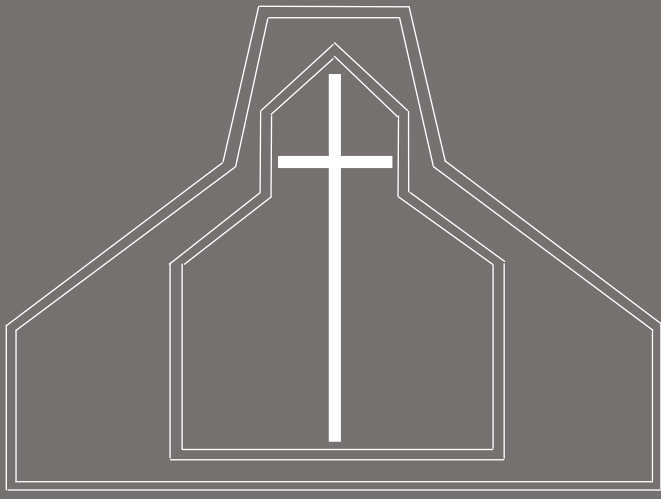


Be joyful in hope, patient
in affliction, faithful in
prayer. Share with God's
people who are in need.
Practise hospitality.

Romans 12: 12-13



Prayer Diary

May 2026

St Columba's
Hillhead
Parish Church

Friday 1

Little Fishes and Busy Bees. Give thanks that these Groups continue to be well-attended each week. Pray especially for the Busy Bees Group that those on the waiting list will be understanding of having to cap numbers for reasons of available space. Remember the leaders and helpers of both groups as they plan and oversee the life of these groups especially for safety and wisdom in the outworking of the activities. Pray that those who come along, both carers and children, that they will be aware that they are coming into a warm, inviting place where they are valued and a desire to know more about Jesus' love.

Give thanks for the recent Dads and Toddlers 'Stay and Play' Saturday morning at the Church. Pray that we might as a church support both Mums and Dads in our communities as they bring up young families.

Saturday 2

Those who are Unwell, in Hospital or in Care. Remember all those who are unwell, awaiting or undergoing investigation, diagnosis, surgery/treatment especially in the current demands upon the Health Service. Give thanks for those who are recovering from surgery/treatment and pray that they will know increasing strength and

wholeness in the forthcoming days. Pray that those who need medical help may receive their required care as promptly as possible and pray for recovery, healing and strength to endure however God provides. Especially remember those known to us suffering from chronic/terminal illness and pain as people seek to live with the constant reminder of suffering. Remember their families and carers who also share in the pain and suffering. Continue to remember and give thanks for all Healthcare staff, especially our local GPs and staff amid continuing great pressures to respond to increasing demands upon them for their help and care. Pray for those in long term care, all NHS and Social Care staff as they seek to provide compassionate care especially in a time of increasing demands.

Sunday 3

Sunday Club, Little Lights, Noah's Ark. Give thanks for the regular attendance by those young people who come to Church on Sundays and seek to know more about Jesus and get to know Him as Saviour and Lord. Pray for the young people where it can be difficult to be different as someone who comes to Church with few peers. Remember Vicky and others who lead the older Sunday Club class that they would know wisdom and honour the Lord in their preparation,

leadership and encouragement of the young people. Give thanks for the new Little Lights class for P1 to 3 children and pray for Cassie as she leads this. Remember Noah's Ark as it meets today and pray that the families who are coming along may feel welcomed and may have a deepening interest and desire to come along. Give thanks for the encouraging All Age service we had on Easter Sunday and pray for more opportunities for all ages to worship together.

Monday 4

The Bereaved. Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in recent/not so recent days and personally known to us. Remember those who have suffered through sudden trauma or chronic illness. Such loss is devastating for anyone who lost a loved one close to them and grieving can be painful and difficult. Pray that the Lord in His compassion will be close to them especially through dark and difficult days and that those surrounding them may be a quiet and sensitive support.

Tuesday 5

New Church Roof Appeal. Give thanks for the growing funds being collected for the New Church Roof and for the generosity of the congregation in the recent 'Gift Sunday'. Pray for grant applications still being

considered. Pray too for the completion and subsequent consideration of a grant application to the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. Pray that the gracious hand of our God may be upon this project.

Wednesday 6

Midweek Fellowship. Give thanks for the regular weekly meeting of the Midweek Fellowship and for the opportunity to worship God and share fellowship together, especially for those who may not be able to attend Church on Sundays. Praise the Lord for the love, support and encouragement shared amongst those who attend. Pray for Philip as he regularly prepares for this Meeting, and for Lynne as she leads today, that the Word of God may bear much fruitfulness in the hearts and lives of those who attend and pray that more people may desire to come along.

Thursday 7

VE Day Anniversary. Give thanks on this 81st Anniversary of the end of the 2nd World War in Europe for the fortitude of the declining number of veterans in their selflessness to serve the War effort. Give thanks that we have lived through relative stability and peace through these years.

Remember today those areas of the world that are affected by conflict and war

including Ukraine, the Middle East and Sudan. Pray that world leaders might act with restraint, integrity, compassion and wisdom. Pray for peace to be established in these parts of the world.

Remember too today the elections taking place, including for the Scottish Parliament. Pray that those candidates who become MSPs might act with integrity, justice and compassion. Pray for Christian MSPs in particular as they seek to honour the Lord in their work.

Friday 8

Christian Aid (CA). Give thanks for Christian Aid and for the significant work which has been undertaken and fulfilled by Christian Aid over more than 80 years to help to eradicate poverty and fight injustice around the world and latterly help communities affected by climate change. Pray for the ongoing work of Christian Aid that this work will strengthen even more so and remember the upcoming Christian Aid Week that people will respond positively to help make lasting change for many vulnerable communities suffering in poverty and injustice across the world.

Saturday 9

Scottish/ Westminster Parliaments: Assisted Dying Bill. Give thanks that the

proposed Assisted Bills in both the Scottish and Westminster Parliaments have fallen, although debate continues. Give thanks that concerns about the likelihood of coercion with such a Bill were heard in the Scottish Parliament. Pray that the debate on this issue may lead to lasting improvement in the provision of more widespread high quality palliative care in the United Kingdom. Pray for all those working in palliative care as they deliver end-of-life care every day with compassion and kindness to those facing death and their loved ones.

Sunday 10

Invitation Sunday. Give thanks for the opportunity to invite friends and family to church on this Invitation Sunday. Pray that visitors who come may feel welcome and find the service helpful. Pray that we would increasingly be an outward looking church, eager to engage with our community.

Monday 11

Children & Family Worker. Continue to give thanks for Cassie's presence with us and her involvement in the regular programme of services and events such as Little Fishes, Busy Bees and Noah's Ark. Pray for Cassie as she builds relationships with young families and furthering already established relationships

and groups. Pray for Cassie as she plans and prepares for activities and becomes more involved in congregational life and the community, especially in the life of the SU groups at schools that she will be a great ambassador for the Lord in her work and witness.

Give thanks for the Seeds for Growth funding that is helping to support this work. Pray for a follow-on application for a further two years of funding from Seeds for Growth. (Seeds for Growth is a Church of Scotland Fund for congregations to promote mission and outreach). Pray that when this application is submitted it may be favourably looked upon. Pray also for other sources of funding to be made known.

Tuesday 12

Luwero Christian Ministries. Almighty God, we give thanks for all the work being done in your name at Luwero in Uganda. We pray for all the different areas of this significant ministry- for the junior and senior school, for the clinic, for the farm, for new developing land with its demanding physical work, and for helping to teach young people to survive amidst the loss of parents through HIV and AIDS. We praise you for the way in which many are being brought close to you in faith through the work of your Spirit and we delight in

sharing partnership of the Gospel with Gabriel, Deborah and his family and the people of Luwero. We pray for Gabriel and Deborah in their leadership of the ministry at Luwero that they would be kept safe from harm by the powers of darkness which surround them.

Wednesday 13

Warm Space/Connect. Loving Heavenly Father, we thank you for the regular weekly opportunity to offer a warm space and caring support to the community at Hillhead Halls. We thank you for the opportunity to partner with Kirkintilloch Baptist Church in this and pray that you would grow and strengthen the team. We praise you for the way in way the soup and roll format is going well. We especially pray for the 'Food for Thought' slot at 1.45pm that it will be well-received.

We pray too for the Connect Group for children that meets 3 till 4 on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for all the children who attend. We pray that they would enjoy their time at Connect and be able to engage with and understand the weekly Bible stories.

Thank you too for the recent Easter Holiday Club at Hillhead that was attended by many of the children who also attend Connect. Thank you for the fun that was had and for the Good News about Jesus that was shared.

We pray for your continued leading and guiding as the ministries of Warm Welcome and Connect continue to develop.

Thursday 14

Jo Crotty. Give thanks for Jo's visit recent visit to the UK and for her visit to StCH to share with us her work with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Pray for Jo as she is currently based in Melbourne, Australia. Pray for Jo as she works towards a Masters degree in Education, consolidating much of her practical experience over 20 years in teaching. Pray for Jo's brother Greg and his wife Maureen and their family as Greg is now increasingly disabled as a result through MND. Pray for God's grace to surround the whole family. Give thanks for the borth of little Mathilda Joy Crotty, a grandson for Greg and Maureen, over the Easter weekend. Remember too all those local workers in PNG who have been trained by Jo to deliver the Healing Hurting Hearts Trauma Healing Workshop for Children. Pray that resource and their delivery of it would be a blessing to many.

Friday 15

General Assembly of The Church of Scotland. Pray for the General Assembly of the Church as it starts today with a new 'weekend' format, running 15 to 18 May. Give thanks for the

Moderatorial year of the outgoing Moderator, Rev. Rosie Frew. Pray that the witness of life and faith in Jesus Christ may have been highlighted. Remember the Moderator Designate for this forthcoming year, Rev. Gordon Kennedy as he becomes the Kirk's ambassador at home and abroad for the next 12 months. Pray that he may moderate the Assembly meetings this week with grace and wisdom, discernment and sensitivity. Pray that the difficult issues facing the Church will be deliberated upon with the Lord's guidance and the Assembly will know the Lord's purpose in the ongoing life of His Church.

Saturday 16

The Lodging House Mission (TLHM). Give thanks for the work and witness of TLHM and Glasgow City Mission in their work in caring for the vulnerable in our society. Give thanks for the opportunity we have here at St Columba's Hillhead to support that work. Give thanks and pray on for the practical and prayerful encouragement of other Glasgow Presbytery congregations that these may be a blessing to those who reach out to the TLHM for help and support at all times. Remember the Manager, Chaplain and staff who provide relational support and encouragement in a variety of different ways of

activities and opportunities in the daily life of the TLHM that the service-users will know Christ's presence with them.

Sunday 17

The Suffering Church. Give thanks for the work of Open Doors and other Christian organisations such as Christian Solidarity Worldwide and The Barnabas Trust supporting the suffering church worldwide.

Pray for the Suffering Church in Pakistan, assessed by Open Doors as the 8th most persecuted country in the world for Christians.

Pakistan's blasphemy laws continue to impact Christians. Pray for those accused unjustly of blasphemy and ask that God will help them avoid imprisonment or vigilante 'justice'.

Many Pakistani Christians are forced into menial jobs because of their identities as followers of Christ. Pray these believers will be sustained and know their value.

Pakistan's recent conflict with India left believers in both places filled with fear. Thank God that a ceasefire has held and pray that God's perfect peace will reign.

Monday 18

Bethany Christian Trust (BCT). Pray for the management and staff of

BCT as they seek to deepen the roots of their Christian ethos and values, ensuring their mission is bolstered by a steadfast dependence on God and a strong support network for their team. Uphold the whole BCT team of staff and volunteers to remain in God's love, and to show His love in action across Scotland, all for His glory. Remember Rev. David McAdam in his frontline work in assisting those who are particularly vulnerable by helping them to integrate back into the community. Pray that God will continue to equip and strengthen him for this significant ministry.

Tuesday 19

The Scottish Bible Society (SBS). Give thanks for the work of the SBS and for the projects it supports both in Scotland and worldwide. Pray for the work of the Bible Society in Cambodia. Across rural Cambodia many people long to read the Bible but have never had the chance to learn. Children trace letters in dust. Adults hide their inability to read. Yet in these same communities a gentle miracle is happening. Through simple, Bible-based literacy classes, people are discovering their first words and encountering the hope of Scripture. These Bible-based literacy classes reach around 6,000 people every year—people who have never dared believe they could learn to read. For many, the very first

sentence they ever read comes from the Bible.

Give thanks for this wonderful work. Pray that it may be the means of many in Cambodia reading the Gospel for themselves and coming to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

Wednesday 20

Friendship Club and Following Jesus Group. Give thanks that both these groups continue to meet regularly and are well-attended and for the members, carers and leaders who all contribute to making these happy and meaningful evenings. Pray for the ongoing life and fellowship of the Groups that the love of Jesus will encourage and deepen the life of all and especially remember Pat Muir and the leaders that they may be inspired by the Lord to further this significant ministry. Give thanks for these valued groups and for the ministry in sharing Jesus with these valued people whom He loves and cares for.

Thursday 21

Glasgow Presbytery: Remember churches throughout the Presbytery of Glasgow seeking to put into practice the Presbytery Mission Plan. Pray for churches known to us where this involves difficult or painful decisions about buildings that are hugely significant to people. Pray that in times of change and

even disappointment we may be drawn closer to the Lord, our Faithful God, who loves his people with an unchanging and eternal love.

Friday 22

The Leprosy Mission (TLM). Give thanks for the work of TLM, working to defeat leprosy across the world in Christ's name.

Around 200,000 people are diagnosed with leprosy every year and 2-3 million people are living with leprosy-related disabilities. Leprosy is the leading cause of preventable-disability in the world.

Pray for the work of TLM Bangladesh. TLM Bangladesh began organising self-help groups for people with leprosy in North Bangladesh in 2007. In the early days of the project there were 56 staff members who were dedicated to facilitating the SHGs. Their hard work means that today there are 700 self-help groups that are running almost entirely self-sufficiently, with the support of just seven support workers. Pray for these groups as they offer health support and financial advice and support, and as they engage with government and other organisations to advocate for people with leprosy.

Saturday 23

Prison Fellowship Scotland (PFS). Give thanks for the

long-standing working partnership with the Scottish Prison Service. Volunteers wishing to work with Prison Chaplaincy are re-directed to PFS due to the quality of their volunteer processes and training. Give thanks also for the persistent demand for PFS's work in restorative justice, specifically in their 6week 'Sycamore Tree' course which helps offenders look at the consequences of their crimes as this is developed through an increasing number of Scottish prisons. Pray especially for children and family of prisoners affected by imprisonment and pray for PFS as it seeks to further develop its work within prisons. Remember Rev. Gary Caldwell in his work as Prison Chaplain at Greenock Prison as he serves staff and those imprisoned there. Give thanks for changed lives through God's grace as he engages with those in Greenock Prison.

Sunday 24

The Church and Ministry. Remember the work and ministry of God's servants today as they proclaim the Word of God that they may know God's Hand upon them as they serve the Lord. Pray for the Holy Spirit's boldness in preaching and for God's Word to bear much fruit in peoples' lives. Pray that His ministers may be mindful and watchful as faithful leaders of Christ's Church and that God may

protect them in their living out of the Gospel in daily life. Pray also for the Church of Scotland as it seeks to engage with Scotland in a new and Biblical way and the consequent work of Presbyteries - in working with local congregations in challenging times, especially remembering The Presbytery of Glasgow. Pray for the ongoing life and witness of St Columba's Hillhead in working together to promote discipleship and mission in our local area.

Monday 25

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Give thanks for the work of MAF in South Sudan.

After several decades of civil war, South Sudan became the world's newest nation on 9 July 2011, when more than 3.8 million South Sudanese voted to separate from Sudan in a historic referendum.

More than two million people died in two civil wars that preceded independence. Today, South Sudan continuing border disputes with neighbouring Sudan, and internal struggles within the government, have resulted once again in conflict and upheaval for war-weary citizens.

MAF has served the people of South Sudan since 1950. MAF South Sudan currently has five Cessna Caravans and two Cessna 182s.

MAF South Sudan works in partnership with national church groups, mission groups, development and relief agencies and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), enabling access to inaccessible locations across South Sudan. MAF also provides emergency and medical evacuations.

Give thanks for the work of MAF of South Sudan in partnership with Africa Inland Mission. Pray that this partnership will enable missionaries with AIM to reach people in remote communities in South Sudan who have never heard the Good News about Jesus.

Tuesday 26

5th Kirkintilloch Brownies. Give thanks for the local Brownie Pack which meets on Tuesday evenings in Hillhead Building and remember Lynne Semple as Brownie Leader in her encouragement of the young folks. Pray that the young ones will grow in wisdom as they learn about life and develop life skills for maturity. Pray that they will know and care for one another and honour the Brownie Guide Code in practice. Pray that they will know the love and support of the Church fellowship.

Wednesday 27

Those with Mental Health Issues. Remember those whose mental health is struggling at the moment,

especially young people suffering from social media and life issues. Pray that the Lord would draw close to those who are despairing. Especially remember those known to us who may be struggling. Pray that the Lord will give us the right words to say to someone who is suffering and pray for opportunities for healing conversations. Pray for an increase in understanding and empathy for mental health issues in society and within the Church. Pray that those suffering will find comfort and respite and a path to full healing. Remember also those supporting them that they may know patience, love, hope and healing.

Thursday 28

Discipleship Explored: Give thanks for the Discipleship Explored Group that has been meeting on Thursday mornings. Give thanks for the opportunity to explore the message of Philippians together at Discipleship Explored and for the good friendships that have formed and grown. Pray that those whom at the time of writing are expected to have completed this course now would have found it helpful. Pray for opportunities for 'next steps in faith' for those who have attended Discipleship Explored and throughout St Columba's Hillhead Church.

Pray too for that it may be possible to start another Hope Explored group soon.

Friday 29

Boys' Brigade. Give thanks for all the boys who belong to The 1st Kirkintilloch BB, and for their continuing attendance, activities and achievements. Give thanks especially for new members this session in the Anchor and Company sections.

Remember the leaders as they plan and prepare for each week's meetings that their commitment and enthusiasm will permeate through to the boys and so encourage faith and commitment in them to advance Christ's Kingdom in The Boys' Brigade.

Saturday 30

CARE (Christian Action Research Education). CARE's vision is to see Politics Renewed and Lives Transformed to create a society where everyone flourishes exactly as God intends. CARE seeks to equip politicians with high quality research, producing briefings and drafting speeches for MPs, Peers and other politicians from all parties and faith backgrounds in Westminster, Holyrood and Stormont. Pray for a new generation of Christian leaders to be empowered as future leaders to serve Jesus in their careers. Pray that the Leadership Programme will provide young Christian graduates with the opportunity to experience a study programme and an internship in Parliament or

with a leading NGO (non-governmental organisation). Pray that the contributions made by CARE to political issues and debates such as Assisted Dying, Free Speech and Gender Issues will be regarded with integrity and authority.

Sunday 31

St Columba's Hillhead. Continue to pray for the upbuilding of the life and fellowship of the congregation. Pray that as God's people within our Church we may work for the Lord together in unity and love and that the mission of the Church will know God's blessing in life and witness. Give thanks for the continued coming together and growth in fellowship of folks from both congregations and for the natural ways in which this happening such as over tea and coffee on a Sunday morning. Pray that this may continue to strengthen and deepen the love and unity of God's people and that with encouragement to and from each other congregational life will be strong in the Lord.