

**Christ Church
Virginia Water**

Prayers for May



“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

Take part in the call to prayer Thursday 25 May – 4 June

Prayer Room Open Monday to Friday 08:30 – 16:30

Children's Ministry

- Please pray for the students in the children & families team as they take exams.
- Our children in year 6 as they have their SAT's and prepare to move to secondary school.
- That parents and carers coming to toddler group on Wednesdays will be increasingly challenged to ask questions about faith matters.

Youth Ministry

- Praise God that we have so many unchurched youth coming along to our groups and hearing the gospel week by week, and pray that they would have life changing encounters with God.
- Pray for the church youth who aren't prioritising coming along to church or youth events due to busyness or apathy, that the Holy Spirit would work powerfully in them and encourage them to seek to honour and prioritise God in every part of their lives and that they would delight in meeting together with God's people once again.
- Pray for the youth who have exams starting this month, that they would have a healthy work/life balance and that they would experience God's peace and joy especially during this stressful time.
- Pray that the youth team would be able to serve the youth effectively and with wisdom during the exam period, with the right balance of support, encouragement, and challenge to stand out for God in this busy and stressful season.

Student Ministry

- Pray for all students taking exams. Pray that their revision would be fruitful and they would feel God's presence with them throughout this hectic season.
- Pray that they would prioritise God throughout exam time and get their strength and peace from him.
- Pray as we go on retreat at the end of May. Pray for Hannah as she prepares study material and the logistics of the three days. Also pray that it would be a great time of fellowship with one another and that our relationships with God would deepen.
- Pray for those finalists that are preparing for first jobs or further study. Pray that all would be able to discern how they can serve God as they move on.

Adult Ministry

- Pray for the success for the Good News Café. We give thanks for the support of this vital ministry from the Church Family.
- Pray for the current Hope in Depression Course that is running on Thursday evenings at Church, for those that attend that they might hear something to support them in their time of need; for our helpers and organisers that they have the strength and good health to support them during this outreach.
- Pray too for our upcoming Alpha course starting

Strategy, Structure, Staffing and Operations

- Pray for the Interview panel who will be interviewing shortlisted candidates for the most important role of Vicar. May God give them guidance and discernment in their decision making.
- Pray for the advertisement for our Student and Young Adult Pastor, that God will lead the right person to our advertisement.
- Pray for the recruitment of the Administrator
- Pray that Annette settles into her new role as Operations Manager
- Give thanks for the APCM; pray for Meg Banks; Phil Elsdon; Greg Reeve; Bev Gilbert; Sophie Gilbert; Rob Humphreys; Brent Owens and Andrew Pereira, as they begin their term on the PCC
- Give thanks for the faithful service of William Suttie; Clive Edgar; Christina Kudzin and Brian Lewis as they step down from the PCC

**Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**