

LIGHTEN OUR DARKNESS

After what feels like a long, cold winter signs of Spring are appearing. Green shoots in the garden, lighter afternoons and warmer temperatures point us towards the season of new beginnings and new life. This is in contrast to much that darkens the experience of work and economy for many. Strikes continue, inflation and energy bills remain stubbornly high, and uncertainty continues.

But chaplaincy also continues. Whilst listening and so sharing the burdens people experience, chaplains are also beacons of hope. Part of the task of a chaplain is to look for signs of new life in the experiences people share, and help them to see that for themselves. A chaplain, simply by being there and taking an interest as a caring presence, lifts the spirit and invites others to see things in a new light



*Lighten our darkness, and the darkness of those we serve,
we beseech thee, O Lord;
and by thy great mercy defend all for whom we pray,
from all perils and dangers of this world.
Give to all renewed hope;
lift up the fallen, and strengthen the faint-hearted.
That in Jesus Christ, the light of the world,
all may know your love and presence.
Amen*

Suggested areas for prayer this February can be found in the monthly [Prayer Guide](#).

FWW MONTHLY ONLINE PRAYER MEETINGS

Prayer is a vital foundation for our work and a key element of our Supporters of FWW network. The monthly Prayer Guide, sent out at the beginning of each month, is designed to aid personal prayer, and the leading of church intercessions through the month, not only for FWW, but about wider economic issues and concerns.

The Guide is also used during our monthly online prayer meeting, which we started during lockdown in 2020. There are regulars, and those who come when they can. Lasting just 30 minutes from 1.00pm it can be fitted in during a lunch-break. Some have even joined from their workplace! An eclectic mix of chaplains, trustees and supporters, each bringing their own experience and perspective to the prayers, from their chaplaincy, local community or concerns. Each meeting has a theme, and after an introduction, those present are invited to lead prayers as the Spirit prompts, or just silently join in the prayers of others. Everyone is welcome.

Look out for the Prayer Guide in your inbox on the 1st of each month. Our next prayer meetings online are:

Tuesday 7th February & Monday 6th March, 1:00pm—1:30pm

(April – no online prayer meeting during Holy Week, but the Guide will be published)

To join in via Zoom, follow this link, which is the same link for each meeting:

<https://tinyurl.com/fwwprayers>

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