

## PRAYER GUIDE : THE KINGDOM FOR THE KING

### Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January

**Today's thought:** We are praying for an awakening in these days. How is God working in the world? I ask Him to stir my spirit so that I can partner with Him in prayer as He longs for His kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven.

**Scripture:** *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you (James 4:8)*

**Prayer:** Breathe your life into my soul and my spirit today. Help me to know your presence and to understand how you are working in the world. Stir my desire to want to join you in prayer and join in with what you are doing.

**Place:** Today we pray for some of the villages in West Fife: Culross, Kincardine, Valleyfield, Torryburn, Charlestown and Limekilns.

- We pray for the aging, decreasing population in this area.
- We pray that the economy will improve in this area and that people will be brought together with improved infrastructure and increased opportunities for community interaction.

### Focus: Awakening

- Ask God to stir our spirits, to awaken our souls to Himself
- Give us the desire to seek Your face in this month of prayer
- Help us to know what is on your heart for Fife.

### Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January

**Today's thought:** 'Revival is God consciousness'. Perhaps we are beginning to see people in our nation seeking God and becoming more attuned to His presence. Are we starting to see God moving in our times, and especially in those we call Gen Z?

**Scripture:** *Ephesians 1:17-20*

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe.*

**Prayer:** Spirit of God keep me from distraction, despair and indifference. Wake me up to see you today and to hear your voice as I pray for Fife and our nation. Stir our faith in the One who has 'incomparably great power'.

**Praying across Fife:** West Fife Villages: Blairhall, Saline, Comrie, Oakley Carnock, Cairneyhill, Crombie and Crossford.

- As we think about the West Fife villages pray for the local community groups and places that serve as local hubs.
- Pray that those in the village churches will be well connected.
- There is a perceived divide between communities in coastal towns and the villages, a concern about a lack of facilities and areas of land becoming derelict. Although the villages are close, a sense of isolation comes from poor public transportation and weakened community links. Pray for renewal, provision and improved access for these villages.

#### **Focus: Community centres**

- Pray for the isolated to find community.
- That church would engage with the needs of their local community.
- For groups to form which bring people together.

#### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** Jesus, would you stir me to embrace and live in your resurrection power. Would you awaken the hearts of those who have become distant in their relationship with you? Would you breathe life and hope into those whose faith is faltering?

**Scripture:** *2 Peter 1:3-10 His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness*

**Praying across Fife: We pray today for Dalgety Bay, Hillend and Aberdour.**

- Pray for integration of the expanding residential developments and associated services.
- Ask God to revive industries and small businesses in the area.
- Ask God to be at work as local residents mix with incoming tourists.

#### **Focus: Personal revival**

- Father God, would you revive hearts that have grown cold towards You.
- Help us to see ourselves as we truly are and return to our first love.
- Pray for Holy Spirit stirrings in our church services.

#### **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** God wants to involve us in community transformation. How does this come about? It is often heard 'revival starts with me' so what do I need to do? Part of working this out is to spend more time in prayer and worship, moving closer to the One with whom we are to partner.

**Scripture:** *See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. (Isaiah 43:19)*

**Prayer:** Help us to see what You are doing and to follow you where you lead us. Reveal to us individually new aspects of who you are as we read your word and show us how to work with you and each other in new ways.

**Praying across Fife: Today's focus is on Inverkeithing and Rosyth.**

- The area is one of declining heavy industry, such as coal mining and the dockyard at Rosyth, with the Kincardine and Forth bridgeheads providing links to the south. Pray for regeneration and for new businesses to thrive.
- Pray for new purpose for the local communities.
- Pray for the local churches, that they would be sources of creativity, developing new opportunities for employment, especially among the youth.

**Focus: Regeneration of deserted areas**

- We pray for those involved in making planning decisions - for wisdom and perspective - for decisions to benefit the greatest number of people possible.
- We ask God to pour his resources into areas in need of new life and rejuvenation.

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** Is prayer a non-negotiable part of our daily life? As well as connecting with God in moments throughout our day do we set aside times just to focus on Him, to give Him our whole attention for a while? Perhaps as we prioritise these times of intimacy, we discover more of who He is and who we are in Him. Knowing his heart, we become more attuned to how to pray that His kingdom would come on earth.

**Scripture: *Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere. (Psalm 84:10)***

**Prayer:** Father God, we want to linger in your presence from day to day. We ask for the desire and the discipline to seek you in prayer and come often to you in thankful worship.

**Praying across Fife: Dunfermline centre.**

- Dunfermline has an interesting and significant history. Thank God for Dunfermline's Christian heritage.
- Pray for an understanding of the area and that God will heal the land.
- There is a central heritage quarter with a significant Christian history. Ask God to remind people of His interaction with this and previous generations – to reopen any blocked wells to allow His Spirit to flow once again.

**Focus: Housing and planning**

- Low cost affordable housing where it is needed.
- Grants for refurbishment and repair.
- Regeneration of sites where there has been derelict housing.
- Refurbishment of old housing stock.
- Pray for just and appropriate planning decisions.

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January

**Today's thought:** A feature of answered prayer and perhaps even a key to revival is that of people coming together to pray. This may be in twos or threes to contend for the issues we see on our doorsteps or a coming together of people from different churches or villages in an area to cry out on behalf of their town or region.

**Scripture:** *For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them. (Matthew 18:20)*

**Prayer:** Pray that we would know how to pray for our town or village and for our community. If we are not doing so already, ask God to lead us to others with whom we can pray for our community.

**Praying across Fife: South Dunfermline (Abbeyview, Pitcorthie, Pitreavie, Duloch, Townhill, Touch, Garvoch, Kingseat)**

- Pray for God's overwhelming presence to dominate places currently associated with violence and anti-social behaviour.
- Ask God to flood these areas with His presence.
- Pray for those seeking recovery from addiction, abuse and domestic violence.

### Focus: Education - early years learning

- Pray for baby and toddler groups across the area.
- Ask God to give very young children a sense of His presence.
- Pray for early years teachers and support staff in nurseries.
- Ask God to provide appropriate care for all young children across Fife.

## Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January

**Today's thought:** As we grasp the nature of our all-powerful God, his heart for the people he has made and the expectation of him hearing and answering our prayers, it stirs us to pray bold prayers for those around us.

**Scripture:** *The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade ...more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. (Acts 5:12-15)*

**Prayer:** Father we turn to you for healing, restoration and renewal.

- Pray that we would be filled with the Holy Spirit to bring healing to those near us.
- Ask God for boldness to pray for those we encounter who need a healing touch.
- Thank God for personal protection, well-being and health.

**Praying across Fife: North Dunfermline (Baldrigeburn, Garvock Headwell, Milesmark, Wellwood, Halbeath, Ballyeoman)**

- Thank God for local services in this area, for nearby green areas and local businesses.
- Give thanks for the parks and open spaces.
- Pray for peace and mutual support amongst residents in the north Dunfermline housing schemes.
- Pray for improvements in traffic levels and a decrease in pollution.
- Pray for improved access to healthcare.
- Pray for a decrease in anti-social behaviour has also been highlighted as an issue.

### **Focus: Hospitals, healthcare and healing**

- Pray for the NHS facing funding issues, dealing with backlogs of waiting lists and frequent staff shortages.
- Ask God for energy, skill and support for NHS staff facing pressures at work in all kinds of NHS roles; ask God to work through them to bring healing, restoration and to promote healthy living.
- Pray that health inequalities will be resolved.
- Ask God to pour his resources of energy, strength and wisdom for all who are involved in caring for others.

### **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** As we pray on behalf of our communities and nation we pause to remember that it is God's world, we are his people, created by him and for him. Father God, we acknowledge that your forgiveness, healing and transformation depends on our willingness to come, pray, and turn to you. Thankyou that you are faithful, you hear us when we call to you and you forgive us and bring your order into our world.

**Scripture:** *..if my people, who are called by my name , will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)*

**Prayer:** Let there be a spirit of repentance amongst us: we come to you in humility in prayer , seeking to know you and bringing ourselves and our nation before you; we resolve to turn away from sin and resolve to continually turn towards you, knowing we find forgiveness and healing through You.

### **Praying across Fife: Burntisland, Kinghorn, Auchtertool,**

- We thank God for those who live in and visit Kinghorn and for the blessings of this seaside resort.
- We ask for God's care and for wise policy making in this conservation area.
- We ask, Father that you would work through your people in Burntisland – as they form community and as they reach out to tourists and visitors.

### **Focus: Tourism**

- Ask God to encounter visitors to our region .
- Pray that tourism would thrive and people would see God through creation and heritage .
- Pray for appropriate management of popular tourist sites.
- Pray for the church's mission to visitors to Fife.

## **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** We think of God's desire for justice for all people. His heart is full of mercy for the broken and weary, for the downcast and those finding themselves at the margins of society. How does he want me to engage in showing mercy and to work for justice in our world?

**Scripture:** *He has shown you O mortal what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)*

**Pray** that our eyes would be opened to inequality, injustice and need. Ask God 'how would you like to work through me today to bring your compassion and justice into being?'

### **Praying across Fife: Kirkcaldy North and West, Bennoch and Hayfield, Templehall,**

- Pray that the new community hub opening in Templehall will be a place of connection and community and will positively impact the local residents.
- Pray for the churches' outreach and impact in the local community.
- Ask God to restore families and community where they are under stress and tension.

### **Focus: Life at the margins**

- Pray for the homeless, that they would be seen, valued and protected and provided for.
- Pray for recovery and rehabilitation centres.
- Pray for those experiencing isolation, oppression or injustice in our midst.
- Ask God to expose hidden inequalities and injustices.
- Pray that He would eradicate every form of slavery in our county.
- Pray for those suffering due to racism, gender, social status or unhelpful cultural practices.
- Ask God to work powerfully through organisations seeking to bring justice and to respond to those in poverty and need.

## **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** Another key to seeing God move in revival or community transformation is unity amongst local churches. As we gather together and call out 'as one' we sense his presence and something of his purposes to a greater extent.

**Scripture:** *How good and pleasant it is when God's people live in unity! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down the beard, running down Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life for evermore. (Psalm 133)*

**Prayer :** In the book of Romans, Paul writes that 'in Christ we, though many, form one body and each member belongs to all the others' (Romans 12:5). Father God, help us have a new revelation of our mutuality and connectedness as the Body of Christ. Ask God to show you where you need to reconcile with others or could reach out to stand with parts of the church with whom you don't normally engage.

#### **Praying across Fife: Kirkcaldy S and E and Dysart.**

- Dysart is known to be an early Christian site especially associated with St Serf. Pray for people in this area to become aware of God's presence and seek him in the quiet places as St Serf is reported to have occupied a cave for this purpose. He is reputed to have experienced spiritual battles here. We can similarly pray that the spiritual victory won by Jesus on the cross will be experienced by those turning to him in these days.
- Pray for peace and connection between different communities.
- Pray for an injection of resources for the most deprived communities.

#### **Focus: Church unity**

- Ask God to bring together churches for community action, to stand together against injustice and for mission.
- Pray that God would break down any barriers to unity and that divisions would be reconciled.
- Ask him to flood the churches with a spirit of reconciliation and grace.
- We pray for renewed vision for the church and a spirit of prayer to come upon us all.

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**Today's thought:** Our heavenly Father is not far away. The story of the prodigal son shows us that his heart is for us and he longs for us to turn to Him and return to him. He embraces us with open arms. He longs to shower his blessings on us and to restore us to himself and to heal our wounds.

**Scripture:** *Come near to God and He will come near to you. (James 4:8)*

*The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. (Psalm 34:18)*

**Prayer:** Thank you, Jesus, that you bring us comfort when we are distressed, guidance through difficult times and hope for the future. We bring our anxiety, fear and fear to you. Help us to receive your peace, strength to endure and your restoration as we wait on you.

### Praying across Fife: Buckhaven, Wemyss

- Pray for current issues to be resolved such as roadworks and access to healthcare.
- Ask God to bless traditional activities associated with the former mining communities e.g. the brass bands and other community groups.
- Ask Him to give the churches favour to contribute to the life of these places and insight as to how to reach out more effectively to their communities.

### Focus: Mental Health

- We pray for resources to be poured into the mental health services.
- Ask God to restore the lives of all those undergoing mental health treatment. We think particularly of those we know who are experiencing mental health issues.
- We ask God to empower and resource support groups that seek to alleviate poor mental health and to promote good mental health.

### Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January

**Today's thought:** God's glory : In the Lord's prayer acknowledge the glory to be the Lord's. Spend some time reflecting on what that would look like in our community and nation.

**Scripture:** *For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. (Habakkuk 2:14)*

**Prayer:** Pray to know his incomparable power (Isaiah 42:8) and that we would reflect his glory in the world. Psalm 145:5 says 'I will meditate on your magnificent splendour and your wondrous works'. Spend some time reflecting on his creation today.'

### Praying across Fife: Methil and Leven form part of Levenmouth.

- Thank God for the recently opened train link, making commuting and services more accessible.
- Pray for growth in the health, retail and public sectors. Ask for God to bring further prosperity to the area following the decline of mining and heavy industry.
- The area provided inspiration for Robinson Crusoe, pray for innovation and creativity to spring up in this area.

### Focus: Education – schools

- Teachers – for wisdom and understanding.
- Pupils GIRFEC to be implemented successfully.
- SEND
- Church and schools: time for reflection.
- SU and other church groups to have access into and serve schools and their children.
- The establishment of prayer spaces in schools.



## Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> January

**Today's thought:** As we think of God's kingdom coming in Fife, we take time to respond to Jesus' command to go. We ask 'how am I moving forward in the mission that he has given his people? What is my role in the unfolding of his kingdom purposes?

**Scripture:** *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit., and teaching them everything I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:19)*

**Prayer:** Pray that people will become interested in the message of the gospel. Pray for households near you that they will be saved. Pray for a new wave of revival across Fife.

### Praying across Fife: Kennoway, Windygates, Balcurvie

- Pray for the different traditional communities found in this area : farming and mining - for harmony and for mutual support.
- Ask God to reveal himself as the Good Shepherd (as depicted in the stained glass window in Kennoway).
- Pray for an ability for the communities here to navigate change; ask God to bring unity after various church splits and changes over time.

### Focus: Business and industry - former mining communities

- Employment issues to be resolved, so that existing employment can be secured.
- For the strong community spirit and mutual support to continue to allow people to thrive and flourish.
- For new retail and business initiatives to thrive and add to the wellbeing of the community.

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February

**Today's thought:** God wants us to pray specifically and with insight for our local area. The Holy Spirit prompts us to pray in certain ways and as we gain awareness of historical events and spiritual proclivities in our area we can pray more effectively. Romans 8:28 says 'likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.'

**Scripture:** *The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him – the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord...' (Isaiah 11:2)*

**Prayer:** Ask God to show us how to pray for our town or village and for our community. Pray for insight and revelation to pray with clarity, boldness and faith.

## **Praying across Fife: Glenrothes C and W : Glenwood, Kinglasslie, Auchmuty, Leslie.**

- Unemployment and healthcare are highlighted as areas of concern in Glenrothes. Bring these before our heavenly Father.
- Pray for those struggling with the cost of living and access to suitable housing.
- Pray for adequate funding for public services.

### **Focus: Crime and policing**

- For resources to be poured into crime blackspots.
- For the safety of our Police men and women.
- For sensitive and compassionate policing.
- For crime that has been undetected to be uncovered.
- Ask God to give diligence and wisdom to those involved in customs and excise: to control what goes in and out of Fife.

## **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

**Today's thought:** We are part of the new creation in Christ. 'Therefore if anyone is in Christ he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.' (2 Corinthians 5:17) Let that truth stimulate our prayers for ourselves, the church and for His Kingdom to come in Fife.

**Scripture:** *And he who was seated on the throne said: 'Behold I am making all things new' Also he said 'Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true'. (Revelation 21:5)*

**Prayer:** 'Father God, help us to see how You are working today in Fife and how we can get involved: to play our part in the unfolding of Your story'

## **Praying across Fife: Glenrothes S and E, Woodside, Pitteuchar, Finglassie and Stenton**

- Pray for the Council, its employees, practices – that they would have positive impacts across Fife.
- Ask God to intervene to resolve issues such as unemployment, healthcare, struggles with cost of living, access to suitable housing, funding for public services.

### **Focus: Retail and business**

- Pray for innovation and creativity for businesses.
- Bless leaders with integrity and the fear of the Lord.
- Pray that directors and employers would be generous and caring and seek the wellbeing of employees, clients and customers.
- Pray for wholesome enterprises to prosper.
- Pray that Christians in this sector would display the fruit of the Spirit and operate in love, joy, peace, with patience, kindness and goodness and work with faithfulness gentleness and self-control.

## Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

**Today's thought:** The four values on the Scottish Parliament's mace are wisdom, justice, compassion and integrity. We see these values woven through the Bible. Ask God to show us how to embrace these in our own lives as Scottish citizens in the Kingdom of Fife but more crucially of God's kingdom. The gold on the mace is from Scottish rivers and represents the union of the land, people and parliament. As Christians we stand in unity - ask God to help us imagine the river of God bringing deeper joy, peace and life to Fife.

### Praying across Fife: Glenrothes N, Cadham, Collydean,

- Issues to pray for Glenrothes: unemployment, healthcare, struggles with cost of living, access to suitable housing, funding for public services.
- Thank God for a strong sense of community.
- Pray for the churches in this area to flourish, and to work closely together in unity for the sake of the Kingdom.

### Focus: Local government: Fife council

- Help us to be faithful in praying for those in authority.
- Pray for justice, compassion and mercy in Council decisions.
- Pray for resources to be allocated to the most appropriate needs.
- Ask God to establish good practice, equity in all departments, and that they will seek the good of all Fife residents.
- Ask God to put in place policy makers and Councillors who have wisdom and compassion, and who will seek to bring justice to all their work.

## Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1) . May we have a confidence in God's intention and ability to keep his promises and for his kingdom to come on earth as it is in heaven, as we pray.

**Scripture:** *And this is the....we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to His will He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him. (1 John 5:14)*

*And whatever you ask in prayer you will receive, if you have faith. (Matthew 21:22)*

**Prayer:** Father God, we choose to trust you with our own lives and we ask that you would allow us to see the answers to prayers we have prayed over the years for the people we know and the places in which we live.

## Praying across Fife: Thornton, Markinch, Coaltown of Balgonie

- Ask God to bless local community groups and services in Thornton and Coaltown of Balgonie and to bring renewal where there are derelict and unused buildings.
- Pray for those walking the Fife Pilgrim Way which passes through Markinch. Ask God to be at work as they pass through the towns and villages and ask him to bless the work of the Fife Pilgrim Pastor and churches involved in this initiative.

### Focus: The elderly

- Pray for God's presence and peace to fill all residential care homes.
- Pray for those feeling isolated and grappling with the effects of reduced local services.
- Pray for befriending schemes, groups providing community meals and opportunities for connection – that they would have the resources they require to meet every need.
- Pray for improvements to and advances in healthcare and social care

## Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Sometimes we just need to keep going in prayer. Colossians encourages us to 'devote ourselves to prayer, being watchful' (4:2) and 1 Thessalonians reminds us 'to pray without ceasing' (5:17). We are exhorted to be persistent in prayer (Romans 12:12)

**Scripture:** *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you' (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

**Prayer:** Help us Father to not lose heart, rather to keep calling on You, knowing that you hear us, and in due course You will answer according to Your will. May our faith be unwavering as we keep trusting and relying on You in all circumstances and situations. May we be as persistent as the widow in Luke 18.

## Praying across Fife: Cowdenbeath, Hill of Beath, Crossgates and Mossgreen

- Pray for the restoration of the economy and renewal of places formerly revolving around and relying on the mining industry.
- Ask God to revive the churches in these mining towns and villages.
- Pray for the community outreach initiatives in this area – that they would touch many lives and draw them to Jesus.

### Focus: The Environment

- Pray for environmentally focussed organisations such as the Fife Coast and Countryside Trust, St Andrews Environmental Network, Greener Kirkcaldy, Scottish Wildlife local groups, Climate Action Fife and the Fife Environment partnership that their work would contribute to the good stewardship of the world God gave mankind to care for.

- Ask God to invoke a sense of responsibility in relation to the areas of climate action, sustainable living and upholding the provision of green spaces.
- Pray for Christian involvement and interaction with the environment. Ask Him to work through the Fife Pilgrim Way and its pastor and groups such as Forth Pilgrim taking church outdoors and offering eco-experiences and learning in our outdoor spaces.

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** As we consider our lifestyle, the activities we prioritise in our lives and the decisions we make, the Bible encourages to ask for ancient wisdom for our lives today. We can allow God's Spirit to remind us of God's promises and his ways. Following His commands and walking in His ways can lead to peace and can allow people and places to thrive.

**Scripture:** *This is what the Lord says, 'Stand at the crossroads and look, ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is and walk in it and you will find rest for your souls. (Jeremiah 6:16)*

**Prayer:** Help us to adopt ancient practices established by You for us to thrive in the places where You have put us, doing the works You have prepared for us. Help us to keep asking which way to go, following Your decrees and commands and walking in freedom and in obedience to You. Give us discerning and willing hearts.

## Praying across Fife: Lochgelly, Lumphinans

- Pray for Lochore Meadows – an important heritage site in Fife – that it would flourish.
- Ask God to bring prosperity and new life to these villages.
- Pray for the communities to remain strong and for the churches to connect well with the local people and each other.
- Ask God to bring economic renewal where the decline of coal mining has had an adverse impact.

## Focus: Heritage

- Pray for heritage sites throughout Fife, that their history would bring revelation and direction to our prayers.
- Ask God to bring healing on the land where there has been pain and trauma.
- Ask God to bring his redemption to communities affected negatively by historic events and that God would use aspects of our rich heritage to bring people closer to Him and to each other in their communities.
- Ask God to help us to learn through history and honour those who have walked with you before us.

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** To what extent do our prayers revolve around our own lives, churches and family? Paul carried many people from far flung areas in prayer. Who is God putting on your heart to pray for – perhaps a church or town at the other end of the county!

***Devote yourselves to prayer , being watchful and thankful. And pray for us that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ... (Colossians 4:2)***

**Prayer:** Father God, help us to be aware of what is happening across the Kingdom of Fife. May other churches and ministries be assured of our support in prayer and in practical ways. Show us who to connect with and how to work together.

### Praying across Fife: Cardenden

- Pray that local issues will be resolved such as flood protection and management, improvements to roads and other aspects of the town's infrastructure.
- Ask God to help organisations support families living in poverty and to improve aspects of health and wellbeing.
- Pray for churches working here: for good connections with those living in surrounding areas.

### Focus: Sport across Fife

- Thousands take part in sports: pray for safety and a sense of wellbeing to emerge from such activities.
- Pray for Chaplains, especially in football clubs, that they will make a positive difference bringing the love of Christ and the presence of God wherever they are.

## Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Jesus says 'My sheep hear my voice.' (John 10:10). As God delights to speak to us and reveal His heart, His purposes and His thoughts, take time to listen and spend time waiting on Him. As we do, He often shows us how to pray for situations around us.

**Scripture:** *I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh: your sons and daughters shall prophesy , your old men shall dream dreams and your young men shall see visions' (Joel 2:28-29)*

**Prayer:** Thank you that you are a God of revelation, and that you do nothing without revealing your plans to Your servants the prophets (Amos 3:7). Helps us wait, listen and to understand the times and the seasons.

### **Praying across Fife: Ballingry, Lochore, Crosshill, Benarty, Kelty**

- Pray for villages which are growing, that they will be able to accommodate a varied population.
- Pray that many Christians will move to these areas and that strong churches will emerge and become essential centres for community life, filled with the presence of God in every activity.
- Ask God to help the Council with wisdom as they work to meet the needs of different sections of the population.
- Pray for the wise implementation of the Council's strategy plans, for the benefit of the whole county, but especially for those areas targeted for growth.

### **Focus: Children and young people**

- Pray for all children in Fife to know and experience God's love.
- Pray for the physical protection of each child, and for their emotional, mental and spiritual wellbeing. Ask Him to help them in their relationships with their peers and in their families.
- Pray for children close to you - in your family, church or your street. Pray they will have a hunger to know Jesus.
- Pray that each child in our community would discover who they are in Christ and that God would direct them to walk in His ways.

### **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

**Today's thought:** We probably know many people who once attended church or have at one time followed Jesus more closely. As we think of the parable of the lost sheep, we pray for individuals to return to the One who made them and loves them.

**Scripture:** *The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on him in truth. (Psalm 145:18)*

Prayer: As we pray for those who need to return to God to start to draw near to him, we also think about returning to our first love and to examine whether we have moved away from God either intentionally or have perhaps let our hearts grow cold.

### **Praying across Fife: Newburgh Abdie and Dunbog,**

- Pray for progress with the proposed train link about which people are campaigning and which will bring economic and other benefits locally.
- Ask God to unite the different parts of the community and restore possibilities for community connection.
- Pray for integration of the new and old in the villages in north Fife, with active churches leading the way in community regeneration.

## Focus: Theatre, the arts and music

- Pray for God's creativity to be expressed through the arts across Fife.
- Ask God to infuse the church with creative perceptions and expressions in its activities both in gatherings and in outreach.
- Pray for Christian artists, musicians and actors as they seek to live out their calling and point people to Jesus.

## Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Jesus declared that he is the 'Light of the World', that we reflect His light in the world around us and we are exhorted to let our light shine for others to see.

**Scripture:** *Arise shine for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn (Isaiah 60:1-3)*

**Prayer:** Pray that we may arise to let God's light penetrate the darkness as we abide in Him and carry His presence into the world. May we be confident that as we spend time with our Saviour we will shine brighter for Him.

## Praying across Fife: Newport and Forgan, Tayport, Balmerino, Gauldry, Wormit

- Pray for unity across the churches and for the Holy Spirit to help new congregations form as church structures are reorganised and consolidated.
- Pray that churches that are strong in their faith and active in their witness and mission will emerge from the ongoing changes.
- Ask God to bring connection and a greater sense of community to those living in isolated villages and hamlets across this area.
- Pray for fresh employment and economic opportunities to bring prosperity, especially for younger people.

## Focus: leisure, hospitality and entertainment

- Pray for righteousness to grow in this sector with business and initiatives being infused with integrity.
- Ask God to work amongst those involved in hospitality to provide safe, welcoming spaces.
- Pray that there would be values of inclusion, kindness and welcome where people gather for entertainment and leisure.
- Ask God to watch over all areas where people gather and to bless activities that operate according to His ways.
- Ask God to help us as Church to excel in hospitality, especially welcoming the stranger.



## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** How do we respond to problems, difficult issues and circumstances that we experience or observe? God assures us that we will find Him in the midst of our ongoing situations and struggles if we are wholehearted and determined in our pursuit of Him, and keep on seeking to hear and see Him as we pray.

**Scripture:** *Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:12-13)*

**Prayer:** Lord help us to devote time to You and to fully give You our attention when we come to pray. Help us to stay close to You and to seek to know Your heart and your thoughts as we bring people and situations before You.

### Praying across Fife: Largoward, Carnbee, Arncroach, Peat Inn

- Ask God to bless the communities in these rural areas, especially with employment and economic prosperity.
- Pray rich blessings especially on all involved in farming and agriculture.
- Pray for households to become aware of God's presence around them.
- Pray for good connections and for good access to efficient and regular transport and services.

### Focus: Families

- Pray for good relationships in the households in your town or village.
- Ask God to send His Spirit to bring peace into troubled households: pray for harmony and that family members would be kept from violent or abusive actions against each other.
- Ask God to bring the right support for families struggling to cope.
- Pray that every Church would model and act well as family in our communities.

## Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Is it possible to envisage what might happen if Christians across Fife were praying every day for His will to be done. Maybe we could envisage whole communities being saturated with the presence of God or people asking: 'What must I do to be saved?'

**Scripture:** *Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus for generations and generations. (Ephesians 2:20)*

**Prayer:** Lord we ask that You will act not according to the poverty of what we are, or believe, but according to the greatness of who You are.

### Praying across Fife: Kingsbarns, Crail, Kilrenny , Anstruther, Cellardyke

- Ask God to reopen wells of revival - where God has worked powerfully in the past to bring renewal, especially amongst children and young people. 'Lord, we stand in awe of Your deeds....renew them in our day.' (Habakkuk 3:2)
- Pray for families experiencing financial hardship and breakdown – for support , restoration and reconciliation – that the Church would be in the forefront of providing love, care, mercy and forgiveness – 'setting the captives free'.
- Ask for God's peace where there is conflict within or between households or communities.

### Focus: Fishing communities

- Many coastal villages have a longstanding association with fishing. Pray for healing where there is a sense of loss of lives, of traditional ways and isolation.
- Current and past fishing activities have associated traditions and strong community links. Pray for the protection of values traditionally embraced by the fishing communities which add to community wellbeing.
- Pray a blessing over new business activities, that they would prosper, and pray for more new economic opportunities that will enable these communities to flourish again.

### Friday 13th February

**Today's thought:** The Lord's prayer gives us a pattern for prayer. God awaits our requests for the things we need on a day-to-day basis. Let's continue to bring our neighbours and the people living on our streets to Him in prayer. If we don't do so already, consider adopting the practice of walking around the places where we live and praying for His Kingdom to come as we go.

**Scripture:** *Do not be anxious about anything but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God . And the peace of God which surpasses all understanding , will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*  
(Philippians 4: 6-7)

**Prayer:** We pray for your peace to settle on families, households and in the places - buildings, streets and open spaces where we live. Help us to carry your presence and peace as we walk through our neighbourhoods.

### Praying across Fife: St. Monans, Colinsburgh, Kilconquhar, Elie

- With a high proportion of second homes making up the housing stock, pray that local residents will be able to access the housing they need.
- Pray that visiting holiday makers will be made to feel welcome by all, in particular by local churches expressing the love of Jesus, resulting in many coming into the Kingdom.

- Pray for the integration of locals and incomers and a growing sense of community, and that this will be led by active local churches.
- Ask God to halt and turn around the current decline in local services.

### **Focus: Communities - access and communication**

- Pray for those travelling and commuting around Fife: for safety on all of the roads and the rail system.
- Ask for God's protection at travel blackspots where accidents have been prevalent. Pray for greater awareness by all drivers at these locations.
- Pray for improvements in access through bus and train networks to be put in place throughout Fife.

### **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February**

**Today's thought:** God encourages us to ask! Maybe our prayers are hindered by our reluctance or hesitation to do so. What would you like Him to do today?

**Scripture:** *Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you (Matthew 7:7)*

**Prayer:** John 14:14 records Jesus words: 'You may ask me for anything in my name and I will do it.' Ponder on this promise and ask God's Spirit to show you what to ask for in relation to yourself or others.

### **Praying across Fife: Ladybank, Auchtermuchty, Strathmiglo, Freuchie, Falkland**

- Pray as 'traditional' churches are closed and others reform and join with other congregations – for understanding, united vision and cooperation.
- Pray that strong, active, faith-filled and mission-minded churches will emerge from all the changes.
- Ask God to help struggling local businesses to survive and thrive.
- Pray for communities to become more integrated and for a resurgence of activities which offer connection and inclusion – and that local churches will be leaders in these areas.

### **Focus: The workplace**

- Ask God to bless those working in every sphere of society.
- Pray for good relationships between employees and employers.
- Pray that every employer will ensure the safety, welfare and well-being of their workforce, and that employees will respond by carrying out their responsibilities to the highest standards, thus ensuring the success of each business.
- Pray for those struggling to enter the workforce. Ask God to place the right people in the right roles in your area.

## Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** God's kingdom comes as we pray and as we go into the world. It is in the 'going' that we often see and experience that transformation .

**Scripture:** *The spirit of the sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn and provide for those who grieve in Zion-to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes , the oil of joy instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendour... (Isaiah 61:1-3)*

**Prayer:** Pray that the Church will increasingly engage with the task of taking the good news into the world and making it known. Pray that there would be a demonstration of the Spirit's power and for 'workers for the harvest' to come forward across Fife.

### Praying across Fife: Leuchars, Guardbridge, Balmullo,

- Pray for the army base at Leuchars – for God's protection on all those serving in our Armed Forces locally.
- Pray for the Church community meeting there – that the Holy Spirit would anoint all they do and that they would be an effective witness for Christ, attracting and leading many to the Cross and into the true Kingdom.
- Ask God to bless the villages in this area with peace, prosperity and a strong sense of God's presence in every home.
- Pray for the gatherings of Christians that take place in the small villages and for those having to travel to attend church in the larger towns. Ask God to show them how to be salt and light in the places where they live.

### Focus: Community services

- Pray God's blessing on all the services operating in the towns and villages.
- Pray for Council provided services to be maintained and for resources to be provided which meet the most pressing needs of local residents.
- Ask God to strengthen and resource community groups and organisations which seek to support local people: e.g. toddler and family groups, educational support initiatives, befriending associations – and that the Church would be a leader in this area of meeting local needs.

## Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** Ask God to keep you on the path of holiness. It is good to bring oneself before God to ensure that we are living a righteous life pleasing to Him. Psalm 24 asks 'Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart and does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.'

**Scripture:** *Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. (James 5:17)*

**Prayer:** Ask God to cleanse and renew us. Ask if there is anything hindering your walk with Him. Allow the Spirit to bring conviction to your heart of anything you need to confess.

### Praying across Fife: St Andrews, Strathkinness, Boarhills, Dunino, Cameron

- Thank God for the long and rich Christian tradition in St Andrews – a centre of pilgrimage and theological depth.
- Where theological teaching has moved away from, or 'watered down' the essential, powerful truths of Scripture, stand in the gap for those involved, confess the sin and ask for God's forgiveness and the restoration of strong, powerful, Biblical teaching that will produce a generation of ministers, teachers and evangelists whom God will use to bring revival to the Church and reformation to society.
- Pray for a move of the Spirit amongst all the churches and for unity between them.
- Pray for the University in its relationship with the town, tourists and surrounding areas – that it will be a blessing and a force for good.
- Pray for the Christian University staff and students – that they would be 'salt and light' in every department, attracting many to Jesus.
- Pray that the 'light of the Gospel' will shine brightly in the University and the town.

### Focus: Higher education

- Pray God's blessing on students in Universities and Colleges, for teaching staff and those who are involved in supporting them pastorally, administratively and in student services.
- Pray God's blessing on Christian organisations such as CUs, *Just Love* and denominational groups within higher education, that He would give them revelation and creative ways to engage with their colleagues resulting in many wanting to know more about Jesus, and coming to faith – out of darkness into light!
- As we read about the 'Quiet Revival' amongst Gen Z (18-24 year olds), pray for a spiritual awakening amongst students throughout Fife.

## Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February

**Today's thought:** It is good to know that we can just be ourselves before God – to pray as we can, not as we can't. We can bring our prayers simply, and directly. We don't need to be articulate or showy. Jesus exhorts His followers to pray privately, to avoid hypocrisy and promises to reward those who embrace a quiet unseen prayer life.

**Scripture:** *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people (Ephesians 6:18).*

**Prayer:** We ask 'what is on your heart Father God? Let your peace rule in our hearts and help us to discern what to bring before You'. Keep us alert to hear your voice and to keep on praying in all sorts of ways, as You lead and direct us.

### Praying across Fife: Cupar, Kemback, Springfield, Culter, Dairsie, Kettle

- Pray for an outpouring of God's Spirit in the Cupar area.
- Ask for a resurgence of mission focused prayer and action.
- Pray for Churches to see a powerful breakthrough as they seek to overcome obstacles to the Gospel put in their way by the 'enemy'.

### Focus: Farming communities and rural issues

- Ask God to bless the land and all farmers living and working in this area.
- Pray that God would bless harvests of every kind, and for His favour on livestock – that they would be healthy and very productive.
- Pray for God's wisdom for farmers as they navigate changing economic realities and seek to cope with changing weather patterns.

## Conclusion

As we come to the end of these 30 days of prayer, we don't have to stop – we can keep going, using the information in this Guide together with your local knowledge to bring the 'Kingdom' before the King each day until Father God decides the time is right to release His Spirit, His glory and power over this county, and from Fife into Scotland and beyond.

- Give thanks to God for all who have taken part in the 30 days – whether just once or several times.
- Pray that the experience has resulted in a desire to go deeper with God in prayer – both individually and in our Church or other prayer groups.
- Pray that the experience of coming together to worship and pray together will result in many more such gatherings in the months to come, and that this in turn will form, strengthen and increase bonds of unity between churches in each community.
- Pray that growing unity will lead to many joint outreach events and community initiatives – the Church working 'As One!' - to Christ's original design and plan!