

The information below has been provided by a member of the benefice who is a healthcare professional. It provides useful information for those working in the NHS and social care settings but it also provides useful prompts to help the rest of us pray for those in the front line.

A 7-DAY PRAYER GUIDE prepared by The Christian Medical Fellowship

PRAYING FOR CHRISTIAN HEALTHCARE WORKERS AND COVID-19

1. PRAY FOR TRUST IN THE LORD JESUS: Pray that they step out each day in faith and not fear. Pray that they would call to mind God's sovereignty, steadfast love and faithfulness and keep looking to Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of their faith (Hebrews ch12 v2)

2. PRAY FOR GOSPEL OPPORTUNITIES: Pray for them to be the fragrance of Christ in healthcare at this time of crisis, to shine like stars in the sky as they hold firmly to the word of life (Philippians ch2 v15). Pray for boldness to make the most of the many opportunities to share the hope and love of Christ with patients and colleagues

3. PRAY FOR JOY: Pray for the joy of the Lord to be their strength, especially when surrounded by sickness, death, anxiety, pain and despair (Nehemiah ch8 v10)

4. PRAY FOR STRENGTH: Pray that they would depend on the equipping and empowering of the Lord each day for the strength they need in caring for the sick, and for them to remember that the Lord's mercies are new every morning (Lamentations ch3 v22 and 23)

5. PRAY FOR WISDOM: Pray for Godly wisdom that Christ would be honoured when making hard decisions about caring for patients and allocating resources (Proverbs ch2 v1 to 5)

6. PRAY FOR COMFORT: Pray for those who feel isolated, lonely, or separated from their loved ones especially after long shifts; for their mental health - that they would find comfort in God's Word, seek help when needed, and be supported and encouraged by fellow Christians (Psalm ch119 v9 to 16)

7. PRAY FOR PEACE: Pray that every day as they care for the sick in this time of crisis, they would know the peace of the Lord which transcends all understanding to fill their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians ch4 v7)