

Prayer Diary: May 2026

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1 May: Buddhist: Vesak - Commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and death of Buddha. 2 May: Pray for those finding life very hard to cope with and hope they can find support.

3 May: Saint James the Lesser's Day. Also: International Dawn Chorus Day

4 May: International Firefighters Day - we pray for all those who put themselves at risk and give thanks to the Chaplains who support them. Also: Maternal Mental Health Awareness Week, Deaf Awareness Week, Dying Matters Awareness Week and Red Cross week

5 May: Lag BaOmer - Jewish. A festive day marking the end of a plague during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime. Also: Pray for all midwives on International Day of the Midwife

6 May: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - remember and celebrate who we are.

7 May: Pray for the maintenance of our mental health and that those who need interventions feel able to ask for help

8 May: VE Day - to honour veterans and commemorate the end of the Second World War. Also: Military Spouse Appreciation Day - This day recognizes the sacrifices and resilience of military spouses, who support their families and communities through the unique challenges of military life

9 May: We pray for all the victims of natural disasters around the world

10 May: Christian Aid Week (10-18 May). Pray for all those living in poverty.

11 May: Mental Health Awareness Month (11-17 May) Focusing on taking action for mental health. We pray for all those suffering from mental health and those that care for patients

12 May: National Nurses Day - We pray for all the nurses that help us day to day in their jobs. Also: ME awareness day - we pray for all those affected by this condition

13 May: Mental Health Awareness Week

14 May: Ascension of Jesus/Ascension Day. Jesus Christ's ascension to heaven, observed 40 days after Easter

Also: National Children's Day. Pray for the nurture and care of children, especially those in difficult situations

15 May: Yom Yerushalayim (Judaism)

Also: International Day of Families - we pray for all families

16 May: We pray for all those bereaved

17 May: International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia - This day promotes equality and fights against discrimination faced by the LGBTQ+ community globally. It's an opportunity to stand up for inclusivity, raise awareness, and foster a culture of acceptance.

18th May: Dementia awareness and action week. Also Action for Brain Injury Awareness Week

19 May: We pray for those battling addiction and their loved ones and professionals who support their recovery

20 May: Pray for all those facing illness and their family and carers offering love and support

21 May: Shavuot (Judaism) until the 23rd May

22 May: Pray for all those working in the emergency services across our towns, cities, countryside and coastlines and give thanks to the Chaplains who support them

23 May: Pray for those struggling with the cost of living crisis

24 May: Pentecost/Whit Sunday. Also: Declaration of the Báb (Baha'i) and Hajj/Eid-ul-Adha begins (Islam) and Buddha's birthday. Celebrates the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism.

25 May: We pray for the generosity of communities and the power of volunteers

26 May: We pray for those who are homeless, we hope they find shelter and support, especially for 'The Light Project' in Peterborough

27 May: Eid-al-Adha (Islamic)- Commemorates the willingness of Ibrahim to sacrifice his son

28 May: We pray for those who are carers and we pray for all those who are in care homes and those who look after them

29 May: Ascension of Baha'u'llah- Commemorates the passing of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith.

30 May: We pray for all workplace chaplains supporting others in different locations and industries

31 May: TRINITY SUNDAY Christian (Western Churches)