KEEP THE FLAME OF PRAYER BURNING

Mark 1:35 NIV
"Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed."

Luke 5:15-16 NIV
"Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses. [16] But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

Prayer was one of hallmarks of Jesus' life and ministry. Throughout the gospels we see that Jesus would often slip away from His disciples and the crowds to find a quiet place to pray. When Jesus was teaching His disciples how to pray, He encouraged them also to find a quiet place where they could go and talk to "your Father".

Matthew 6:6 NIV
"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

Jesus was of course modelling what it looked like to have close relationship with our Father in Heaven and right at the centre of this intimate relationship was prayer. It was this private conversation with the Father that provided the fuel for His extraordinary life and ministry.

After Jesus was taken up into heaven His disciples and followers started to model their lives and ministry on the practise of prayer that He had shown them, to include regular corporate prayer.

Acts 1:14 NIV
"They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers."

Acts 2:42 NIV
"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Now for us, as Jesus' followers and disciples, there is the same call to pray. Private prayer, public prayer, corporate prayer. We are called to come to our Father in prayer.
As we share our hearts with Him, in intimacy and worship, may the flame of prayer burn more brightly in our lives than ever before.

Where at times we struggle to pray or don't know what to say, let's come to our Father and ask Him to inspire us and give us the words that we don't have. Let us also know how to be still and just enjoy being with Him (Psalm 46:10) and wait patiently and with expectation to see how he will respond to the cry of our hearts.

2 Peter 3:9 NIV
"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

Let us be people who will not stop pursuing the company of our Father in heaven who loves us and called us by name. This is the hallmark of a community of believers who are devoted to prayer.

Monthly Prayer Guide

● Prayer Zoom @ 7:30pm

MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1 **Ukraine** *(Pray for peace and an end to the war)*
2 **Liberty Tea Rooms & Community Hub** *(All the staff and volunteers)*	**3** **HHCC Church Family**	**4** **CAP Debt Coaches and Befrienders** ●	**5** **Heart for Kids** *(Staff and volunteers in China and all the children they are working with)*	**6** **Cornergate Foundation** *(Kim and Jo Hobbs, and all the volunteers)*	**7** **Dairy Farm Project** *(Successful Completion of Farm and purchase of cows)*	**8** **Ukraine** *(Pray for people whose lives have been affected by the crisis)*
9 **NHCF Nepal** *(For Pastors, Bijay and Jyoti, and the successful completion of new church building construction)*	**10** **Discovery** *(Andrew Masters and volunteer team working in Primary Schools in Hemel)*	**11** **Transformation School, India** *(Seenu & Glory who lead the school and work in Company Village)*	**12** **Route 61** *(Derek and Penny)*	**13** **Dacorum Street Pastors** *(All of the Street Pastors and Prayer Team, and for new recruits!)*	**14** **HHCC David and Caroline**	**15** **Ukraine** *(Pray for protection)*
16 **Monday Night Mens Group** *(led by Julian Hobbs)*	**17** **Local Government and Councillors**	**18** **Foodbank** *(Every peron using the foodbank, all the staff and volunteer team)* ●	**19** **All CAP Clients and Service users**	**20** **NHCF Vellore, India** *(Pastors Yohan and Priti, and Church Leadership Team)*	**21** **The Mount Prison**	**22** **Ukraine** *(For the Politicians and Leaders)*
23 **Harvest Alliance** *(All UK Churches and Ministries)*	**24** **Schools in our Community** *(Teachers, support workers and students)*	**25** **Youth Across Hemel** *(Work with Secondary Schools and young people)*	**26** **CAP Money and Lifeskills Teams**	**27** **Our Local MP Mike Penning**	**28** **Emergency Services Serving Hemel** *(Police, Fire and Ambulance)*	**29** **Ukraine** *(Pray for refugees)*
30 **All Church Leaders in Hemel Hempstead**	**31** **DENS and other agencies working with the homeless in Hemel**					

MAY