

Then the criminal said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:42-43

1 Monday

Thank God for a wonderful 40th anniversary celebration on Saturday! May the echoes of praise continue into the coming months as we look to the next season with hope.

2 Tuesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP Onley. May every learner who finishes a course this month be able to hold on to all they have learnt in the challenges ahead.

3 Wednesday

There are two *Sycamore Tree* courses starting today at HMP Wayland and HMP Winchester, and two ending at HMP Northumberland and HMP & YOI Wymott.

4 Thursday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP/YOI Hindley.

5 Friday

Pray for all the women who received Mothers' Day cards from their children in prison this past Sunday. May they know God's comfort throughout the separation, and may God bring healing and reconciliation where it is needed.

6 Saturday

Thank God for all the Angel Tree Coordinators who have worked hard the last few months to organise the Mothers' Day cards from young offenders.

7 Sunday

On World Health Day, we pray for men and women in prison struggling with illness, that they might quickly receive the treatment and support they need, and know God's comfort and peace.

8 Monday

Last month, a new estimate of the number of children with a parent in prison was released. Pray for the 312,000 children who are missing

their mum or dad today. Pray that there would be improved and joined-up support from government services for these children who are often invisible in the system.

9 Tuesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP/YOI Rochester.

10 Wednesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP Springhill.

11 Thursday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP Berwyn.

12 Friday

Pray for our letter writers this month, that those in prison who are struggling to know what to write will find the courage and inspiration to put pen to paper.

13 Saturday

Thank God for the chaplains who will be journeying with the men and women in their prison through Holy Week, and sharing its message of hope. May God give them fresh energy and joy as they serve this week.

14 Palm Sunday

This Sunday, we remember that Jesus came in humility, riding on a donkey. May we seek to have that same humility in our ministry.

15 Monday

As we remember the day Jesus cleansed the Temple, we pray that our churches might be places of radical welcome to all, particularly to men and women who have been in prison.

There are *Sycamore Tree* courses ending at HMP Brixton and HMP Onley.

16 Tuesday

During Holy Week, Jesus preached the parable of the sheep and the goats – may we always remember that when we visit men and

women in prison, Jesus said we are visiting Him.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP/YOI Downview, and one beginning at HMP Stocken.

Our Area Leaders are meeting in London today – pray their time would be fruitful.

17 Wednesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP Whitemoor.

The *Sycamore Tree* steering group is meeting today. Pray for wisdom and insight as they gather.

18 Thursday

Jesus washed his disciples' feet as an act of service, and said they were to do likewise. We pray that our motivation to serve in prison would always be rooted in love.

19 Good Friday

Today, we remember Jesus' death for us, and we thank God that His love reaches out to all – even those who have been written off by society, like the criminal who hung next to Jesus.

20 Saturday

Today, pray for those known to you in prison who are struggling in darkness – with mental health, thoughts of suicide, bereavement and grief. We pray they would come to know that God is with them in their despair, and can bring hope and peace.

21 Easter Sunday

Alleluia! Praise God for this gift of love and grace, that through Jesus' resurrection we have the promise of life eternal!

22 Monday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMYOI Wetherby.

23 Tuesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP & YOI Bedford.

24 Wednesday

The PF Board of Trustees have their annual

away days today and tomorrow. Ask that God would bring them together in friendship and service, for the benefit of the whole organisation.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay.

25 Thursday

There are two *Sycamore Tree* courses starting today at HMP Ford and HMP/YOI Isis.

26 Friday

Pray for the Probation system, which is struggling to keep up with the demand placed on it. Pray that those in leadership might have wisdom to know how to improve the service, and support men and women on their release.

27 Saturday

Pray for probation officers across the country, that God would give them strength and energy to keep going under heavy workloads. May they see the person in front of them through God's eyes, and may God give them creativity and perseverance to work through any problems.

28 Sunday

Pray for men and women who have been released from prison this month. Pray that they might find the housing, work and support that they need to thrive, and not return to prison. Pray that churches and Christians would reach out in welcome and love.

29 Monday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP/YOI Thorn Cross, and one ending at HMP Lewes.

30 Tuesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP Liverpool. Thank God for the dozens of committed tutors and group facilitators who make all these courses possible. May God re-energise them for each new course, and fill them with love for the learners.

31 Wednesday

Pray for men and women involved in *Alpha* in prisons this month, that they might have an encounter with God's grace and love that will change their life forever.

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17