## HERNE BAY TOWN & VILLAGES PRAYER GUIDE

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## OCTOBER 2020

Pray for groups who are beginning to start up again in village halls and community centres. May they be able to safely continue into the winter months and bring much needed social contact and friendship for so many lonely people of all ages.
As several churches prepare for Annual General Meetings this week, we pray that wise, prayerful decisions about the future will be made. May church leaders feel supported and loved as we remember the difficulties they have faced this year.
Our prayers today are for the first wedding since lockdown at Holy Cross, Hoath. May the couple be blessed and may the sun and the joy of the Lord shine on everyone involved in this special day.
As many churches across the country hold socially distanced celebrations for Harvest Festival today, give thanks with the words of the old hymn 'We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land but it is fed and watered by God's Almighty hand'
Pray for the residents of Greenhill. For the two schools, for St Peter's Church and The Canopy Christians. Remember local shopkeepers and their concerns about trade as the new Lidl store opens. Pray for all those working in the new supermarket.
Remember today, people who are struggling financially and pray for the volunteers at Riverside Church's Pantry Project. This initiative supplies bags of food to schools who have families facing difficulties and to individuals in need of help.
Prayers today are for all those thinking about getting married. May they come to know that, even though they may be sad that numbers of guests are restricted, the wedding vows are about love and commitment and are the most important part of the day.
Today we pray for the village of Beltinge. Pray that the fears of residents about plans for extensive local housing development will be eased and that those given the power to make decisions will be given wisdom when considering all the villagers' concerns.
Pray for staff and students at our local universities as they face new and very different rules about socialising and learning. May they be protected and guided in ways that will keep them safe and mentally focused despite the current difficulties.
Wildwood Wildlife Park at Herne Common recently suffered a devastating fire. We pray that it will be made financially possible for repair and rebuilding works to be completed quickly so that animals can be safely housed and staff can continue to be employed.
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
We pray for the village of Hoath, for the school, the residents, the pub and the church.  As the season of dark mornings and evenings approaches pray that the loving community spirit will thrive and that nobody in the village will feel isolated this winter.
Pray for our Queen, her government and for research scientists. This has been a difficult, exhausting year for all those in decision making roles as we all face a new, invisible and completely unknown enemy in the virus. May they discover God's peace.
Pray for ourselves 'Lord, help me remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that you and I together can't handle'. Hold in our prayers, those we know who suffer from severe anxiety and are afraid to re-emerge into society. May they find peace.
Pray for people who are watching church line each Sunday. For many this may be their first experience of church. Pray that we may be shown ways to connect, welcome and encourage their new journey with Jesus.

Friday 16 October	We pray for a more positive approach by certain sections of the media. Pray that honest unbiased reporting will prevail and that the culture of fear being fuelled by some reports will be controlled. Pray that we may share the real good news of the gospel.
Saturday 17 October	Pray for our high street traders and for the stallholders at the Herne Bay's Saturday Market. May they be blessed with good weather and many customers this Autumn. Remember those who have lost jobs and livelihoods and fear for the future.
Sunday 18 October	Why are you downcast O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God. Psalm 42:11
Monday 19 October	Pray for refugees and migrants crossing to Kent. Pray for their safety at sea. May they be treated with compassion and find a place of safety and welcome. Pray for traffickers who take advantage of their vulnerability, may their hearts be changed.
Tuesday 20 October	We pray for all the people living in Reculver. For St Mary's Church, for the school and for businesses in that area. Pray too for the coffee shop and pub at Reculver Towers. May God's presence be made known in the village.
Wednesday 21 October	Continue to pray for all who work in our NHS facing an uncertain future. As they work hard to catch up on the backlog of tests and operations that were delayed during lockdown, pray that they will not be overwhelmed by Covid 19 again.
Thursday 22 October	Our prayers today are for the people of Broomfield. Pray for a pastor to be appointed to the URC Church and for safety for the helpers and children at Dan Dan's nursery. Pray for the local pub and businesses as they face changing government ruling.
Friday 23 October	As scientists across the world work to find a vaccine against the virus, we pray that attempts to control the spread of infection will not be ruined by what science describes as the 'one unpredictable factor – human behaviour'.
Saturday 24 October	We pray for those who wrestle with mental health issues, May they be given support, care, understanding and love. We pray for their families and friends that they may be given strength and patience.
Sunday 25 October	If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord" and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9-10
Monday 26 October	Today we remember the people of Hampton. Pray that the staff, pupils and parents at Hampton Junior School will be kept safe and find happiness in their time together. Pray for St Andrew's Church and for the survival of businesses operating from the area.
Tuesday 27 October	Pray for those who have friends and family in other countries and will not be able to meet up for the foreseeable future. We thank God for the technology which brings us closer to loved ones across the miles. Help us to trust our families to his loving care.
Wednesday 28 October	Pray for the safety of our local policemen and women as they work to protect us from harm. Pray for the Holy Spirit to enter and break through the destructive drug culture in our country and our town.
Thursday 29 October	We pray for the people of Herne village. Ask God to bless the Parish Council, the schools and the church. Pray for Strode Park Foundation and for those involved in sports on the recreation ground. Pray for safety on the congested through road to Canterbury.
Friday 30 October	Ask God for protection for our town as people prepare to celebrate Halloween. Many churches will be holding online alternative events and we pray that these virtual parties will let the Light of Christ overcome the dark, frightening, popular imagery.
Saturday 31 October	Pray for church congregations in the Herne Bay area. Help us to see each other as God sees us and to work together in love and unity as we take the gospel message out to all who will listen.