



Benefice of Kingsclere and Ashford Hill with Headley Prayer and Bible Reading Diary

May 2019

***Welcome** to the Prayer and Bible Reading Diary. Each day has a focus for prayer, including for those living in different roads in the benefice, and an Old and New Testament reading from the Church of England's lectionary. The diary can help us all pray together, as a community. There is no right or wrong way to pray. Include the prayers in your day, in whichever way is most natural for you. All prayer is precious to God, is heard, and a very valuable ministry.*

***Traditional church colour this month:** Gold/white - a time of festival and celebration: all the Sundays after Easter, until Pentecost.*

Wednesday 1st May: Philip and James, Apostles. Proverbs 4:10-18, James 1:1-12. *Prayer:* Gratitude that we have safe and fair local elections; for local councillors, in their work and responsibilities. *Sandford House Cottages, Kingsclere.*

Thursday 2nd May: Athanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373.

Deuteronomy 4:1-14, John 21:1-14. *Prayer:* That the Creeds that we use in worship, will never take priority, over the kind acts of service to our neighbour that Jesus teaches. *Sandford Springs, Kingsclere.*

Friday 3rd May: Deuteronomy 4:15-31, John 21:15-19. *Prayer:* That urgency increases amongst governments, to tackle climate change; for those who care passionately, and peacefully protest. *St Mary's Road, Kingsclere.*

Saturday 4th May: English saints and martyrs of the Reformation Era.

Deuteronomy 4:32-40, John 21:20-end. *Prayer:* Of gratitude, for all who have inspired much-needed reform; for humility, that reform does not lead to religious intolerance or persecution. *South Road, Kingsclere.*

Sunday 5th May: 3rd Sunday of Easter. Exodus 15:1-2, 9-18, John 10:1-19.

Prayer: Gratitude as we worship freely today; for the people of Sri Lanka in the aftermath of the Easter bombings.

Monday 6th May: Deuteronomy 5:1-22, Ephesians 1:1-14. *Prayer:* For the people of Mozambique/Southern Hemisphere after Cyclone Idai; for all scientists/organisations trying to raise awareness of the effects of climate change. *Sports Clubs, Kingsclere, Ashford Hill and Headley.*

Tuesday 7th May: Deuteronomy 5:22-end, Ephesians 1:15-end. *Prayer:* For Kingsclere's initiative to pick up plastic litter; for all campaigns and initiatives for producing and using less plastic. *Strokins Road, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 8th May: Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c.1417.
Deuteronomy 6, Ephesians 2:1-10.
Prayer: For an encouragement and valuing of contemplative prayer and meditation. *Sunnyside, Kingsclere.*



Thursday 9th May: Deuteronomy 7:1-11, Ephesians 2:11-end. *Prayer:* For the encouragement of different ways of prayer; silence, music, creativity, dance, being close to nature. *Swan Street, Kingsclere.*

Friday 10th May: Deuteronomy 7:12-end, Ephesians 3:1-13. *Prayer:* For all interfaith friendships and initiatives across the world; for recognition of our common humanity. *Swaits Meadow, Headley.*

Saturday 11th May: Deuteronomy 8, Ephesians 3:14-end. *Prayer:* For ecumenical friendships and working together; Methodist and Roman Catholic friendships here in this benefice. *The Cedars, Headley.*

Sunday 12th May: 4th Sunday of Easter. I Kings 17:17-end, Luke 7:11-22.
Prayer: For Ben as he leads worship today, and for all who contribute in different ways.

Monday 13th May: Deuteronomy 9:1-21, Luke 2: 41-end. *Prayer:* For young people preparing for GCSE's and A levels. *Durbidges, Headley.*

Tuesday 14th May: Matthias the Apostle. 1 Samuel 2:27-35, Acts 2:37-end.
Prayer: For young people struggling with pressures of studying; for parents, to know how to support their children best. *Thornfield, Headley.*

Wednesday 15th May: Deuteronomy 10:12-end, Ephesians 5:1-14. *Prayer:* For teachers as they prepare students for exams, for balance between motivating, and supporting. *Thornford Road, Headley.*

Thursday 16th May: Caroline Chisholm, social reformer, 1877. Deuteronomy 11:8-end, Ephesians 5:15-end. *Prayer:* Gratitude for all who have fought against social injustice over the years, and for those who do so now. *Ship Inn, Ashford Hill.*

Friday 17th May: Deuteronomy 12:1-14, Ephesians 6:1-9. *Prayer:* For flourishing of our links with Kyankowe, Uganda; for the fundraising Barn Dance planned for October. *Swan, Star, George & Horn, Bel & the Dragon, Kingsclere.*

Saturday 18th May: Deuteronomy 15:1-18, Ephesians 6:10-end. *Prayer:* For all who are marrying around this time, and for those renewing their vows after many years. *Headley Shop, Headley.*

Sunday 19th May: 5th Sunday of Easter. 2 Samuel 7:4-13, Acts 2:14a, 22-32. *Prayer:* For children to love worship; for all who encourage and enthuse children, through play, creativity, teaching, and example.

Monday 20th May: Alcuin, deacon, abbot, 804. Deuteronomy 16:1-20, 1 Peter 1:1-12. *Prayer:* For the ABC service at St. Mary's this morning, and for Kingsclere PCC meeting tonight. *Thorneley Road, Kingsclere.*

Tuesday 21st May: Helena, protector of the Holy Places, 330. Deuteronomy 17:8-end, 1 Peter 1:13-end. *Prayer:* For all who give of their time and skills to ensure our church buildings are kept in good order. *Tower Hill Court, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 22nd May: Deuteronomy 18:9-end, 1 Peter 2:1-10. *Prayer:* For politicians, in the continuing debate about Brexit; for wisdom and vision, and reconciliation where there is division. *Shops and businesses, Kingsclere.*



Thursday 23rd May: Deuteronomy 19, 1 Peter 2:11-end. *Prayer:* For all who work behind the scenes to maintain our churchyards and church buildings. *Shops and businesses, Ashford Hill and Headley.*

Friday 24th May: John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writers, 1791 and 1788. Deuteronomy 21:22-22:8, 1 Peter 3:1-12. *Prayer:* Of gratitude for the enjoyment of music in worship: for organists, musicians and choirs who give of their musical gifts. *Union Lane, Kingsclere.*

Saturday 25th May: The Venerable Bede, monk, scholar, historian, 735. Aldhelm, bishop, 709. Deuteronomy 24:5-end, 1 Peter 3:13-end. *Prayer:* For

the Headley Fete, today; for building community spirit and friendship, and raising much needed funds. *Village Club, Kingsclere.*

Sunday 26th May: 6th Sunday of Easter. Genesis 1:26-end, Colossians 3:1-11. *Prayer:* For all worship taking place today; that all comers will find a warm welcome, and many different ways of feeling close to God.

Monday 27th May: Rogation Day. Deuteronomy 26, 1 Peter 4:1-11. *Prayer:* For farmers who produce our food; gratitude for all they do, and appreciation of every morsel we eat. *Wellman's Meadow, Kingsclere.*

Tuesday 28th May: Rogation Day. Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar, 1089. Deuteronomy 28:1-14, 1 Peter 4:12-end. *Prayer:* For farmers as they diversify, trying to make a living in changing times. *Winchester Road, Kingsclere.*

Wednesday 29th May: Rogation Day. Deuteronomy 28:58-end, 1 Peter 5. *Prayer:* For farmers struggling with the pressures of the changes in agriculture; for those suffering from mental health issues and for agencies who support. *Yew Tree Farm, Kingsclere.*

Thursday 30th May: Ascension Day. Isaiah 52:7-end, Hebrews 7:11-end. *Prayer:* For all who teach/write/inspire us about the mystery and wonder of Christ; for encouragement of trust and faith, in unknowing. *Medical Centre and staff, Kingsclere.*

Friday 31st May: Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth. 1 Samuel 2:1-10, Mark 3:31-end. *Prayer:* Gratitude for the many examples of women in the bible; their faith, fortitude, and example for us today. *Dental Surgery, Kingsclere.*

If you, or anyone you know, would like prayer, or if you would like any event or issue to be included in future editions of this prayer diary, please contact Bryony White bryony.LLM@stMayyskingsclere.co.uk 07963 484195, or Rev. Ben Read vicar@clerewoodlands.org.uk 01635 298471