



Lord teach us how to pray...

On many occasions Jesus withdrew from the crowds to pray. Sometimes alone and sometimes with His disciples.

He taught His disciples, and us, how to pray, saying when you pray say "Our Father..."

Prayer is the bedrock of our faith, our communication with God, committing to Him our hopes, fears and plans – BEFORE we make decisions.

Lots of people within our church pray regularly and faithfully, both for our ministry and the wider needs of individuals and the world, but, with the exception of the monthly prayer group there is at present no opportunity for us to pray together, nor to encourage each other in prayer, other than our weekly services.

To encourage us to pray together more frequently and to help each other to grow in prayer over the next few months we will be making the following opportunities available:

- † Commencing on 5 February, we will start a weekly Church Prayer Meeting focusing on Church and Ministry – to meet on Monday evenings at the vicarage from 7pm until 7.45pm. This will operate alongside the monthly Tuesday night prayer group and not replace it.

- † We will join with other churches in Mottram, Longdendale and Glossop to meet for prayer every Wednesday morning in Lent from 7.30am to 8.15am followed by breakfast. Meeting each week at a different participating church. The meeting on 28 February will be at St Michael's.

- † In May we'll be concentrating our preaching/teaching on prayer, with the opportunity for prolonged periods of prayer and participating in the Archbishops initiative on evangelism "Thy Kingdom Come". Through this, bringing various groups together in prayer with contributions from the Sunday School, Youth Group, and Monthly Prayer Group – helping families and individuals young and old to pray together.

- † Our prayer/healing ministry that currently takes place during or after the 10.30am service on 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month, will be extended to be available after every 10.30am service. In order to do this we shall need to extend the team.

If you'd like to help, please contact me – prayer@mottramparish.org.uk or 01457 857331.

All we need now is to pray.....

Allen Standeven

Reader

