

LARBERT WEST PARISH CHURCH

PRAYER FOCUS



APRIL 2017

*Christ has risen, and for ever lives to challenge, and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen. Christ is present, making us what He has been -
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.*

John L. Bell (b. 1949)
and Graham Maule (b.1958)

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APRIL

- Mon. 3 Give thanks for the seasons and the changes each one brings.
- Tue. 4 Pray for those who need support through a worrying time whether through ill health, financial need or family concerns.
- Wed. 5 Ask God to open our eyes to the needs of others and be willing to give our time and talents to help others.
- Thur. 6 There are so many vulnerable people in this world. Pray that we may see where help is needed and enable us to offer what we can to make life a bit easier for those who require support.
- Fri. 7 Give thanks for the expertise of doctors and nurses in hospitals and for the fact that we have a National Health Service.
- Sat. 8 Ask God to be with those who find life difficult and can't see a way forward. May He give them peace of mind and the strength to carry on



Sun. 9 *On this Palm Sunday let us remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Take a quiet moment to give thanks for His coming and for the sacrifice He made for us on the cross.*



Mon. 10 **Give thanks for the gift of freedom and the fact that we are able to worship and express our religion freely.**

Tue. 11 Ask God to be with those who daily do the "unseen" jobs of cleaning our streets, maintaining our green spaces, emptying our bins etc. Let us not take them for granted.

Wed. 12 Ask God to help you have sympathy and compassion for others even though we may not understand the kind of lives that they lead.

Thur. 13 Pray for those who volunteer to help in war zones and be with their families who pray for their safe return.



Fri. 14 **For our sake Christ died on the cross. Ask God to strengthen our faith and our obedience following the example of His Son, Jesus Christ.**

Sat. 15 On this day the disciples felt loss and despair. Pray for those whose lives have been turned upside down by the death of someone close.



- SUN. 16** ***EASTER DAY! Give thanks that our Lord Jesus Christ, through His grace, gave us a second chance and a real reason to celebrate!***
- Mon. 17 Pray for all those who have to work on this bank holiday, especially those who keep us safe from harm and illness at home or abroad.
- Tue. 18 Ask God to help us to be penitent; to learn from our mistakes and to begin each new day walking with Him for the good of our neighbours and not ourselves.
- Wed. 19 Pray for our children. Pray that they do not fall prey to those who would abuse them. Pray that they may not need to grow up too quickly.
- Thur. 20 Give thanks for the blue skies, the fresh green of the leaves on the trees, the ducklings and baby farm animals, all proving the constancy of life and God's love.
- Fri. 21 Pray for those who are the victims of bullying and intimidation, and for those whose lives are seen as "different" from most. Pray that we do not become narrow minded.
- Sat. 22 Give thanks for the weekend; for the opportunity to share our time with our loved ones and be at peace.
- Sun. 23** ***Pause for thought, Give God time to talk to us rather than listen to us when we give Him a list of requests (hopefully for others as well as ourselves!),***
- Mon. 24 Turn your back on that "Monday Morning Feeling" and embrace with grateful thanks in prayer that we have a job to go to when others may not be so fortunate; pray for them.
- Tue. 25 Give thanks for the gift of communication and technology which allows us to treat those many, many miles away as if they were our next door neighbours.
- Wed. 26 Pray for those in lands where food, water and medicine are scarce and help them financially too if you are able to do so.
- Thur. 27 Pray for our politicians and for those in charge in every country, that they may choose service rather than fame or power.
- Fri. 28 Give thanks for our Christian family throughout the world and pray that our message of love and inclusion through Him will be felt by everyone.
- Sat. 29 Open your eyes to new possibilities in science, in arts, in education and be mindful that God made us all; thank Him for the gifts of intelligence, insight and a thirst for knowledge.
- Sun. 30** ***Give God the Glory! Praise Him with a loud noise! Sing, shout for joy! Be happy in your faith.***

LARBERT WEST PARISH CHURCH – MISSION STATEMENT

"To bring people to know God by proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through meaningful worship, loving fellowship and active outreach into the community."

Larbert West Parish Church of Scotland is a registered Scottish Charity No. SC012251
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