

All Saints Church Clifton
Cycle of Prayer – April 2020

Date	Festival	Prayers
1	Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest & Teacher 1872	1838 published <i>The Kingdom of Christ</i> , a discussion of the causes and cures of divisions within the Christian Church. He was much concerned with the role of the Church in speaking to social questions, speaking of "faith in a God who has redeemed mankind, in whom I may vindicate my rights as a man." He organized the Christian Socialist Movement, which, he wrote, "will commit us at once to the conflict we must engage in sooner or later with the unsocial Christians and unchristian Socialists." His work is one of the reasons why Socialism in England has been largely devoid of the avowedly anti-Christian overtones it had in many other countries.
2		Covid-19 Pray for all medical staff and carers. Those on the front line of our medical emergencies give thanks for the work they do for us. Pray for those parts of the world without this level of medical support and care for whom the on-coming virus will be hugely destructive.
3		Covid-19 Pray for all in healthcare administration – leadership, management and administration of public health systems, hospitals and hospital networks. Pray for smooth running, positive and effective connections between different structures and organizations, and the achievement of positive outcomes for the common goal which is the good health of society. Pray for parts of the world without these facilities.
4		Covid-19 Pray for all who are suffering from the virus, for those who are afraid, those who are self-isolating, those who are vulnerable, those who live on the street and are exposed in ways in which most of us are not.
5	Palm Sunday	Covid-19 Pray for all whose livelihoods have been damaged or destroyed because of the impact of the virus on the economic workings of society. The unemployed, the employed, the self-employed, those on Universal credit and those who are absolutely desperate – with nowhere to turn. Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility, and also be made partakers of his resurrection
6	Monday in Holy Week	<i>God of love, my prayer is simple: your son, Jesus, suffered and died for me. I know only that I cannot have real strength unless I rely on you.</i>
7	Tuesday in Holy Week	<i>God of such unwavering love, how do I "celebrate" the passion and death of Jesus? I often want to look the other way and not watch, not stay with Jesus in his suffering</i>
8	Wednesday in Holy Week	<i>My saviour, do you invite me to share in the glory of the resurrection? Please stay with me as I struggle to see how accepting the crosses of my life will free me.</i>

9	Maundy Thursday	God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love
10	Good Friday	Almighty Father, look with mercy on this your family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross
11	Holy Saturday	Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory
12	Easter Day	God of glory, by the raising of your Son you have broken the chains of death and hell: fill your Church with faith and hope; for a new day has dawned and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ.
13	Monday of Easter Week	Pray for our planet. In particular all those who work to positively impact on the environmental and ecological issues we face at local and global levels (Earth Day)
14	Tuesday of Easter Week	<i>"What a piece of work is man, How noble in reason, how infinite in faculty, In form and moving how express and admirable, In action how like an Angel, In apprehension how like a god, The beauty of the world, The paragon of animals."</i> (Talk like Shakespeare Day – and reflect on the wonder of humankind).
15	Wednesday of Easter Week	Pray for all involved in the continuing Brexit negotiations. Pray that the Church may 'rise up' (Isaiah 60:1) and take a positive lead in promoting reconciliation, both within communities where needed and between the nations of the UK that in these uncertain times, especially at this moment of economic uncertainty.
16	Thursday of Easter Week	Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease that affects humans and other animals. Malaria causes symptoms that typically include fever, tiredness, vomiting, and headaches. In severe cases it can cause yellow skin, seizures, coma, or death. Symptoms usually begin ten to fifteen days after being bitten by an infected mosquito. In 2016, there were 216 million cases of malaria worldwide resulting in an estimated 445,000 to 731,000 deaths.
17	Friday of Easter Week	Give thanks for the work of Earth Scientists (Charles Richter) in enabling us to understand our planet and its rhythms. Especially we pray for all those living in or caught up in what we term as 'natural disasters' (and their aftereffects).
18	Saturday of Easter Week	Books have Power. Not simply to influence thinking and opinion but to increase awareness, excite and explore, communicate meaning and truth, shape a culture and so much more. Pray for authors and booksellers (especially our Independent book shops)
19	Easter Two	Prayer during Virus Outbreak Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen
20		Pray for all who volunteer to give the gift of their time, experience or knowledge for the good of others. This has particular relevance during this time of the global pandemic. It's no only the comfortable middle-class who volunteer, people volunteer from every walk of life, from all

		ethnic and religious backgrounds and from none; some are wealthy, many are extremely poor. Yet they give time and energy to support and enable others.
21		Pray for and give thanks for the Red Cross and the Red Crescent. These are worldwide humanitarian charities, who work to help people in crisis, whoever and wherever they are.
22		Pray for Administrative Professionals. These are the individuals who enable organizations large and small to operate day in and day out. They are the overlooked and unappreciated secretaries, assistants, receptionists, PAs and EAs and other staff without whom organizations wouldn't be ...organized.
23	George, Martyr, Patron of England	Pray for the Middle East region that surrounds Cappadocia – the probable birthplace of St George. In particular we pray for people on the move in this region of Turkey and Greece – refugees escaping toward the West.
24		Pray for scholars of poetry and plays of the 17 th Century. Today is talk like Shakespeare Day – a reminder of how influential he (and other poets and playwrights) are and have been in the shaping of our culture.
25	Mark the Evangelist	Mark's identity not clear. But, putting authorship aside, the power of the first Gospel and the symbol of the Lion – roaring out the Good News. Pray that we at All Saints may 'Roar out the Gospel' in our visible activities within the community.
26	Easter Three	This is the day when we remember the Chernobyl Disaster. A day the world teetered on the very edge of a nuclear catastrophe beyond imagining. Pray for nuclear scientists and all those who are empowered to make and influence decisions about power who do so on our behalf.
27		Pray for story tellers. Stories have a huge power in shaping human thinking and culture. May those who have the gift of telling stories do so well, wisely and with care.
28		Not long ago every physical thing that we now value, clothing, buildings, vehicles, machines, was constructed in dangerous situations. Situations not governed by rules or regulations. Pray for and give thanks for those Workers Organizations that worked to represent their membership to create a safe workplace.
29		Food Waste is almost an epidemic that covers the 'rich' parts of our world. For example: 45% of root crops, fruit and vegetables are wasted each year. Pray that we may learn a better way of caring for and 'using' creation.
30		Today is International Honesty Day. Everyday we are presented with information from companies that use misleading language; politicians who adapt truth in their own favour; media that focuses on what sells rather than what's true. What happens on this big scale also happens in the day-to-day. Pray for a growth in honesty.