

*For God has not despised my cries of deep despair.
He's my first responder to my sufferings,
and he didn't look the other way when I was in pain.
He was there all the time, listening to the song of the afflicted.*
Psalm 22:24, The Passion Translation

1 Monday

Praise God for His presence with all those who suffer, and who are in pain or despair. May the light of His presence shine brightly in every prison cell this month.

2 Tuesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning today at HMP/YOI Rochester. Pray for every new learner, that they might feel welcomed and safe to share their story.

3 Wednesday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course ending today at HMP Kirkham. As they finish, we pray that each learner might have the hope and courage to carry their learning into their future lives.

4 Thursday

As we reach the interview stage in hiring a new Head of Volunteering, pray that God might guide us to the right person for the role, and make that decision clear.

5 Friday

Thank God for the generous response to our *Sycamore Tree* "Positive Ripples" appeal. Pray for doors to open in prisons where we are not currently running the course, so that more learners might be able to access it.

6 Saturday

Today is the first of two gatherings for our volunteer Angel Tree Coordinators – this one in London. Thank God for each one who commits the time and energy to run this important programme, and pray for renewed vision and focus today.

7 Sunday

We received many messages of encouragement for *Sycamore Tree* learners in response to our recent letter to supporters. Pray that these would bring hope to the learners who receive them, and an awareness

of the community that are standing with them in prayer as they move forward.

8 Monday

There are three *Sycamore Tree* courses ending today at HMP Lewes, HMP Wandsworth, and HMP/YOI Wormwood Scrubs.

9 Tuesday

We pray for a smooth transition as Clean Sheet becomes part of the Langley House Trust Group, announced last month. Thank God for their work and pray He'd enable them to reach even more people.

10 Wednesday

Fiona, our Communications Officer, will be attending the Small Charities Communications Conference today. Pray that she might find new ideas and inspiration to help reach an even wider audience with our mission.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course ending at HMP/YOI Portland.

11 Thursday

The PF Support Team are taking a team day today to think ahead strategically and also spend time socialising. Pray that it might be a productive and encouraging day for the whole team.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course finishing at HMP Wealstun today.

12 Friday

Thank God for the policy changes announced by the Ministry of Justice last month that will allow more men and women to do paid work on release, a pathway proven to reduce the rates of reoffending.

13 Saturday

Today the second ATC gathering takes place, this one in Liverpool. Thank God for all the churches that support *Angel Tree* each year, and pray that they might be strengthened.

14 Sunday

We pray for anyone attending a prison chapel service for the first time today, that they might feel welcomed and experience the Spirit's presence with them.

15 Monday

Many of our volunteers travel some distance to volunteer in prison. We ask God to keep them safe as they journey.

16 Tuesday

There are two *Sycamore Tree* courses finishing today at HMP/YOI Downview and HMP/YOI Styal.

17 Wednesday

There are four *Sycamore Tree* courses ending today at HMP/YOI Bronzefield, HMP Wayland, HMP Winchester and HMP & YOI Wymott.

18 Thursday

Thank God for Peter, our CEO, whose birthday it is today! Ask God to continue to strengthen him and give him discernment and energy.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course ending at HMYOI Feltham today.

19 Friday

Drug addiction is one of the greatest barriers to staying crime-free, and yet it remains a huge issue in many prisons. We pray that the availability of illegal drugs in prison would end, and that pathways in might be blocked.

20 Saturday

Today we pray for men and women in prison struggling with drug addiction, that they might receive the support they need and find lasting freedom.

21 Sunday

We thank God for the volunteers who spend their Sundays worshipping in prison chapels. May they be blessed even as they serve.

22 Monday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course ending at HMP/YOI Thorn Cross today.

23 Tuesday

Pray for unity across Prison Fellowship, that groups would feel supported and find common purpose in our vision to see every life in prison transformed.

24 Wednesday

There is a *Letter Link* training being run this evening in Swansea. Thank God for the interest in this programme, and pray particularly that more prisons would start promoting it to the men and women inside.

25 Thursday

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course ending at HMP Risley today.

26 Friday

Peter Holloway, our CEO, will be on UCB radio this morning. Pray that those tuning in will be curious to find out more about our work.

27 Saturday

We will be exhibiting at New Wine United this summer, starting today. Pray for the two teams who'll be manning our stand, inviting passers-by to engage with the Hope Cards that were sent in by prisoners, that they will communicate our vision and mission enthusiastically and effectively!

28 Sunday

We pray for prison officers, that God would protect them from harm, and give them wisdom, compassion and energy in their role.

29 Monday

Local PF groups are running a prison ministry awareness event tonight in Ivybridge, Devon. Pray for a good turnout and a positive response to the messages shared.

There is a *Sycamore Tree* course starting today at HMP Humber.

30 Tuesday

Today is the *International Day of Friendship*. We thank God for the friendships that are being built between our volunteer letter writers and those in prison, and that these friendships might help "carry each other's burdens" (Galatians 6:2).

There is also a *Sycamore Tree* course beginning at HMP Liverpool.

31 Wednesday

In this season of summer holidays, we pray for prisoners who don't get a break from prison life, that they might find their rest in God.

"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