

Prayer Diary – April 2020

This month, we are committing to pray for all the prisons across England and Wales. There are four listed each day.



But I will sing of your strength, in the morning I will sing of your love; for you are my fortress, my refuge in times of trouble. Psalm 59:16

1	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>It feels like we are walking through a dark valley – what would it look like to proclaim, “we fear no evil” this month? God, be our comfort and our guide as we walk a difficult and dark path.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Altcourse, HMP Ashfield, HMP/YOI Askham Grange and HMYOI Aylesbury.
2	<p>Thursday</p> <p>Today, we pray for the officers and staff who work in prisons, for their safety, and that they might have resilience and compassion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP & YOI Bedford, HMP/YOI Belmarsh, HMP Berwyn and HMP Birmingham.
3	<p>Friday</p> <p>Pray for prison chaplains, who are working hard to support men and women inside in an increasingly difficult context, and without the help of the usual volunteers. May they know God’s presence with them in their work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Brinsford, HMP Bristol and HMP Brixton.
4	<p>Saturday</p> <p>Pray for Rev James Ridge, Chaplain General for HMPPS, as he leads prison chaplains. May God give him wisdom, vision and strength.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Bronzefield, HMP Buckley Hall, HMP/YOI Bullingdon and HMP Bure.
5	<p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Remember our Christian brothers and sisters in prison, who are unable to gather for communal worship today, and may be feeling lonely and dejected. May they know they are being upheld by their church family outside.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Cardiff, HMP Channings Wood, HMP Chelmsford, and HMP Coldingley.
6	<p>Monday</p> <p>We pray for families who have a loved one in prison, and are feeling concerned for their wellbeing. May there be increased chances to talk on the phone, and may they know God’s peace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMYOI Cookham Wood, HMP Dartmoor, HMYOI Deerbolt and HMP/YOI Doncaster.
7	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>The support that PF letter writers can offer to their penpals in prison is even more significant now. May they have the right words to write, to bring</p>

	<p>encouragement, hope and smiles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Dovegate, HMP/YOI Downview, HMP/YOI Drake Hall and HMP Durham.
8	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>Pray that, despite current restrictions on volunteer activity inside prison, Prison Fellowship can continue to show Christ’s love to those in prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI East Sutton Park, HMP/YOI Eastwood Park, HMP Erlestoke and HMP/YOI Exeter.
9	<p>Maundy Thursday</p> <p>We pray for the most vulnerable in prison – for those on segregation and those who are sick, that they would receive the pastoral support they need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Featherstone, HMYOI Feltham, HMP Ford and HMP/YOI Forest Bank.
10	<p>Good Friday</p> <p>This is the day we remember that Jesus himself knew what it meant to be arrested, held prisoner, and sentenced as a criminal. Pray that those inside today would know Jesus’ loving and saving presence with them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Foston Hall, HMP Frankland, HMP Full Sutton and HMP Garth.
11	<p>Saturday</p> <p>We pray today for those struggling with internal darkness, who can’t see the light of Easter Sunday dawning. May they sense God breaking through in their lives, bringing hope.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Gartree, HMP Grendon/Springhill, HMP Guys Marsh and HMP/YOI Hatfield.
12	<p>Easter Sunday</p> <p>Loving God, Easter looks very different this year, and yet you do not change – your loving kindness endures forever, and Christ reigns victorious over sin and death. May we know this truth deeply this Easter, for ourselves and every person in prison.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Haverigg, HMP Hewell, HMP Highpoint North and South.
13	<p>Monday</p> <p>We pray today for PF volunteers who are unwell, for their complete healing. Pray by name for anyone you know who is sick.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP & YOI High Down, HMP/YOI Hindley, HMP & YOI Hollesley Bay, and HMP Holme House.

14	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>We pray for those men and women in prison who have contracted covid-19, that they would receive fast and effective medical treatment, and the virus would not spread.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Hull, HMP Humber, HMP/YOI Isis and HMP Huntercombe.
15	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>Many <i>Sycamore Tree</i> courses have been postponed this month. Pray for those who are disappointed by this news, that they might be comforted and find hope for the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Isle of Wight (Albany and Parkhurst), HMP Kirkham and HMP Kirklevington Grange.
16	<p>Thursday</p> <p>Pray for Rev Bob Wilson, who supports all Free Church chaplains, that he would be strengthened and given wisdom and insight as he does his work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Lancaster Farms, HMP Leeds, HMP Leicester and HMP Lewes.
17	<p>Friday</p> <p>The PF Support Team staff are currently working from home. May they be a strong support to one another, and find creative ways to approach each challenge or change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Leyhill, HMP/YOI Lincoln, HMP Lindholme and HMP Littlehey.
18	<p>Saturday</p> <p>As our PF Groups adjust to not being able to meet in person, we pray that they might be sustained through this crisis, and find new ways to pray and work together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Liverpool, HMP Long Lartin, HMP/YOI Low Newton and HMP Lowdham Grange.
19	<p>Sunday</p> <p>We pray today that God would sustain PF through this challenging time, as a fellowship, in our programmes, and financially.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Maidstone, HMP/YOI Manchester, HMP/YOI Moorland and HMP/YOI New Hall.
20	<p>Monday</p> <p>Pray for Peter Holloway, our CEO, and Fran Beckett, our Chair of the Board, as they continue to discern the way forward through this crisis, that they might receive wisdom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Northumberland, HMP North Sea Camp, HMP & YOI Norwich and HMP/YOI Nottingham.
21	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>We pray for men and women inside who are feeling even more isolated at this time, with less access to activities, and fewer visits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Oakwood, HMP Onley, HMP/YOI Parc and HMP/YOI Pentonville.
22	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>There are many fantastic organisations working in</p>

	<p>prisons who will struggle during this time. Pray that they will find creative ways to adapt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Peterborough, HMP/YOI Portland, HMP/YOI Prescoed, and HMP & YOI Preston.
23	<p>Thursday</p> <p>Pray for children of prisoners who are off school at this time, and may be struggling.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Ranby, HMP Risley, HMP/YOI Rochester and HMP Rye Hill.
24	<p>Friday</p> <p>Pray for <i>Sycamore Tree</i> learners who were unable to finish their course, that they might continue to reflect upon what they learnt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP/YOI Send, HMP/YOI Elmley, HMP Standford Hill, and HMP Swaleside (the Sheppey Cluster).
25	<p>Saturday</p> <p>Pray against any unrest or violence in prisons this month; may God's peace be present in every cell.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Stafford, HMP Stocken, HMP/YOI Stoke Heath and HMP/YOI Styal.
26	<p>Sunday</p> <p>Pray for prisoners who are Christian or exploring Christian faith – that they might have access to books and devotionals now while they are unable to gather for worship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP & YOI Sudbury, HMP/YOI Swansea, HMP/YOI Swinfen Hall and HMP Thameside.
27	<p>Monday</p> <p>Many men and women in prison have mental health challenges – pray that they would continue to access the support they need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP The Mount, HMP/YOI Thorn Cross, HMP Usk and HMP The Verne.
28	<p>Tuesday</p> <p>We pray for anyone inside who has been experiencing suicide ideation, that God's light might break through and sustain them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Wakefield, HMP Wandsworth, HMP & YOI Warren Hill, HMP Wayland and HMP Wealstun.
29	<p>Wednesday</p> <p>Pray for our letter writers this month, whose ministry of friendship to those inside is more valuable than ever. May they have the ability to continue sending letters, and may they be an encouragement to their penpals inside.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMYOI Werrington, HMYOI Wetherby, HMP Whatton and HMP Whitmoor.
30	<p>Thursday</p> <p>We proclaim that God is faithful, no matter what is happening around us in our lives, our communities and in prison. What does it look like for you to trust that that is true today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMP Winchester, HMP/YOI Woodhill, HMP/YOI Wormwood Scrubs and HMP & YOI Wymott.