## HERNE BAY TOWN & VILLAGES PRAYER GUIDE

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## **APRIL 2021**

Thursday 1 April	Maundy Thursday and we pray for our Queen who again this year will be unable to distribute Maundy money in person. We thank God for her continued Christian witness and her tireless devotion to duty. Pray for a time of peace for the Royal Family.
Friday 2 April	Remembering all the churches in our area who will be streaming Good Friday services today, we pray that technology will be free from any problems. Pray for the 10am Messy Good Friday Church from St Bartholomew's via Zoom.
Saturday 3 April	Today is Holy Saturday, a time of waiting and, for the early disciples, a time of despair.  Pray that all those who are grieving the loss of loved ones during this past year may be comforted. Pray for safety for tomorrow's live Easter celebrations in our churches.
Sunday 4 April	The angel said to the women "Do not be afraid for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay" Matthew 28:5,6  HE IS RISEN — HE IS RISEN INDEED!
Monday 5 April	As we look forward to greater freedom from the past lockdowns, we pray that people will have learned lessons and will be wise about following rules about masks and social distancing so that the government's 4 month 'Road Map' will be possible.
Tuesday 6 April	We think of our policemen and women and pray that the recent violence and destructive behaviour at protest marches will stop and that the evil ways of those causing damage to life and property will be changed.
Wednesday 7 April	'We must learn to love them both – those whose opinions we share and those whose opinions we reject, for both have laboured in the search for the truth and have helped us in finding it' so wrote Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) We pray today for tolerance.
Thursday 8 April	We remember in our prayers business leaders who have to make tough decisions about staffing when starting up again – decisions that will affect lives and livelihoods. Pray for a spirit of kindness to prevail as we all seek to help where we can.
Friday 9 April	Volunteers at food Banks and food deliveries across this area work hard to meet the continuing needs of local families who struggle to feed their families. Pray that our supermarkets will offer continued support and that the volunteers will be kept safe.
Saturday 10 April	Saturdays are always busy days for our local supermarkets and so today we pray for safety for all those who have worked tirelessly to keep the shelves full during the past year. Pray that any abusive behaviour to staff will be dealt with swiftly and firmly.
Sunday 11 April	May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  Romans 15:13
Monday 12 April	Give thanks for the scientists who continue to closely monitor changes to the virus and research a range of vaccines to control the devastating spread of Covid 19 across the world. Pray that, with God's grace, we might be freed from this devastating plague.
Tuesday 13 April	Pray today for our young children. Many have been growing up knowing only masks and separation from family members and friends. Pray that these experiences will not cause damage and that a better way of living and mixing will soon be possible.
Wednesday 14 April	Pray for people of all ages suffering from mental illnesses resulting from the pandemic restrictions. Ask our Lord to bring healing and peace to so many troubled and tortured souls and make us sensitive and patient to help where we are able.

Thursday 15 April	We continue to pray for our NHS workers as they now face the huge task of trying to catch up with operations and treatments that were delayed by Covid 19. Pray for all those people who have been waiting many months for surgery.
Friday 16 April	We continue to pray for our church leaders as they face a future where worship will inevitably be different. Many churches will be facing financial difficulties and possibly reduced congregations as confidence in returning to church may take time for some.
Saturday 17 April	Pray for a greater understanding about Climate Change. May governments across the world accept responsibility for the profligate way many are living and make wise and informed decisions to bring about major changes to protect our planet for the future.
Sunday 18 April	Look around you. Everything you see is God's – the heavens above and beyond, the Earth and everything on it.  Deuteronomy 10:14
Monday 19 April	As schools go back after the Easter holiday, we pray for our teachers and classroom assistants who will still be working through all the extra challenges that this pandemic has brought. Give thanks for the online teaching they have done during the past year.
Tuesday 20 April	We pray for HB Salvation Army and for those faithful Christians who look after many care homes in the town with weekly news sheets offering bible stories and nature notes. May they be blessed and soon be able to visit at last.
Wednesday 21 April	Our prayers today are for more restrictions to be eased. People of all ages are struggling to cope with loneliness and boredom. We remember especially those who haven't had a real hug from grandchildren for over a year.
Thursday 22 April	Support groups are a lifeline to many struggling with addictions and not being able to meet regularly has had devastating consequences for many. We pray for better support networks and freedom from life draining dependencies.
Friday 23 April	Give thanks for our local radio stations. Radio Kent and Radio Cabin. Pray for the presenters who have kept us informed with news and phone ins. With fun and music they have kept us afloat and been great company to the lonely.
Saturday 24 April	As we enjoy the uplifting beauty and green shoots and flowers of Spring, we pray for rebirth for our nation. May the Holy Spirit move in power across our land and bring more and more people into the Kingdom this year.
Sunday 25 April	I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.  Joel 2:28
Monday 26 April	We pray for all those working in the catering industry – for restaurants, pubs and cafes. As we meet up with friends once again in gardens we pray for safety and joyous reunions for many.
Tuesday 27 April	We are aware that many businesses have failed during lockdown and that hundreds have lost their jobs so we pray for real growth in employment opportunities in this area. Pray for families who cannot see the way ahead, may they be supported and helped.
Wednesday 28 April	Pray for our Community Wardens as they continue to patrol our areas, collecting prescriptions, offering help with shopping and generally supporting all those who need help. Pray for their safety.
Thursday 29 April	Pray for those who are planning to get married in the coming months. Pray for all who will be celebrating Silver, Golden and Diamond weddings this year. Pray too for those struggling with relationships, may they find peace and love.
Friday 30 April	Looking ahead, prepare the way with our own prayers for the planned Pentecost National Day of Prayer on May 23rd. Pray that wonderful changes will take place as a result of this exciting initiative.