

Prayer Focus 24th March 2019

Gracious, loving God we give thanks today for all of the blessings we have in the knowledge of your presence and your peace, we give thanks for our nation and the freedom that we enjoy.

After the vote to leave the European Union we come to a critical time in the negotiations that seek to agree the basis on which the separation will work.

We pray for the senior members of our government as they meet together, we ask that in your mercy you would bring harmony and a common sense of purpose. As a new chapter opens we earnestly pray for continued stability in this geographic area.

Finally we ask that as a nation we would be able to move forward together.

May the Christian community provide support to the oppressed and the needy, and in our struggles encourage us to show the love and compassion of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Amen

EBC & Local Focus:- Give thanks for a good church meeting. Pray that we continue to put God at the centre of things we are planning. Pray for the people who will be invited to Holiday at Home.

Street of the Week :- Wills Road

Community Prayer Diary:- Lunch clubs, coffee and tea groups - Coffee Pot at All Saints, T-Pot at St Mary's - Friendship lunches - EBC Pop-In Café, Knitting Group and Cameo Community Lunch

National & World Prayer Points:- Cyclone Idai has devastated parts of Southern Africa. Winds of up to 106 mph tore down homes and other buildings, and severe flooding has left thousands displaced and homeless. Across Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi where the cyclone made landfall, reports indicate that over 2.6 million people have been affected. More than 300 people have died, with many thousands more injured and homeless. Please pray for everyone affected by Cyclone Idai. In particular, remember everyone who is working tirelessly in treacherous conditions.

Shelter in the storm, light in the darkness, hope even in a living hell,

God be with our sisters and brothers

in Mozambique, in Malawi, in Zimbabwe.

Behind the numbing numbers are the names of loved ones.

Behind the staggering statistics are life stories still to be told.

God, help us be with our sisters and brothers –

gather us close so we open our spirits and share.

Your world is our global neighbourhood.

Help us forge the rain-driven path together, for only together can we weather the storms.

Please continue to pray for New Zealand and those affected by the events last week.

Pray for the UK Muslim community who are feeling unsettled particularly in the light of the attacks on Mosques in Birmingham.

