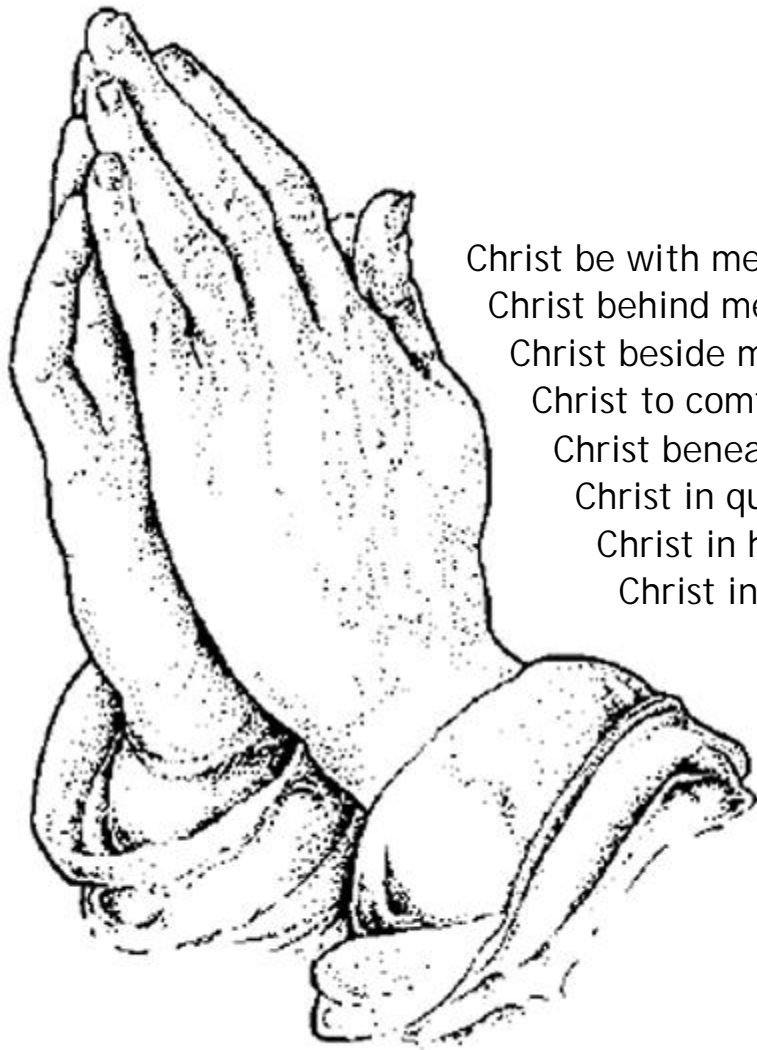




## Prayer Leaflet

September 2007



Christ be with me, Christ within me,  
Christ behind me, Christ before me,  
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me,  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

*from St Patrick's Breastplate*

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin

Godmanchester

## The Widow's Millions

**Luke 21:1-4**

*He looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on.'*



Someone has calculated that if the widow's 2 mites had been deposited in a bank at 4% interest compounded every six months, by today it would have grown to somewhere around £5 billion. What potential there is in such a small investment when it's left to grow for a long time!

In a more significant sense, that widow's 2-mite investment continues to reproduce itself to this very day. Only eternity will reveal how many of God's people have been challenged by that woman's sacrifice, and have dared to follow her example.

With some, it may have been a commitment to greater stewardship of their money. With others, it may have been the giving of themselves and their talents in service to Christ and his kingdom. How can we begin to estimate the eternal value of all the good that such self-giving service has produced down through the centuries? Like the widow, the poorest and least-talented Christians can invest in eternity when what they give represents sacrifice, devotion, and love for Christ.

Let's not underestimate the potential our small contributions can make to the cause of Christ. Only in eternity will this world's true millionaires be revealed. Will we be among them?

**Our Prayers in September are especially requested for:**

### **In the Church**

Give thanks for the ministry of David Busk amongst us here in

Godmanchester – he will have been in post one year on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

Events – Autumn BBQ Lunch (9<sup>th</sup>); Civic Service (16<sup>th</sup>); Gift Day (Oct 6<sup>th</sup>) – please pray for these events, and those who will attend them.

Children's Church – for the children and helpers, as Children's Church returns after the summer holidays; for learning together and having fun together in all activities; and for Angela Wright (new leader).

Mothers Union – International Literacy Day (8<sup>th</sup>) – pray for the projects in Sudan, Burundi and Malawi, that the workers are blessed and inspired and communities empowered to flourish on firm foundations.

Choir – that they may return refreshed after the summer break.

Bible Group – for the continuing success of the Bible Group, and give thanks for the companionship of its members

Emmaus Groups – for the groups meeting again after the summer break.

St Mary's 0s-5s Group – for the group as we start a new term, and for help to make wise decisions as the group grows in numbers.

Flower Guild – for a fruitful harvest everywhere to help feed the world.

### **In the Community**

The schools in the area – for the teachers and pupils at the schools that they may start the new term with renewed energy and enthusiasm; and pray especially for all starting at new schools this term.

Godmanchester – give thanks for our town and for all the people that work so hard to keep it a safe and welcoming place to live.

The charity the Church supports through the collection plate in September:

**Mashambanzou** - caring for the many orphans left behind as a result of the AIDS crisis in Zimbabwe.

This month, in our Street Prayer Mission, we'll be praying for:

Week commencing Sunday 2 September:

**Carnaby Close; Rushes Walk; Field Walk; Merton Walk.**

Week commencing Sunday 9 September:

**The Chestnuts; Oak Tree Court; Berry Lane; Offord Hill & Road.**

Week commencing Sunday 16 September:

**Tudor Road; York Close; Fairey Avenue; The Close.**

Week commencing Sunday 23 September:

**Post Street; Church Place; Chadley Lane; The Causeway.**

Week commencing Sunday 30 September:

**Lancaster Way; Fox Grove; Rectory Gardens; Grove Court.**

Please remember the residents of these streets, those known to us, and especially those, as yet, unknown to us.

## Some Prayers for September:

Almighty God,  
you search us and know us:  
may we rely on you in strength  
and rest on you in weakness,  
now and in all our days;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Merciful God,  
your Son came to save us  
and bore our sins on the cross:  
may we trust in your mercy  
and know your love,  
rejoicing in the righteousness  
that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God,  
defend your Church from all false teaching  
and give to your people knowledge of your truth,  
that we may enjoy eternal life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord of creation,  
whose glory is around and within us:  
open our eyes to your wonders,  
that we may serve you with reverence  
and know your peace at our lives' end,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Gracious God,  
you call us to fullness of life:  
deliver us from unbelief  
and banish our anxieties  
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

