

Heart 4 Harlow prayer points August 2024

A big thank you to Jokey for hosting and leading the service at St Mary's Little Parndon and to Sarah for supporting with refreshments.

Praise to the God of All Comfort

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort,⁴ who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.⁵ For just as we share abundantly in the sufferings of Christ, so also our comfort abounds through Christ.⁶ If we are distressed, it is for your comfort and salvation; if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which produces in you patient endurance of the same sufferings we suffer.⁷ And our hope for you is firm, because we know that just as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3-7

There appear to be so many people who have **challenges with their health** presently and this is also having an impact on the ministry within the town. (Particularly pertinent to St Mary's Little Parndon and St Paul's Churches presently)

We prayed for those who are struggling in any way.

As we receive comfort from God, we are commissioned to share that comfort to others.

Community Pastors

Following on from the work in the town by Street Pastors and Rail Pastors (came under the umbrella of Ascension Trust), there is an opportunity to pray and encourage others to consider whether God is calling you or others to serve the community in the role of a Community Pastor, which would have the same opportunities for training as Street or Rail Pastors, and link with services such as police; Samaritans etc, but would be based more locally. For those interested, you would need to have a reference from the leader of your church and be DBS checked. If you have been a Street Pastor or Rail Pastor, you could be exempt from some of the training. (See below for more details)

There is emergency first aid training Tuesday 16th and 22nd October through Rainbow Services.

Please contact Jokey if you are interested in the Community Pastors' scheme so we can plan the next steps moving forwards.

Revd Jokey Poyntz Team Vicar & Deanery Missioner for Harlow, Co-ordinator Make Lunch Scheme, Youth Champion, Harlow Ambassador. 01279 498020.

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What is a Community Pastor?

A **Community Pastor** is a local Christian volunteer, passionate about serving their local community. They will be a member of a local church for at least one year and must be recommended by their church leaders. They can come from any denomination and love the idea of local Christians working together to serve you.

A **Community Pastor** has to complete a wide range of training courses before being commissioned. Modules cover physical, emotional and spiritual issues with diverse topics including first aid, drugs awareness, mental health issues, listening skills or spiritual counselling. All will have passed a DBS check.

A **Community Pastor** is dedicated to serve you without judgement, regardless of colour, culture or creed and with the highest standards of integrity, respect and confidentiality.

You'll find a **Community Pastor** serving where it matters; on our streets; in our schools; at our community events; on our railways; in our stadiums. Whether you need a bit of help to get you home safely, are exploring the meaning of life, or just want to offload to a listening ear, look out for their friendly light blue uniform. They are there for you.



COMMUNITY PASTORS
Serving where it matters



www.communitypastors.org.uk

Registered charity No. TBA 0000

Prayer for Chris Vince (MP)

Chris joined us at the prayer meeting. He shared about his passion for supporting young carers and how carers are becoming younger – some even as young as age 5! He used his maiden speech in Parliament to highlight this issue.

Chris has been a teacher, worked at Streets2Homes and has been a councillor in the Little Parndon ward, serving the community. He is continuing to serve the larger community in his new role. He is married to Rachel who is a teacher and is starting a new job in September in a school in Harpenden.

Please pray for:

- Protection
- For success in supporting the community – linking in with all areas of the community – i.e. schools; businesses; faith groups etc.

- Wisdom
 - For Chris and Rachel as they both adjust to new jobs.
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We gave thanks to God for what He is doing in our outreach to children and there were also personal testimonies. Kidz Klub (St Mary's Churchgate Street; Harlow Baptist Church and Harefield Church working together celebrated 20 years of KK). We heard feedback of how this ministry has impacted lives, especially of some of the young leaders. There were around 100 children attending each day.

God Central also hosted an encouraging children's outreach in Newhall School.

There was personal testimony of God's working in a family where there was an infertility issue, and how God has answered prayer and they are now going to church.

Prayer for St Mary's Little Parndon and St Paul's

- Outreach on Tuesday with families – not as large as normal as there are less people available to run the outreach due to long term illness of team members. Give thanks that Tuesday is going ahead; please cover it with prayer and the health and protection of those normally on team and those working without their help.
- We give thanks for the ministry of Martin Harris, who has now retired as Rector of St Paul's. Please pray for the team who are putting together the information for the new incumbent. Pray for the team to have discernment about who God is calling to the role – also that the individual who God is calling will see the advertisement and be led to apply.
- For Jokey as she covers some of the roles at St Paul's and maintains her ministry at St Mary's Little Parndon.

Next meeting: Sunday 22nd September – St Stephen's Church