



**Christian
Initiative to
Schools**

In association with
 **Scripture
Union**
Registered Charity Number: 1104698

Prayer Pointers



March to April 2022



*Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own
understanding: in all your ways
acknowledge Him, and He will
make straight your paths.*

Proverbs 3:5-6

Within the Christian Calendar the season of Lent is one which creates different responses from individual followers of Jesus. Some choose to give things up. For instance a food or drink item, Social Media or watching Television. Some may take on doing a Random Act of Kindness or spending more time praying and reading the Bible on a daily basis. Whatever we decide to do Lent can, and maybe should be, a time of reflection, a time to pause, a time to prepare for Easter.

Before Jesus began His earthly ministry He was baptised by John and then went into the Wilderness. For 40 days Jesus prepared for what was to come, what He was to do, spent time in His Father's presence without distractions and other people around Him. And during that time He went without food. As the end of the 40 days approached, when Jesus was at His weakest, the Devil appeared and

tempted Jesus to misuse His gifts, offered Him power, showed Jesus the benefits of worshipping him. As each temptation was presented Jesus responded by quoting God's Word and, as a consequence, the Devil was driven away (*see Matthew 4:1-11*).

As we begin the journey towards Easter let's take the opportunity to pause and spend some time reflecting on our lives, something that children, young people and staff will be encouraged to do in assemblies being taken during Lent. To reflect on the direction our lives are going, to consider what changes need to be made, to look at our relationships with others and with God and, where necessary, put things right.

The words of Proverbs 3:5-6, although encouraging, are also a challenge. They ask us to trust in God alone for all that we need. To lean on Him for all wisdom

Please turn over

and understanding. That God is God, trustworthy and faithful in all His dealings with us, and He alone is to be worshipped. Something for us to think about as we head towards Easter.

Below are some items to thank God for and to pray for.

Please thank God for...

- ▶ Christopher's role as Chaplain at Etonbury Academy and for the strong relationships that have been established with staff and pupil alike
- ▶ the positive response from schools to the assemblies taken so far this term whether online, recorded or in person
- ▶ the news that Grange Academy have been deemed a GOOD School after their recent Ofsted Inspection
- ▶ Christopher's ongoing pastoral role with staff at St. Francis College
- ▶ Christian members of staff involved in the life of our schools; teachers, classroom assistants, administrative staff, lunch-time supervisors and also for those who are governors

Please pray for...

- ▶ Future Assemblies:
 - Norton St. Nicholas C of E Primary School** 1st and 28th March (in person);
 - Pix Brook Academy** 17th-18th March
 - Etonbury Academy** week of the 21st March (recorded);
 - St. Francis College Prep.** 28th March (in person);

St. Mary's C of E Academy, Stotfold

29th March (in person);

Grange Academy 30th March (in person)

- ▶ Speaking Engagements
 - Grange Baptist Church** 13th March
 - St. Thomas Church** 3rd April
 - New Life Church** 10th April
- ▶ the trustees who oversee and lead CIS; Chris Jenkins (Chair), Crista Haak, Kevin How, Roger Aldridge, Martin Money, Penny Bainbridge, Ashley and Chris Croft. Please pray for them as they meet on the 21st March that they would know God's leading, guidance and wisdom.
- ▶ the Easter Journey taking place at St. Paul's the week of the 21st March. Pray for all of those involved and for all pupils and staff who will be attending
- ▶ Christopher in the time spent in preparation and also for good health and stamina

To contact Christopher:

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There is a group that meets to pray for the schools in the area on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 10:30am. If you would like to join with others to pray then please contact Penny Bainbridge on 07974944175 for more details.