

<p>Sunday 22nd November Please pray for a gentleman well known to Urban Outreach, currently working with Support First. After many years, he is starting to want to make changes and live differently. Please pray for motivation for him to keep going on this journey of change.</p>	<p>Monday 23rd November Please give thanks for all the services in Bolton which we come into contact with. We couldn't do the work we do without their partnership. Please pray for the impact Covid -19 has had on them and, as a result, how the service users have been affected.</p>	<p>Tuesday 24th November Fear can often stop people who have suffered severe ill treatment from testifying against a perpetrator. Please pray for courage and safety for a woman we are working with and that she may feel empowered and courageous.</p>
<p>Wednesday 25th November Global poverty is beyond our understanding, please pray that where the harvests are good and plentiful we are able to help those who are short due to drought, adverse weather conditions or financial struggles. And where we, as individuals, have plenty let us help those who have little and are struggling.</p>	<p>Thursday 26th November Thank God for the strong communities around our town and pray for Christians and Churches to be at the heart of them. Please pray for Urban Outreach as we start to bring back Storehouse Pantry food distribution and as we establish distribution centres working with local schools and churches.</p>	<p>Friday 27th November Please give thanks for the many partnerships across the town and pray that Bolton will be a place that truly thrives with people and organisations working together.</p>
<p>Saturday 28th November Please thank God for the staff of Urban Outreach. Pray He will protect their minds and hearts as they go about their work bringing His love and healing to those they work with.</p>	<p>Sunday 29th November On this first day of Advent please give thanks that we have a God of plenty who provides for our needs. Pray that we have the courage to listen to His voice and the wisdom to follow His lead as we look to the future for Urban Outreach.</p>	<p>Monday 30th November Due to the pandemic some people have faced reductions in wages or redundancy and are having to adjust to their change in circumstances, especially buying food on a tight budget. Please pray that we will be able to offer advice on making healthy meals on a budget and find creative ways we can get the advice to people.</p>

"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him ..." (Nahum 1:7)

**URBAN
OUTREACH**
(BOLTON)

Prayer Diary

October to November 2020

Praising God for His Faithfulness through



years of "Binding up the broken hearted and setting the captives free"



<p>Thursday 1st October Dear friends please can I ask for your continued prayers for the Trinity Project. We are working hard at trying to put together the deal that will bring the whole thing to life. Our initial focus has been on securing the Humanitarian Hub which is close to completion.</p>	<p><u>Please pray daily for:-</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Urban Outreach staff. For wisdom and protection in the many varied situations they find themselves. • Our humanitarian response as we provide food, gas & electric to over 2000 vulnerable and shielded people. <p>admin@urbanoutreach.co.uk 01204 385848 www.urbanoutreach.co.uk</p>	
<p>Friday 2nd October This period of the prayer diary is being written during Bolton's most recent lockdown. Please would you join us as we pray for the local authority as they manage this very difficult time, for the businesses that have been massively impacted (many have now closed) and for those many people that are now without a job.</p>	<p>Saturday 3rd October If things weren't difficult enough the Council have to make further significant financial cuts. This will affect Urban Outreach and many more people across the town will need help and support. The Church has, and continues, to respond but please would you pray that it remains united in its efforts and for the people and communities that will be so adversely affected.</p>	<p>Sunday 4th October Thank God for some great conversations with young people over the last few months, despite only being over the telephone. Please pray that we are able to continue to have a positive impact despite some of the barriers to the way we can work.</p>
<p>Monday 5th October Please pray for all those young people who have suffered from unexpected exam results and disappointments. Pray that they will find their way, and anxiety and stress will not hinder them. Pray for opportunities for us to help be a positive encouragement to them.</p>	<p>Tuesday 6th October We thank God for His kindness and generosity. Please pray that we are able to show that same kindness and generosity to all we come in to contact with this week.</p>	<p>Wednesday 7th October Please ask the Lord to help us to be as wise as serpents and as gentle as doves. Pray for His wisdom to fill all our staff, in all situations, and that we approach all people with gentleness.</p>

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33)

<p>Friday 13th November Please pray for the sons of a family that suffer from mental health difficulties. As they begin new journeys at school and work, pray that God is near them and they feel supported and nurtured and let their mother take comfort knowing God is by their side.</p>	<p>Saturday 14th November Please pray for children returning to school after half term. Ask God to refresh and renew their minds and be excited to learn and flourish again. Please ask God to protect all children and staff and take away any stress and concerns.</p>	<p>Sunday 15th November Please pray for a family that has struggled with very little sleep for months. Pray that they will be refreshed and have new energy so that they can carry on their daily lives.</p>
<p>Monday 16th November Please pray for some of our service users who are struggling even more so than usual with isolation issues during the pandemic. Pray that they will manage during this time and that where possible we can help them access support networks right for them.</p>	<p>Tuesday 17th November So many of those we support have suffered trauma as children or as adults which has lead them into a life of addiction and self-harm. Please pray that they would be set free from this trauma by God and experience healing from Him.</p>	<p>Wednesday 18th November Please pray today for any children or young adults who are struggling with their home lives. Pray that they would realise they can tell people how they are feeling, and would get the help they need without running away or hurting themselves. Pray for a revelation of God in their lives.</p>
<p>Thursday 19th November Please pray for children who are looked after by foster parents or carers in Bolton and the surrounding areas. Pray that their relationships would be good, and that the carers would be given patience and understanding to help them through difficulties. Pray that the children would make the right choices regarding friendships and how they act.</p>	<p>Friday 20th November Please pray for a gentleman on Support First who is currently in rehab after a long wait to get help. Please pray for healing of his body and mind and that he would know that our God is there for him.</p>	<p>Saturday 21st November Please pray for a lady working with Support First who lost her young baby earlier this year. As times moves on, please pray for her continued healing and strengthening and that she would be protected from slipping back into old habits.</p>

'The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.' Psalm 34:18

<p>Wednesday 4th November Please pray for a gentleman known to Street Life whose behaviour isn't congruent with sustaining a tenancy. Pray that God will shine a light on his situation and give him the wisdom, strength and resolve he needs in order to address his behaviour.</p>	<p>Thursday 5th November Please lift up in prayer the 'In Off the Street' night shelter and all those who find themselves homeless this winter, many who will have never been in this situation before. Pray that they will access support and accommodation that is supplied with love, hope and encouragement which leads to a brighter future.</p>	<p>Friday 6th November Please give thanks for the generosity of individuals, churches and businesses who are so willing to give their time, money and support. We give thanks also that our volunteers and staff have remained safe during the pandemic.</p>
<p>Saturday 7th November Please pray for the continued health of our staff and volunteers in order that we can maintain our much needed services. Pray particularly for those who are vulnerable to Covid-19 but continue to work and volunteer to ensure that those in need do not go without.</p>	<p>Sunday 8th November As the winter months draw in, please join us in praying for all those who fear having to choose between heating and food. Please pray that they will know that they are not alone, that there is help available and that they will have the courage to ask for help.</p>	<p>Monday 9th November <i>"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."</i> <i>Philippians 4:19</i> Please join us in asking God to help us be content in Him and what He has given us and to not be focussed on what our flesh wants or the world tells us we should have. Let us thank Him for all He gives us.</p>
<p>Tuesday 10th November Considering Psalm 139, our God is far too wonderful for us to comprehend. Please join us in giving thanks that just the glimpse we have of His Glory and love deserves all our praises.</p>	<p>Wednesday 11th November In these uncertain times, give thanks to God for blessing us with sufficient food and storage space which enables us to continue our support for all those households who are suffering from poverty, distress or homelessness at this time. Give thanks for all those who generously donate at harvest time through schools and church communities.</p>	<p>Thursday 12th November Please pray for wisdom as we continue to seek God's will in how we should be using our buildings and facilities over the coming winter period in serving the homeless, vulnerable and marginalised within our town. Pray that doors and hearts will be open to finding safe ways to engage and support all those in desperate need.</p>

"...even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to you." Psalm 139:12

<p>Thursday 8th October Please pray for restoration of the broken relationships between a 13 year old boy and his mother and siblings. Pray for the boy to receive the help he needs to be able to cope with his emotions in ways that don't harm himself or others. Pray for forgiveness and love between all members of the family</p>	<p>Friday 9th October Pray for a 13 year old girl who is struggling with severe anxiety about the return to school. Pray she can face and overcome her fears and gain a good education after being out of school for two years.</p>	<p>Saturday 10th October Pray for a 14 year old girl with severe dyslexia to be healed and to thrive in school and have the confidence to achieve her aspirations for the future.</p>
<p>Sunday 11th October Please pray for Dave as he speaks at St Thomas' Church in Halliwell. Pray for their congregation and that they are inspired by what Dave has to say today. May those able to be there leave feeling truly blessed.</p>	<p>Monday 12th October Please pray for a young lady who desperately needs a safe place out of Bolton. Thank God for the other agencies that have begun to get involved in helping this vulnerable female, and that she will feel looked after and protected.</p>	<p>Tuesday 13th October Please pray for another female who is trying really hard to give up heroin and crack cocaine. Pray that she is offered a place in a drug rehabilitation centre as places are really difficult to come by at the moment. Pray God makes a way.</p>
<p>Wednesday 14th October Please pray for the ongoing planning for the 'In Off The Street' emergency night shelter as we move closer to our expected opening date. Our hope is again to offer a safe and loving environment for those who would otherwise find themselves sleeping rough on the streets of Bolton.</p>	<p>Thursday 15th October Please give thanks to our Heavenly Father for providing everything needed to run the 'In Off The Street' project last winter which gave 97 individuals safe accommodation. Expectations are that needs will increase this winter so pray that He will go before us again, providing all we need. Thank you.</p>	<p>Friday 16th October Pray for a young couple who have been evicted from their last property for having anti-social behaviour which has led them to rough sleeping. Street life has been able to find them accommodation. Pray that they will settle into their new home and that they make changes around their behaviour and how they conduct their tenancy.</p>

"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7)

<p>Saturday 17th October Please pray for all of the students in education in Bolton. The time off, caused by the pandemic, has been tough mentally for everyone, especially young people who have lost their daily structure, friendship groups and consistent education. Pray that they fall smoothly back into routine with no disruption.</p>	<p>Sunday 18th October Please lift all teachers to God, asking that He help them deal with the challenge of young people returning to structured education after such a long time off. Pray that the teachers find strength and feel that they are appreciated as they and their students settle into their new routines of daily school life.</p>	<p>Monday 19th October Please pray for young people who may be experiencing hardship and difficulties during the upcoming half term. Ask that they may have food, a person to talk to and that they may be kept safe. Pray for a period of rest and relaxation and that they may not be tempted to run away or take harmful risks.</p>
<p>Tuesday 20th October Please pray for a vulnerable adult to re-engage with the services she so desperately needs, particularly mental health professionals. Give thanks for the shelter provided by the hostel and pray this can continue until she can find the strength to re-engage again.</p>	<p>Wednesday 21st October Give thanks for the joy a client is currently experiencing. He now has his own flat, furniture, and a grant to purchase much needed household items. He has much hope for the future and has significantly reduced his drinking.</p>	<p>Thursday 22nd October Please pray for a client who has made a decision to detox himself which could endanger his health. Pray for staff at Urban Outreach to find the right words to gently convince him of this and for them to help him engage with relapse prevention groups.</p>
<p>Friday 23rd October Please thank God for the new ways we have been able to connect with schools and churches over harvest. Thank Him for His continued provision and the generosity of so many across Bolton.</p>	<p>Saturday 24th October As food parcels are being delivered today please pray for every household that they will be filled with the peace of God. Pray for spirit filled conversations and that people will experience His love.</p>	<p>Sunday 25th October Please pray for the Urban Outreach team as they enjoy a day of rest. Pray that they will be refreshed ready for a new week of sharing God's love.</p>

'My mouth will speak words of wisdom; the meditation of my heart will give you understanding.' Psalm 49:3

<p>Monday 26th October <i>Psalm 5.3 In the morning Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you And wait expectantly</i> Please pray for a young woman who, after spending a few weeks in hospital with alcohol issues, has now been alcohol free for nearly three months. Pray that we can help her to find her own place to live.</p>	<p>Tuesday 27th October Pray for a woman who is due to have her first baby and has issues with drugs. It will take a miracle for her to keep her baby. She is very positive but will have to make many changes in a short time; we are hoping there will be a family rehab that she could eventually get funding for. Our God is a God of the impossible!</p>	<p>Wednesday 28th October Please pray for a young woman and her brother who are chaotic. Their mum had been in hospital five weeks, they were unable to visit and she died suddenly. The woman especially is taking it so very hard that she was not able to say goodbye.</p>
<p>Thursday 29th October Pray for a young boy who has had one missing episode. Please pray that God shines a light into whatever situation is affecting him and places the correct people to support him in his life. Pray that he can open up to someone and find the love and comfort he needs so that he doesn't have to go through situations alone.</p>	<p>Friday 30th October Please give thanks for the RUNA team who continue to offer support through this tough time and thank Him that they continue to come together as a team to support the young people in Bolton. Pray for their continued strength, knowledge and wisdom moving forwards.</p>	<p>Saturday 31st October Please pray for a local care home who are having trouble with two of their young residents who keep putting themselves in vulnerable positions. The workers are doing all that they can to keep them safe and to support them. Pray that they remain consistent in their care and that the home remains a positive place for young people to live.</p>
<p>Sunday 1st November In the quiet of this moment, let us focus on what God is saying to us. There can be many background noises/ voices that can 'interfere' with what God desires us to know and what to pray. Please pray for Urban Outreach, that we will continually act on God's directing, always seeking His wisdom and His discernment. Thank you.</p>	<p>Monday 2nd November We are "a body with many parts, each having its unique function." Today, with this in mind, let us pray for the Trustees of Urban Outreach giving thanks for their faithfulness over the years and also that God will lead them in the many important decisions that have to be made.</p>	<p>Tuesday 3rd November Today, please pray for the Urban Outreach team. For their emotional, physical and spiritual needs as they seek to support and bring God's love to the growing number of vulnerable individuals and families in our town. Thank you.</p>

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." (Hebrews 12:2)