

PARKLANDS PRAYER DIARY

PRAYING FOR THE GLOBAL AND
LOCAL MISSION LIFE OF OUR CHURCH

NOVEMBER 2020

For more information about any of the organisations, ministries and individuals we support,
please contact mission@parklandschurch.org.uk or Glyn Davies on 07817470973.

JOIN US TO PRAY!

To help us focus our thoughts and prayers.

We invite and encourage all to join & participate at our daily Zoom Prayers:
9.30 am Mon – Fri and early-bird prayer at 7.00am on Wednesday.
To join on zoom use: Meeting ID: 346 993 978 and Password: 346 993 978

We also have a time of prayer on instagram live at 8am on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
To join, just log into your instagram and follow @parklands_church

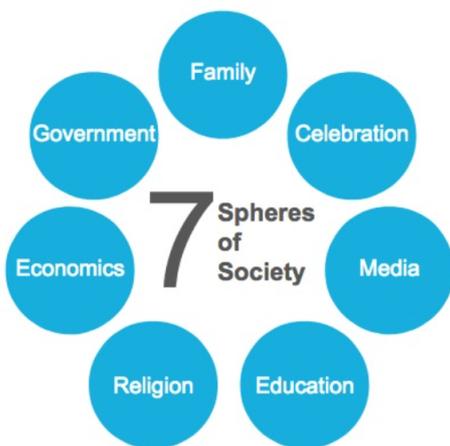
THE SEVEN SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

This is to help us focus our thoughts and prayers. The idea behind the seven spheres is that it is through influencing those areas of society, that the entire society can be influenced with the gospel. (Health Care is an extra “sphere” we have added as we thought it was important)

AS PART OF OUR PRAYER TIME EACH DAY, WE FOCUS ON A DIFFERENT SPHERE:

Monday:	Family
Tuesday:	Education & Health Care
Wednesday:	Economics, Business & Media
Thursday:	Thanksgiving & Celebration: Arts, Entertainment & Sport
Friday:	Government & Religion /Church

HISTORY OF THE SEVEN SPHERES



Many years ago, the Lord spoke to Loren Cunningham (YOUTH WITH A MISSION) and Bill Bright (CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST), first separately, then He brought them together to pray through and discuss this. They were given what they called 7 “spheres of influence”, or the “7 mountains”.

In every culture or society these outside influences shape the way every person thinks. These external influences are so powerful that whole countries can go one way or another: either for good or for evil. These men acknowledged the fact that the Body of Christ has little to no influence in some of these spheres, where they should!

This prayer guide can help you pray through each “mountain”. Covenant to pray for each “mountain” daily. Pray the Lord will raise up believers who hear the call to conquer each of these “mountains”. Pray they will take authority, not be afraid to bring in Christ to every part of their lives, will be a strong influence on those around them. The only way true revival can come is if the Lord is allowed to infiltrate every part of our lives!

SUNDAY 1**LOCKDOWN**

We are living in very turbulent and anxious times. The effects of Covid-19 has affected our lives for over 7 months, and many of us are fatigued, anxious and grieving both loved ones, businesses and future hopes and plans.

In Matthew 11:28, Jesus gives us this promise:

"COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST.

Take some time to rest in the presence of God today, to cast your cares upon Jesus, no matter how big or small because He cares for you.

Today, we are praying God's peace that goes beyond the circumstances around us to rule in your heart. Why not, check in with a friend today. Pray for joy to be over them, send them an encouraging word or text.

WEDNESDAY 4**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Let's take some time today to pray for the children and families in Parklands Church.

Pray a blessing over the children, that they would know that they are loved by God. We have loved how church online has helped families talk about faith and engage with church as a whole family.

Pray for our parents, that they would parent first knowing how loved they are by God. That they would have all the grace, wisdom and rest they need.

Pray for those families who are expecting new additions! For babies to grow, births to go smoothly and peace over scans and procedures.

MONDAY 2**PARKLANDS LEADERSHIP**

We are very blessed by those who serve so diligently on our leadership and staff team. Today we thank God for them, for all the time and energy they put into serving our church family and keeping us connected during this difficult time.

Please pray for their families, that they would be able to spend quality time together, rest and relax together. That their families would be protected as they work in various fields, and for unity in marriages.

THURSDAY 5**SELF-EMPLOYED & SMALL BUSINESSES**

Please pray for those in our family and across Swansea who are self-employed and own businesses during Covid-19 (including all of the various rules / restrictions!). Steve Hansen shares: "Demand for my work has not been affected and neither has my ability to work as I can't do my work from home and it's permitted as it comes under maintenance. The restrictions have highlighted to me how lonely the situation has made some of my elderly customers feel and I need to be prepared to spend more time in just talking to them - as very often I will be the only person they will see that day. Pray for those living on their own and confined to their house for most of the day, and for me personally to see just talking and listening as an important part of my job during this time."

Pray today for favour and encouragement for those in our Church who are self-employed and business owners. Pray for wisdom in decisions. Pray for those they meet, that customers and clients would feel loved and blessed by them.

TUESDAY 3**HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY**

"What a joy to be part of Chaplaincy in Tŷ Olwen Hospice. Pre-Covid I served there twice a week. Sitting beside patients, family, friends listening comforting and praying. Day centre was always a privilege as we mingled with day patients seeing them making new friends and receiving the love that the hospice offered. We had regular "pause for thought" times and often communion together in the Tŷ Olwen chapel. With restrictions now in place only paid Chaplaincy can minister. The team consists of paid staff & volunteers. We have allotted Wards in the various Hospitals /Hospice in SBUHB. Families or friends are not allowed to visit their loved ones with the exception of end of life patients." - Sue Williams

Please take time today to pray for our Chaplaincy workers, that they would have a great impact on those they meet and talk to. Also pray for those in the Hospice and their families as they are separated during this difficult time.

FRIDAY 6**TRED & KRISTIN, SAMARITANS PURSE, UGANDA**

"November is typically a busy month as we try to round off as many of our project activities for the year as possible before focusing on project close-out and reporting in December. This year that means a big push to install washing stations, rehabilitate public toilets and construct rainwater harvesting systems through our Urban WASH project, as well as doing what we can to facilitate international travel for up to three children needing critical heart surgeries. Prayers for the whole team for wisdom to overcome challenges and energy to finish the year strong would be very much appreciated."

SATURDAY 7**SQUARE PEG COFFEE HOUSE**

"Thanks for praying & supporting us Please pray as Peg continues to juggle the latest guidelines - that Gods hand will be over the finances, business decisions, our wonderful staff, keeping them healthy & safe. Praying that relationships will continue to build (despite the new layout and restrictions) and that the Sketty community will see Gods love in action through the business model and the team. We feel this is a new season of opportunity and we want God to guide us as we navigate it. Its great to have Ludi for one day a week." Claire and the team.

TUESDAY 10**CHILDREN OF HOPE KENYA**

www.kenyachildrenofhope.org

Thank God for 750 children reintegration with families and 1860 home visits from January to end of August 2020.

Thank God for answer to prayers for children going back to school in October and for safety in the classrooms. Reliable technology for online learning and self-discipline will be essential.

Pray that different communities will engage with reintegrated children and their families for psychosocial support.

Pray for strength for TKW team as they work with community volunteers to reintegrate 100 children from the streets.

Pray for Shiru Williams and her fiancé Gareth as they run 300 miles in 3 months

@give.net/Runforchildrenofhope.

SUNDAY 8**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Remembrance Sunday is held in the United Kingdom as a day to commemorate the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts. A two-minute silence is held at 11am to remember the people who have died in wars.

"Lord help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever. Amen"

WEDNESDAY 11**MIKE & SARAH ADAMS WOLRD HORIZONS - SWANSEA**

Praise Points!

We have been able to help people in practical ways, like helping them to pay bills, making doctor's appointments and connecting with other organisations and charities. The weekly Faith Discussion continues to go well on zoom.

Please pray:

For breakthrough for a family in hiding and others in extremely difficult circumstances.

For the expansion of this ministry as we begin to partner with other churches in new ways.

**MONDAY 9****TEACHERS**

Heather Hansen, (Head of Department Religious Studies): Currently teachers are having to police the rules surrounding Covid in school, teaching at a two-metre distance and often communicating with pupils through a mask and cleaning classrooms every hour. We have to teach in several different rooms with no resources except the computer to make lessons more interesting, as nothing can be shared. Teachers have had to upskill very quickly to provide blended learning lessons. Extra roles include being, a child carer, caterer, delivery person, examiner, & counsellor. to name a few! Dealing with circumstances which can change rapidly eg: isolation of a whole year group, calming pupils, organising work for isolated pupils. It has been difficult for teachers coping with pupils who are anxious or those who are proving more challenging. Some parents have refused any communication. Some children are too afraid to or can't come to school.

Please pray for the mental & health of teachers - This current situation is absolutely exhausting. For patience, wisdom and strength to be role models to young people. For the well being of the children in our care. For their willingness to learn, and for pupils to act responsibly.

THURSDAY 12**COVID-19 VACCINE**

Today let us focus on praying for a vaccine to Covid-19. Please pray for unity within those in the scientific field, that information and testing would be shared, and that we would see a breakthrough in research and testing. `Pray we would see a cure to this virus in Jesus name!

FRIDAY 13**KEYHOPE CENTRE**

Keyhope is a Christian ministry which serves women and families in Swansea and surrounding areas who are experiencing pregnancy related issues. This may be an unplanned pregnancy where a client is experiencing confusion and fear or someone who has experienced a baby loss through miscarriage, still birth or abortion.

Please pray for the work, That more Christians would have a heart for the work and train to be part of the ministry. Pray that those of us who are in the work would know protection from the enemy, that God would continue to meet our needs both financially and in the future direction of the centre. Please pray that those who need help will find their way to Keyhope.

For more info please contact June Phillips here at Parklands:
junephillips26@yahoo.co.uk

MONDAY 16**BELARUS**

Pray for the church in Marina Gorka, Belarus which To Russia With Love worked with for many years, and where the children who visited Parklands & Swansea came from.

Thank you: The pastor, his wife and their daughter who all had Covid and the wife went into hospital twice. However all are now recovered and home again, grateful for people's prayers.

Please continue to pray for a peaceful resolution post election period and that the church can continue unhindered by the unrest.

SATURDAY 14**THE SMART FAMILY BULEMBU**

"Worship academy is going well with 20 students, interest growing in Rachel's dance training. Pray that Rachel's ankle gets better so that she can continue to dance! Covid cases continue to drop and Eswatini is slowly opening up. Schools across the country remain closed until January 2021 for most, except those taking exams.

Bulembu's teachers are continuing to homeschool all the children, and teaching our 16-18 year olds at the high school who will be taking their final exams.

Baptisms: After last month's flurry of Baptisms God has continued to work in the youth and 27 being baptised recently, we've had to make a waiting list for Nov 15th!

Pray: Please keep praying for eSwatini especially as the alcohol ban is lifted on 26th and we don't want to see chaos ensue. Our car is in need of repair or a new one! With all of our love from the "Smarties".

Date for your diaries! The Bulembu choir are having another virtual concert on the 28th November.

TUESDAY 17**PATIENTS**

Ruth Belcher shares: "I was really fortunate that I could phone David, sometimes we even did a video call. So many can't do this. Either they haven't got much technology, or too weak to talk on a phone that means the only information the relatives receive from the ward is very little eg. "Patient had a good night or is comfortable etc". It must be really hard for them Pray for the amazing staff, and for people who feel isolated."

SUNDAY 15**RELEASE INTERNATIONAL**

Paul Thomas, Welsh correspondent, writes: "This month Release International, along with others across the world, encourage churches to join in with the International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians. Sunday, November 15. Space registration is necessary, go to www.releaseinternational.org/idop"

Why not take some time to give thanks for the Eritrean believers who have been released in recent months, some after several decades in prison for their faith. Thank God for their faithfulness and their continued witness even when in prison.

WEDNESDAY 18**PUPILS**

"I am Bethany Lloyd, my mam and dad are Ben and Rachel, I am older sister to Carrie and Reuben. We live in Sketty. I am 15 and am in my GCSE year in Gwyr Welsh Comprehensive School on Gowerton.

School is okay! It has been strange, not really receiving teaching for so many months and now we are entering another brief lockdown. My friends are generally okay, but some are struggling with the uncertainty, the changes and not really knowing how we are going to be assessed at the end of this academic year. I think many of my teachers feel similarly. There are changes to routine and you can't draw on experience for this scenario.

Please pray: for me and those kids on my year to be prepared and not too overwhelmed with not knowing what's going to happen next. Thanks. Beth."

THURSDAY 19**PARKLANDS FOOTBALL**

"Please pray for for the mental health of the boys.

Prayer for opportunities for us to show God's love even though we won't be able to play together for a little while.

Thanks that our numbers are still growing and we have been able to safely have over 20+ lads (mainly non-Christian) at training each week. We're probably around 40 on our books at the moment!"

**SUNDAY 22****PROJECT DENGKE**

Tom, Phoebe & family are settling well into Dengke life with Phoebe enjoying teaching in the local school. They continue to make friends and share Good News. Pray for Dr W & our "discussions" as he is trying to pressure the family to move out of the centre next year – BUT the family are now prepared to commit, the next 10 years to D town!

News from Dr Ray: My brother-in-law's funeral was a lovely occasion - family only. My sister is gradually adapting, but its hard. I have no way to get back to China yet but it's good to be here with her just now. I'm very grateful for a good team and continuing sales at the Blue Sheep. With increasing challenges for many people especially for those of faith, we realise we need wisdom, grace and loads of protection from above. Thanks for all the support and prayers. PLEASE DO NOT reproduce this in any form.

FRIDAY 20**SEAN STILLMAN**

Zac's Place primarily functions as a Church community, and the manner in which we serve the poor, is an expression of our worship to God. We have been able to maintain this expression of worship throughout the present pandemic, but like many Church communities we have had to adapt how we formally gather together for bible teaching and prayer. We have been able to do this, like many using online conference calling, for our weekly Bible studies and also arrange small face to face gatherings outside. We also have the challenge of having members of our Church community who are older and / or shielding. Please pray that this momentum can continue through the long winter ahead especially as our Church community has members from several counties.

Rough edges continues to go well and remains viable, despite several months of closure during in lockdown - this too is a wonderful support community of volunteers.

Please pray as Sean works on planning for Zac's Place; develops further training material for God's Squad internationally (approx 400 people in 16 countries – see gscmc.com for more info), and further writing projects.

MONDAY 23**St. MADOC CENTRE**

Pray for our staff and the current situation. Pray for continued success of discussions regarding the vision of a training school and that restrictions will be lifted before March 2021 allowing schools to resume residentials & hosting our regular Church groups.

SATURDAY 21**JORDAN & LUDI MANLEY SWANSEA**

"Hey everyone. Hope you are doing ok in this tricky time. Luds and I are loving the internship with Parklands and being a part of such an epic team, and tool for the Kingdom of God. We are in the process of figuring out roles - Luds doing some admin & joining the awesome Square Peg team for one day a week and me doing some maintenance and both being a part of team meetings, Christmas planning, cleaning, daily prayer meetings and other bits and bobs. We are enjoying living with my parents, and feel very blessed to have our own little area of the house which gives us some privacy to work out married life. Thank for all your prayers and support. God Bless. Jord & Ludi." "Study morning at Cefn Bryn"

**TUESDAY 24****PARKLANDS SERVICES**

We are so blessed that we can use technology to gather each Sunday and during the week. That we can meet safely. Please pray for our services, that God would speak into people's hearts wherever they are watching from.

Please pray for new people to feel connected into the lfie of Church at this strange time.

Pray for our tech team as they work on the services and prep for Christmas.

WEDNESDAY 25**EDUCATION**

www.assemblytime.co.uk is a new online resource for Primary Schools complete with Creative Christian assemblies accessible and aimed at whole school collective worship. Created by our local Swansea team who have been taking assemblies and classes for over 20 years and have a lot of experience working with schools and families. On the website, you can access the week's assembly story, song, craft, & reflective questions to help with Collective Worship and there's a link to the previous weeks' assemblies as well. We've also been asked to produce a similar resource for Secondary schools! If your local schools are interested please send the link on.

Please pray for this initiative. We've already had some great feedback, and praying that God would bless it mightily.

SATURDAY 28**CES REES, YWAM SPAIN**

Ces is in a remote village in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada helping to look after 2 girls (age 3 and 6). There are very few villagers (max 53), but in the solitude that is so alien to her she is getting to know some really interesting characters and practising her Spanish. Please pray that in the solitude Ces will continue to seek the Lord and have opportunities to share her faith with the host family.

Ces has been accepted by the YWAM DTS in Spain with a start date of 28th November, but this is dependent on the other students being able to travel to Spain. Please pray this would go ahead, and for protection from Covid for these remote villages.

THURSDAY 26**GRAHAM & ANGELA YOUNG GHANA**

"One of the key requirements of someone working in our environment under normal circumstances is flexibility. Under these present circumstances, it is essential. There are so many moving parts, it could get quite frustrating but thankfully we are both fairly laid back and we just go with the flow. We recently said goodbye to 3 graduates who have now managed to get their visas to attend our own football club in Denmark to start their journeys as 'pros'. It was lovely to listen to their graduation and to hear one thank two of our Christian teachers for the help and guidance they have been to him. We pray for these young guys, especially if they are Christians, that they would be encouraged and guided in their faith.

Thanks everyone for your prayers as we settle back after a lengthy period away. It feels like a second home for us but we really do miss our family and friends!

Please pray for new staff who have joined us, one of whom is in a strategic position and is a brother in Christ. He is a 'decision-maker' here and it is encouraging for us to know that he is wanting to do God's will in this place. Many thanks for your prayers!"

SUNDAY 29**NICHOLASTON HOUSE**

We give God thanks for a new member of staff, Aga joining soon! Due to current restrictions, we have had to postpone & cancel some of our weeks, but plan to have personal retreats as things allow.

Pray for the planning of devotionals and continued protection on health.

FRIDAY 27**JOSH & MEG YWAM AUSTRALIA**

We are already 5 weeks into the school! Students have completed 5 books already, Philemon, Titus, Ephesians, Galatians and Mark! This week students are learning all about Luke's gospel and will also be introduced to their first speed review test. Speed review tests require each student to memorise the key verse, main idea, reason written, background and date of writing for every book they study, and will be tested every 5 books. So, for the next speed review they will be tested on the 10 books they will have completed, and so on until they have done so for all 27 books of the New Testament. It's a very useful skill to know the key elements of every book, but it can seem like quite a daunting task! Please continue to pray for each student and their studies, that they would continue to be transformed by God's word. Thank YOU for praying and supporting the next generation of Bible Teachers. Blessings, Josh & Meg."

MONDAY 30**SKETTY COMMUNITY**

As a Sketty Councillor, I have witnessed the challenges of Covid-19 have produced extra pressure on local services. The Foodbank based in the Community Centre at Sketty Park has been getting busier, with up to 80 people being provided with food parcels. Parklands is heavily involved with Other volunteers from the community. Dave Browell supports the work among the refugees & asylum seekers and needs another driver and car to deliver support to them.

Pray for wisdom in knowing how best to express God's love in a practical way. Please pray for the asylum seekers in Swansea many of whom are separated from loved ones in the war torn countries they have left.