

Monday 27th

Thank God for the dedication and commitment of the members of **the PCC** as they meet tonight. As we all pass through an on-going cost of living crisis, ask the Lord to help them as they make difficult decisions and that they can find creative ways to maintain the mission of the church.

The Marriage Course continues. Pray for marriages that they may be Christ centred.

Tuesday 28th

In March there will be a national gospel effort in Ireland. **The Patrick Story** will commemorate the Irish patron saint and Helen Sheridan asks us to pray that the Castlebar church catch the vision, using it to lead the people of their community towards the Jesus' story - which will change their lives for all eternity.

Wednesday 29th

St Margaret's regularly prays for folks wrestling with on-going health problems. As we ask for better health for them, remember their **carers** who selflessly help and sustain them. Pray for mothers caring for young children who have health issues especially if they are struggling financially as well. Sometimes it's hard to live with disappointed hopes.

The Life of Jesus Course continues today. Pray that everyone will be blessed.

Thursday 30th

Daytime Fellowship is today – a special hour when people join together to worship God and study His Word. Ask Jesus that all who come will really connect with Him and be blessed.



Friday 31st

Church is open to **the whole community** and sometimes people who would never normally come through the doors ask to have space for a family occasion in St Margaret's. It may be for infant baptism, a wedding or, more sadly, a funeral. Pray that their experience might lead to something much deeper and that it will mark the moment when they met with Jesus.



Praise God that though we are more sinful than we imagine, He is more merciful than we could possibly dream

This is our monthly diary of the ministries and events in the life of St Margaret's with some ideas for prayer. Thank you for praying - we want to make a difference!

It would be helpful if requests for inclusion in the February diary could be sent to Sara in the Church Office by 17th January

JANUARY 2025



The Lord is not slow in keeping His promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
2 Peter v. 9

Our Mission this Month –

Christians Against Poverty. At its core, CAP is Christ centred. Their mission is to release people from poverty and to encourage them to live a life of faith.



Wednesday 1st

The Bible is the Word of God. New Year' Day is a time when people make resolutions. Rather than promising to read it in a way which is hard to keep up, ask the Holy Spirit to make the bits we do read to live in our hearts and change our lives for God's glory.

Thursday 2nd

Thank God for the people who give of their time and energy to **serve the Lord** by serving us in St Margaret's. The cleaners, the people moving chairs, tidying up after services, locking and unlocking doors etc. The irony is we often don't realise how much we appreciate them until they stop!

Friday 3rd

How much we appreciate the **music in church**. Pray that all musicians, singers and those who organise worship will be encouraged. May they be stretched to new heights in their ministry and to serve the Lord with gladness.



Saturday 4th

Remember our **ministry team** before God today. Christmas is a busy time for all of us, especially them. Thank the Lord for all that they do. Pray that they have had time to wind down and that they return with renewed vigour and enthusiasm.

Sunday 5th

Today sees the return to normal first Sunday of the month **services** – 8am, 10am, 11.30 and 5pm with Sunday Roast too. Ask the Lord to make us all open to hearing his Word and acting on it this Year. May our walk with him be deeper, more earnest and fulfilling in 2025.

Monday 6th

Children are **back in school**. Pray that little ones will settle in and that older children will not feel overwhelmed by what is expected of them. Also pray for good and wholesome friendships. When you're young, peer groups are very influential.

Tuesday 7th

Adventurers meet today from 7pm. Fun for all – yes, but also pray that the talk will help the children to understand what it means to be a Christian and that they will start their own personal walk of faith.

Wednesday 8th

Creating Company meet this afternoon. May the Lord bless the work of people's hands and may the finished article be a means of sharing the Good News.

Ask the Lord that at the **Church Prayer Meeting** we shall all have the faith to dream big and believe that God is bigger than any problem.

Thursday 9th

Probably the holiday just past has been difficult for those experiencing the pain of loss. As the **Bereavement Group** meet today, ask the Lord to help them to continue to walk with Him on their Life's journey, knowing that He will never leave them. Pray for their comfort and peace.

Friday 10th

St Margaret's is a praying church. Today the **schools' prayer group** meets. In this increasingly turbulent world, ask the Lord that He will give children the opportunity to learn the Truth, the courage to go against the flow and the strength to trust and obey Him whatever comes their way.

Saturday 11th

As the folks taking part in **Mission prayers** meet today ask Our Father to guide them in their requests and that as much will be accomplished on their knees as in the mission field itself. Praise Him that we all work together for His Glory and the honour of His Name.

Sunday 12th

The winter puts a strain on **the infirm and those who are older**. Zoom meetings are a God-send but not everybody is able to view them. Remember these dear ones today and ask that they will still be able to meet with the Lord. Pray for someone you know personally and maybe encourage them with a card or telephone call this week.

Monday 13th

Pray for the couples gathering for the **Marriage Course** which starts today that they will use the time and space to focus on their relationship – gold dust in this busy age. Ask the Lord they will be drawn closer together and their marriage strengthened.

Tuesday 14th

The people of **Evergreen** meet tomorrow. For some, especially those who live alone, it could be the only contact they have with others. Older people value friendship above all else. Ask the Lord that by the time they leave, they will have discovered 'the friend who sticks closer than a brother' Proverbs 18v.24

Wednesday 15th

A 5 week course called the **Life of Jesus** begins today when everyone will be looking through the Gospel of Mark. Pray for those beginning their journey this will be illuminating and exciting and for those who have been Christians for a while, that it will renew their faith and spur them on.

Thursday 16th

St Margaret's Knitters begin another year serving the Lord with their skills. Pray that they will be conscious of His presence and that the bonds of friendships will deepen.

Friday 17th

Monday in third week in January is generally known as **Blue Monday**. It's when people who have overextended themselves at Christmas become depressed and suicidal. This weekend will be a busy time for the Samaritans. Pray for this charity that they can help everyone who calls in desperation. Also pray anyone feeling miserable about their finances will contact CAP for help and advice.

Saturday 18th

Sussex Gospel Partnership **Bible Training Course** continues. Pray that the students will return with renewed enthusiasm and that they will become more and more proficient in sharing their faith. Ask the Lord to open up new opportunities for them.



Sunday 19th

We are told in scripture that our *'enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour'* (1Peter 5v.8) Ask God to keep **St Margaret's** faithful and united in the truth of the gospel as we meet today, *'above all, loving one another deeply.'* (1Peter 4v.8)

Monday 20th

Today **Parenting Together** begins: it's for parents, grandparents, carers and anyone interested in children. Ask the Lord that those who gather will bond together and find new ways to help the children in St Margaret's to get to know Jesus.

Tuesday 21st

It's always a blessing to share **Holy Communion** together and there is an opportunity to do just that today. Ask the Lord that all who come will feel close to Him.

Wednesday 22nd

Small children don't understand a lot of things but they can pick up on an atmosphere. Pray for those attending **CAMEO** today that they will feel the love of Jesus and that their Mum, grandparent or carer will meet with God. **Life of Jesus course** continues today. Pray that those attending will be enthused, encouraged and educated so that their relationship with Jesus gets stronger.

Thursday 23rd

Pray for those who treat the Word of God with contempt (including any you know personally) that The Holy Spirit would open their eyes to the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Friday 24th

As the **flower arrangers** gather today to make everything ready for the services at the weekend, ask that they will rediscover their love for the work they do and that they will feel the smile of His good Pleasure when the job is done.

Saturday 25th

Thank God for all the **techie people** in church; those who take care of sound and make zoom meetings and live-stream services possible. Pray that browsers on YouTube will be impacted enough by what they see to begin their own journey of faith.

Sunday 26th

Poverty is so much more than going without. It destroys lives, robbing people of joy, hope and opportunities. Poverty tears families apart, isolates people and makes them believe there's no way out. Today Flo Collingwood and Kate Holland are coming to the 10am service. Ask the Lord to give us all a better understanding of poverty and the work they do for **Christians Against Poverty**.

