

HERNE BAY TOWN & VILLAGES PRAYER GUIDE

JANUARY 2023

Sunday 1 January	"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and Samaria and to the ends of the earth". <i>Acts 1:8</i>
Monday 2 January	A bank holiday, many will be travelling home after the Christmas break. We pray for safety on the roads at this busy time. Pray too for rail disputes to be resolved so that people who cannot drive will be able to visit loved ones during the weeks ahead.
Tuesday 3 January	We pray for Mel, the new Youth Worker at Beacon Church who starts today. Mel will work with the church and local community. May she be richly blessed.
Wednesday 4 January	As the Wednesday Warm Space at the Baptist continues, we pray that more people will spend time there and will enjoy coffee, tea, cake, lunchtime soup and a warm Christian welcome. May volunteers and soup and cake makers be blessed.
Thursday 5 January	We pray for all those people who, although belonging to various unions, are unhappy with some of the current strikes. We continue to pray for leaders on both sides of disputes to meet and talk sensibly about what is possible.
Friday 6 January	We think of small businesses in our town. Many have been hit by postal and delivery problems and will be offering January sales. We pray that people will shop locally this year and support Herne Bay shopkeepers.
Saturday 7 January	Pray for all who are homeless this winter and for the churches and organisations who are offering shelter, support and food. We pray that this tragic situation will be addressed by government and local councils in the coming months.
Sunday 8 January	For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. <i>2 Corinthians 10:3-4</i>
Monday 9 January	Pray for NHS staff and ambulance drivers. Staff shortages have continued to increase, demand has escalated over past years and for many the job has become too exhausting. May our current government find ways to solve this situation.
Tuesday 10 January	We remember and pray for those from St Bartholomew's church who offer regular Tuesday chaplaincy at Heron Ward in Herne Bay hospital. Pray for peace and healing for the patients as they are visited and cared for.
Wednesday 11 January	We pray for our immediate neighbours. For those who do not know Jesus, may there be opportunities to show his love by our own actions. Help us to be lights in the darkness of loneliness during the long evenings and grey days of January.
Thursday 12 January	We pray for Warm Space and Snack 'n Chat at the Salvation Army today. May those who drop in and those who volunteer feel the love of the Lord in the hall. Pray for the kitchen staff and for those who offer a listening ear to all who gather there.
Friday 13 January	Prayers for the ongoing collection of medical supplies, toiletries, nappies and warm coats for Ukraine at St Bartholomew's. The church is open from 10am -12noon Monday to Saturday for donations. Pray for those organising this vital work.
Saturday 14 January	Pray for market traders in the town today. Many businesses have not survived the hard times over the past few years and, as more people look to markets for reasonably priced clothes and food, we pray that more stallholders will be able to return.
Sunday 15 January	I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. <i>Luke 10:19</i>

Monday 16 January	We pray for those who are having doubts about their faith. As life gets tough and God seems far away, we can all have times when we struggle to understand the way ahead. May we offer comfort to others and seek help ourselves during the dark times.
Tuesday 17 January	We give thanks today for all the unsung heroes and heroines who work 52 weeks a year looking after us – those who collect our bins each week, milkmen and women and those who repair water mains bursts and potholes on the roads.
Wednesday 18 January	Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts today and so we pray for all members of God's family in Herne Bay. Today we remember and pray for all those at HB Baptist Church as they await the appointment of a new church leader.
Thursday 19 January	Pray for the teams at the Salvation Army who are offering hospitality and comfort to so many people in our town and care homes in the area. May their work be blessed and their numbers increase this year.
Friday 20 January	Prayers today are for Christ Church congregation and for those committed volunteers who work each week in all the amazing projects to help and support the community. Ask for many blessings on all who lead and worship at Beacon Church
Saturday 21 January	Pray for everyone at Herne Bay Evangelical Church, Sunnyhill Road. May they be blessed and filled with the Holy Spirit in all they do this year. Pray for our friends at United Church as they pray about their vision for the future.
Sunday 22 January	My prayer is not for them alone, I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them maybe one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. John 17:20
Monday 23 January	We remember in our prayers all our Catholic friends at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church. Pray for protection for the leadership team as they listen to God and work together to plan for the year ahead.
Tuesday 24 January	Our prayers today are for St Martin's Church, Herne and St Peter's Church, Greenhill. As the churchwardens prepare for the retirement of Carol Smith in April, may they be strengthened and guided as they take on responsibility for guiding church affairs.
Wednesday 25 January	St Bartholomew's Church and the Reculver Benefice are in our prayers today. We pray for an answer to their building problems and lack of heating so that they can once again welcome everyone to all church functions.
Thursday 26 January	As the first signs of snowdrops and daffodils appear in our gardens, we give thanks to God for our beautiful Earth. Pray that awareness of climate change will lead to worldwide action so that our children will be able to live and breathe without fear.
Friday 27 January	Pray for all who work in East Kent hospitals at Thanet, Canterbury and Ashford and for Minor Injury Units in Herne Bay and at Estuary View in Whitstable. There are always complaints but we give thanks to God that we still have free medical care here.
Saturday 28 January	Prayers today are for local football and rugby teams – for those playing and those leading clubs. Pray for good behaviour on the pitch and in the stands so that more will be attracted to play or support these sports.
Sunday 29 January	The Lord is near to the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Psalm 34:18
Monday 30 January	Pray for those who struggle with modern technology and are unable to access help with online documents and agencies. Many people of all ages do not have or cannot afford computers in their homes. Pray that alternative provision will be made.
Tuesday 31 January	Pray for revival of the Christian faith in our land. Pray for Spirit filled men and women to be raised up to lead our nation away from the present spiritual confusion and back to Jesus Christ. Pray that we shall all be prepared and ready for change.

If you have prayer requests that you would like included, please email Anne Lehane at hbprayernet@gmail.com

Prayer Guide consultants: Revd Carol Smith, Steve Dunn