

Our Prayer Diary



Caniskay Church



Clrig Church



Keiso Church



Dunnet Church



August 2023

Then Jesus ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

(Matthew 14 Verses 19-21)

Tuesday 1st

Our friends at the Free Church are holding a Summer Holiday Club on the last week before the children go back to school. It will run from Monday to Friday, August 7th - 11th inclusive, at Castletown and Community Free Church from 10.00 am to 12 noon. This is open to any child of Primary school age. We ask your blessing on all the leaders and pray the children will benefit from the time they spend at it.

Wednesday 2nd *Prayer Time 2.00 pm at the home of Rev Esme Duncan*

On the first Wednesday of each month the weekly Prayer Meeting will be held at the home of Rev Esme Duncan, Avalon, Upper Warse, Canisbay. This meeting, lasting an hour, is a great time of Fellowship and Prayer. If you haven't been before please consider coming along, if not today another Wednesday this month. Lord, please be with us as we come to You in prayer.

Thursday 3rd

Thank you Lord for Your faithfulness and for answered prayers. We pray for all of those stepping out of their comfort zones to help with services and other things in the church - may they hear Your still small voice and the prompting and guidance of the Holy Spirit in all they do. We give thanks for them all.

Friday 4th

We ask for Your blessing, Lord, on those who willingly help their neighbours. Friendships are forged, joy and sadness shared - we give thanks for the opportunities given to us.

Saturday 5th August

God gave us dogs to enrich our lives. Puppy dogs, fluffy dogs, big dogs, small dogs, guard dogs, guide dogs, rescue dogs, sniffer dogs, support dogs, service dogs, lap dogs, loyal dogs, hearing dogs, police dogs, pet dogs, old dogs, sappy dogs, sheep dogs, dogs of all shapes and sizes ... Thank you God for blessing us with such a variety of dogs. Psalm 107 verse 1 *O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good ...* (King James Version).

Sunday 6th

Castletown Heritage Society will once again be holding their very popular *Cream Teas* at Castlehill Heritage Centre, from 2 pm to 4 pm every Sunday in August. A perfect opportunity to meet up with friends and family to share in love and fellowship. Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that You have done for us. We thank You for the splendour of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, our physical and cultural heritage, and for the mystery of love.

Monday 7th

We pray that all the school children and teachers will have a fun and restful holiday. Thank you for the opportunity to share Your word in the schools.

Tuesday 8th

Father God please help us to discover the plans and purposes that You have for our lives, using the gifts and abilities You have given us.

Wednesday 9th *Prayer Time - 2 pm in Canisbay Church Hall*

Father God we long for revival, we long to see many come to know the wonderful God we serve. Please soften hearts and help us to be Jesus's hands and feet to all we meet.

Thursday 10th

We ask for Your blessing, Lord, on all who are unwell. It can be a lonely and difficult time but we trust that You will give the comfort and support needed through us, Your disciples.

Friday 11th

We pray for all children and young people with special needs, who find ordinary day to day living difficult and confusing. Children with autism, ADHD and other conditions often feel isolated or ignored as their peers struggle to accept and understand how they view the world. Give us patience and understanding to make everyone feel included and valued. May we always find the right words to say and compassion to help where possible.

Saturday 12th

We are so fortunate to be surrounded by Your beautiful countryside and sea - we give our abundant praise and thanks, Lord. Never let us take it for granted!

Sunday 13th

We give thanks for those in our congregations who are helping by preparing worship and leading it. This is not an easy thing to do but is tremendously appreciated. Hopefully people will come out to church on those Sundays and encourage them. God is looking after the whole situation and we can trust Him.

Monday 14th

I'm sorry for the unkind things I've said to others during this past week; as well as missing positive opportunities. Forgive me, Father.

Tuesday 15th

During the first weekend of July the village of Keiss was the scene of a horrific incident where two people lost their lives in tragic circumstances. The ensuing police investigation thrust the normally quiet and unassuming community into the forefront of national media coverage. We pray for the families and loved ones of those involved in the incident, and for the folk from Keiss and surrounding districts who are still coming to terms with these harrowing events. We ask that You bestow Your love and countenance upon all those affected.

Wednesday 16th *Prayer Time - 2.00 pm in Canisbay Church Hall*

We pray for those who support school staff - family, friends and co-workers. The inspiration of teachers has the ability to transform lives for decades to come. What a responsibility!

Thursday 17th

4 Paws quoted Gene Hill the American writer saying '*God gave us dogs to make us smile. Whoever said you can't buy happiness forgot little puppies.*' Another American writer Max Eastman said '*Dogs laugh, but they laugh with their tails.*' Thank you Lord for dogs and all our pets, as they bring us much happiness.

Friday 18th

We pray for our minister Janet, that God will give her all that she needs for each day of her ministry. She works hard and gives herself to each person. Many have spoken well of her generous giving when they are sad or at happy times. We are grateful for her giving that we receive often through her.

Saturday 19th

Thank you Father God that we are never alone, You are always with us. We pray for those in care homes or living alone; may they know Your peace, comfort and presence with them always.

Sunday 20th

Heavenly Father, the troubles in Ukraine have been ongoing now for 18 months. Please give strength to those who courageously defend their land. Draw your arms of love around those who are bereaved or injured, those who are anxious, those who are homeless. We pray that both Ukraine and Russia will be places without corruption and that decision makers will hear your voice and act wisely. *May the Lord of Peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you.* 2 Thessalonians Chapter 3 Verse 16.

Monday 21st

The United Nations have designated today's date as International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. We pray for those who are still living with the consequences of terrorism. God please draw close to them as You alone know their needs.

Tuesday 22nd

We give thanks for the Flower Festival that was held in Canisbay Church recently. A tremendous amount of work went in to this and we are very grateful to all involved. Father God we admire flowers in gardens and florist windows, but through the talents you have given those ladies we were able to see flowers in beautiful displays in Your House in Canisbay. Also we thank the people involved with serving refreshments in the Church Hall, who shared their talents through some wonderful home baking.

Wednesday 23rd Prayer Time - 2 pm in Canisbay Church Hall

Where there is pain and hurt, please help us Lord to forgive those who were responsible for insecurities in our lives. Please help us to grow in the knowledge and understanding of Your love.

Thursday 24th

The following ditty was seen on a blackboard in the street outside a cafe when a member of Pentland Parish was visiting Blairgowrie recently:

*'It was only a sunny smile,
And little it cost in the giving,
But like morning light,
it scattered the night,
and made the day worth living.'*

By sharing smiles each one of us can help to spread joy. A smile is said to be infectious! Help us, we pray, to be joyful in Your name.

Friday 25th

We give thanks for those who do the jobs that enable us to live more comfortably - refuse collectors, road sweepers and delivery personnel. Bless them we pray.

Saturday 26th

Heavenly Father we ask Your blessing on the Street Pastors who will be out on the streets of Wick tonight between 10.00 pm and 1.00 am. We pray also for the young people they meet and trust they will feel the benefit of the time they spend talking to the Street Pastors.

Sunday 27th

To simplify the process for those wishing to make an online donation to Pentland Parish and are comfortable with using a smart mobile device, Mr Alan Sinclair has set up a QR code which links directly to the relevant page on the Church of Scotland website. The QR code and guidance for making online donations are now provided on the back page of the Prayer Diary. We give thanks to the Lord for modern technology and the opportunities this can provide to support those less able to come to Church in person.

Monday 28th

Pick or buy a bunch of flowers and put them somewhere in your home where you can see them and enjoy their fragrance. *‘Walk in the way of love, just as Jesus loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.’* Ephesians Chapter 5 verse 2 (NIV). Remember - enjoy the good weather, support your friends and your animals. God Bless. Paws crossed for the next Prayer Diary.

Tuesday 29th

Forgive anyone who has caused harm to another person - physical or psychological, in this country or abroad, in peace or conflict. Instil in each of us, the love and truth that You teach us all.

Wednesday 30th *Prayer Time - 2 pm in Canisbay Church Hall*

Thank you Jesus for being such a wonderful Saviour. Thank you for Your amazing sacrifice on the cross. Thank you for forgiveness of our own sin. Thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to us.

Thursday 31st

As we come to the end of another month let us think of all the ways that God has been good to us. Even though we may have encountered difficulties during the past few weeks, let us take a few minutes to reflect on all the times and experiences that have been special. God, You are indeed good to us.

Worry ends when faith begins

‘For we live by faith, not by sight’

2 Corinthians Chapter 5 Verse 7



The Church of Scotland

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**This prayer diary is produced monthly by and for
PENTLAND PARISH CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Registered Charity No: SCO10296)
meeting in four congregations around the Caithness Coast:
CANISBAY, DUNNET, KEISS and OLRIG.**

We hope and trust its regular use will strengthen the bond between our congregations as we share news and support one another.

This diary also goes by e-mail to a growing number of friends throughout Scotland and we are sincerely grateful for their interest and support. Feel free to commend it to others, and if they express a wish to receive it please forward their contact details to the Editor.

If you have found this Prayer Diary helpful please let us know, and if there is any topic or any particular prayer you would like included in a future issue please contact the Editor, Liz Buchan, via:

e-mail: neilbuchan007@btinternet.com or phone: 01847 821759

**Copy date for the September issue is Monday 21 August.
We continue to need your prayers! Thank you!**

If you would like to make an online donation to Pentland Parish, please scan the adjacent QR code; *alternatively* visit www.churchofscotland.co.uk and navigate to the *Donate to the Church* page. Either way, at Step 1 on the donate page, select *Donate to a Congregation* and enter **PENTLAND PARISH**, then follow the instructions to complete the donation.

