

Some Prayers for July:

Almighty God,  
send down upon your Church  
the riches of your Spirit,  
and kindle in all who minister the gospel  
your countless gifts of grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Creator God,  
you made us all in your image:  
that we may discern you in all that we see,  
and serve you in all that we do;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

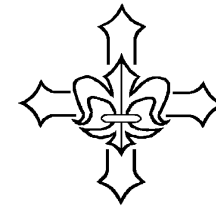
Generous God,  
you give us gifts and make them grow:  
though our faith is small as mustard seed,  
make it grow to your glory  
and the flourishing of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord God,  
your Son left the riches of heaven  
and became poor for our sake:  
when we prosper save us from pride,  
when we are needy save us from despair,  
that we may trust in you alone;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



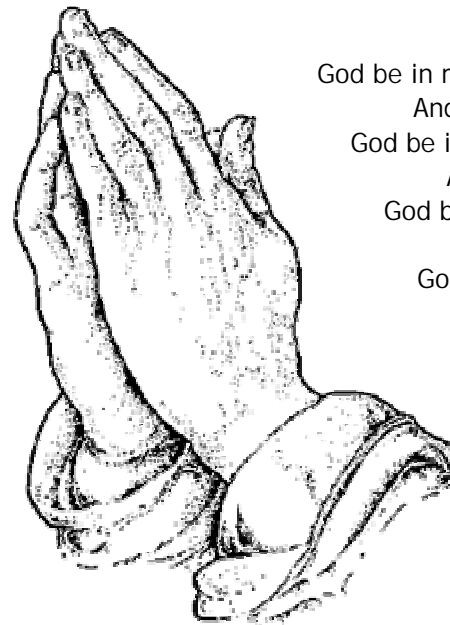
**July Charity of the Month**

**The United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (USPG).** Pray for their work in helping local churches around the world to run schools and hospitals, build houses and dig wells, and provide agricultural training for subsistence farmers. They also support church outreach; theological training and youth work programmes.



**Prayer Leaflet**

**July 2010**



God be in my head  
And in my understanding.  
God be in my mine eyes  
And in my looking.  
God be in my mouth  
And in my speaking.  
God be in my heart  
And in my thinking.  
God be at mine end  
And at my departing.

**The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin**

**Godmanchester**

## Better With Age

### **2 Corinthians 4:7-18**

*But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. For while we live, we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you. But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture--"I believed, and so I spoke"--we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.*



Some people are obsessed with physical fitness — daily workouts, vitamins, organic food — in spite of the fact that our bodies keep ticking away in inevitable decline. In our twenties and thirties we think we're invincible, but in the decades that follow, the eyesight starts to go, then the knees, then the mind. Let's face it, trying to ensure long-lasting physical health is like trying to stem the tide with a pitchfork!

And while it is true that the older we get the worse we get physically, it doesn't have to be that way spiritually. Believe it or not, it is possible to get better with age. It's what the apostle Paul meant when he said, "Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day" (2 Corinthians. 4:16).

Many of us fear aging with all the trouble it brings. But when we are gradually stripped of everything that props us up — whether wealth, independence, health, dignity, beauty, or all of the above — we are left with more and more of God. So no matter how old you are, it's not too late to dig deep in God's Word and invest more and more time in your spiritual well-being. You'll see the payoffs, now and later. The older you get, the better you can become!

Our Prayers in July are especially requested for:

### **In the Church**

Events — Godmanchester Gala Weekend (3<sup>rd</sup>); Worship in the Park (4<sup>th</sup>); Hunts Music School Swing Band in Church (17<sup>th</sup>); Tearfund 'No Sleep' Challenge (17<sup>th</sup>); Picnic in the Vicarage Garden (18<sup>th</sup>); Churches Together Lunch Club Outing(20<sup>th</sup>); St Anne's School Leavers Service (22<sup>nd</sup>); Choir BBQ (30<sup>th</sup>); — please pray for these events, and for those attending them.

Choir — that they may enjoy some relaxation and rest during the summer.  
Mothers' Union — for the work in Mozambique operating among the poorest of the poor uplifting and valuing their churches, their communities and themselves. Pray for indoor Members, who have given of themselves so faithfully over the years. May they not feel isolated but know the appreciation of others and the blessing of God.

Flower Guild – for all those who are preparing for there forthcoming weddings, and may the love and happiness they feel today, continue throughout their married lives together.

### **In the Community**

The Schools in the town — for all those moving on — both staff and pupils — may they all enjoy success, friendship and happiness.

Community School — for the builders on site, may they keep safe and healthy and protect us too.

Pray for all community events during the summer, bringing people together in safe and happy surroundings.

### **In the World**

Pray for those who have to live with the consequences of their decisions. May they know forgiveness where necessary, and be filled with the peace of God.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide — Loving Father, thank you that you sent your son to show your love and light to the world. Thank you that he overcame the darkness. We pray that you would shine your light in North Korea and that your truth would pierce the darkness. Pray for Christians who have been taken away to camps to suffer brutal treatment because of their faith. Ask God to strengthen and protect them.

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

Week commencing Sunday, 4 July

**Park Lane; The Avenue; Pavillion Close.**

Week commencing Sunday, 11 July

**Danes Croft; McCartney House; Woodley Court.**

Week commencing Sunday, 18 July

**Prayers for those living outside the Parish.**

Week commencing Sunday, 25 July

**Bayliss; Bluegate; Hudpool; Pinder Close; Malcoff.**