



Together in Prayer for Sheffield
and
Sheffield Prayer Link
Working together to encourage citywide prayer

Every month a free bulletin is issued with prayer points for the City. To get your monthly copy register with SPL today.
Email: prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk Tel: 0114 2493956

JULY 2009

A LIVING HOPE IN THE CHURCH

In 1 Peter 1:3 Peter speaks about being given “new birth unto a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade – kept in heaven for you”. He goes on in verse 13 to give this commanded obsession to the church: “Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled (i.e. free from worldly intoxications); set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed.”

Throughout the New Testament it is clear that this heavenly hope is meant to radically affect the church’s approach to life whilst in this world. Holy living, evangelism, sacrificial service, confidence and perseverance in trials, sufferings and in the face of death, are all deeply influenced by a lively, godly, other-worldliness, especially when “in this you greatly rejoice” 1 Peter 1:6

C.S. Lewis writes: **“If you read history, you will find that the Christians who did most for this present world were precisely those who thought most of the next. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this world”.**

So let us pray this month that the Church in Sheffield will experience a heavenly hope revival and know the transforming power of setting its “hope fully on the grace to be given when Jesus is revealed” in its life and testimony in the City.

Sheffield Prayer Link Team

Each month the Sheffield Prayer Team meet to pray for the monthly prioritised areas of the city. You are invited to join us at the Sheffield Cross Links office every third Wednesday in the month from 11 till noon. For further information, or if you have prayer points for your area please ring the SCL office: 0114 2493956.



|SCL –291 Abbeydale Road. Sheffield S7 1FJ.



Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord Psalm 1:24

July is a month of galas, well dressings and festivals all around

Sheffield. Many churches are involved in such festivals and are using these times to reach out to their communities.

Let us remember in our prayers all churches who are involved in local galas and festivals this summer, standing as Christian witnesses in their locality.

Please pray: for any church witness and missions that you know will be happening in July, including the Oakes youth camps summer open day. Plus community activities in Bradfield, Hillsborough, Woodseats, Walkley and Burngreave.

Bathing our Leaders in Prayer For a Month

Each month we focus on leaders and ministers in a particular area of the city. This month we have listed the surname of *minister from S11 & S12, irrespective of their denomination or stream. Please pray for the wisdom and power of God in their lives and preaching of the Gospel; for their health and family; for their prosperity and blessing.

ALLEN. BARCLAY. BECKLEY.
BELL .BESSANT.BRADOCK. CHESTER.
CUNNAH. DOWNS-LEWIS. DRAFFEN.
FLATECHER. GASCOYNE. GILLINGHAM.
HELM. HOLLAND. HUDSON. JOWETT.
LEWIS. MANGES. MANSON. MOYO. POS-
LUSZNY. PRATT.PYSTER. SANKEY. SMITH.
TIMMIS. TOLAND. WALKER. WESTLAKE.
WILLETT. WYATT.

Please pray for the leaders meeting together at a conference on the 12th July at Bawtry Hall.

*Please forgive us and pray for any leader we may have missed.

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

Prayer for the Church in the City

Please pray for churches:

- Who have been under attack, due to burglaries and criminal damage.
- Who are experiencing racial tensions between local residents.
- Who are seeing levels of crime rise as a result of organised gangs.
- Who are finding their witness compromised by new laws and legislation.
- Who are feeling weak and insignificant and are in the middle of changes.
- Who are planning conferences and events in July.
- Who are 'seeking God for new ministers and pastors.

Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him.

James 1:12 NIV

Marriage should be honoured by all, and the marriage bed be kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral. Heb 13:4

During July, primary school children are preparing to move onto the next stage of their education. Please remember in your prayers the work of CaSS [Christians and Sheffield Schools] as they take these children through a preparation course helping them to make the necessary adjustments.

Please pray for all schools workers and children at this vital time.

Holy Days and Holidays

As children finish the school term and begin their summer holiday, **Please pray**: for youth workers who are busy organising summer clubs and activities. And the X-Cite event on the 18th.

Please pray for churches involved in youth work, camps and café's like the ROC café below.

Please pray that the relationships which are formed during will be influences for the good.

ROC CAFÉ 2
AT: Woodseats Baptist Church
Tadcaster Way, Sheffield

REDEEMING
The Café will be open EVERY Monday from 13th July for all young people aged 11-17 years. **FREE ENTRY EVERY WEEK!** Come along and check us out!

Opening Night
Monday 13th July
Time: 7.00 - 9.00 pm

FREE Entry plus FREE DRINK with this voucher

For more info phone: Paul 07226 753240 or Michelle 07546 560311

VOUCHER VALID UNTIL 7TH SEPTEMBER 2009 - NOT REVERSIBLE

Epidemic of marriage breakdowns is overwhelming

A recent OnePoll study suggested that a quarter of children whose parents divorce before they reach 18 turn to alcohol, and one in 10 children whose parents go through an acrimonious separation or divorce turning to crime and 8 per cent considering suicide.

Mr. Justice Coleridge, a family division judge, said recently that the consequences of family break-up for society were so great that there is an "epidemic" of family breakdown - which is overwhelming the family courts.

With many children growing up scarred by parents' break-ups, he said it could no longer be seen as just a matter for the individuals involved and called for a national commission to consider the problem and its solution and that marriage must be re-established as the "gold standard".

Please pray for children whose parents are divorcing.

Please pray that marriage once again will be viewed in our society as a holy and honoured institution

What is an Intercessor? (17).

An Intercessor is a disciple who has been encouraged to pray and who therefore encourages others to join the company of those who are called to the Throne of Grace.

HEB 7:20 *And it was not without an oath! Others became priests without any oath, ²¹ but He became a priest with an oath when God said to Him:*

"The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind: 'You are a priest forever.' "

22 Because of this oath JESUS has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

23 Now there have been many of those priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office;

²⁴ but because JESUS lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore He is able to save completely those who come to God through Him, because He always lives to intercede for them. ²⁶ Such a high priest meets our need -One who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens.

HEB 8:1 The point of what we are saying is this: We do have such a high priest, who sat down at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, 2 and who serves in the sanctuary, the true tabernacle set up by the LORD, not by man.

HEB 4:14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, JESUS THE SON OF GOD, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have One who has been tempted in every way, just as we are -yet was without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore go on approaching the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

In the business of praying for our city I was much encouraged by Alan Whitely, of blessed memory and I use his prayer every day, so here it is:

“Almighty God, you so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not die, but have eternal life. Thank you for changing us from enemies into your friends, through the death of Jesus. Help us now to make others your friends, and His disciples, as He commanded us to do.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, we pray, upon this Mission. Anoint, protect and bless all in Sheffield who are responsible for planning and preparing us. Unite them in heart and mind, guiding them in wisdom and peace. Father in Heaven, mercifully hear and answer our prayer. Make us bold to witness! Save the lost! Bring in the harvest! Unite your church! Revive our nation! Exalt your Son! And bring glory to your holy Name! Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”