

Just a few verses later in John 14:27 Jesus says “Peace I leave with you; *my* peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid”. In other words, Jesus’ peace is a peace like no other. The peace of Christ is a heavenly peace that transcends broken hearts, broken dreams and even prison walls. To live in the peace and presence of Christ is the greatest comfort. And yet there is still more that God has in store for us when we learn to trust in Him with all of our hearts (Proverbs 3:5-6). St Paul writes in Romans 15:13 “ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit”. Wow! Did you catch that? Our God is the God of hope! He longs to fill you with His joy and *peace as you trust Him*, so that we may overflow with the supernatural hope and power of the Holy Spirit! In other words, the only limitation to an overflow of God’s power, peace and hope, is our ability to trust Him!



I pray that today you will learn to trust our loving Father God in a new way through the incarnational presence of Jesus through the power of the comforting Holy Spirit.

May God richly bless you this day and always!

Shawn Verhey, Thorn Cross Chaplaincy

Contact us at: GMCC Methodist Central Buildings Oldham Street M1 1JQ

Telephone: 0161 236 2462 Email: chaplain@gmconline.org

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GREATER MANCHESTER COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY
PRISON PRAYER LETTER OCTOBER 2018**

God’s prescription for worry.

I don’t know how many times you have laid awake at night unable to sleep because of some nagging worry. Prison certainly brings an entirely unique and challenging set of concerns for prisoners, chaplains and staff alike but there is good news. God has just the prescription for us and it does not come in a bottle! Hebrews 4:12 states that the Word of God is alive and active, that it’s sharper than a double edged sword. This crucial scripture reminds us that the Word has real power to separate us from sin & condemnation in order to separate us for and to God. How amazing is that? Let’s take a look at some promises from the Word that will help us overcome those nagging worrisome thoughts.



In Luke 12:7 Jesus says “Indeed the very hairs on your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows”. What a comfort to know that Jesus does not get hung up on appearances or circumstances but knows everything about us, every need before we speak it out, even the hairs of our head are numbered and have value. God is so good! Now take a look at John 14:1. Jesus says “Do not let your hearts be troubled”. That sounds like a command, not a suggestion! Just imagine that in the hours before Jesus was to suffer and die for the sins of the world He finds time to comfort and encourage His disciples! The great news is that Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forever and His love and comfort are always there for us, when we start to take Him at His Word.



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1. Praise God for 13 men completing the Living with Loss course at Buckley Hall, 9 of them also signing up for a visit from Paul Cowley of Holy Trinity Brompton – may they be blessed by that visit and continue in their journey of faith.
2. G is struggling with addiction issues at the moment; pray that he will have persistence and strength to continue.
3. L was recently released from custody; pray that he will find open doors, strength and resilience as he continues his walk of faith as a free man.
4. A is struggling a great deal with the anniversary of a loved one's death, and is also facing a lot of uncertainty about his future; pray that he will find comfort, courage and patience.
5. A is filled with guilt and shame; pray that he will experience the assurance of God's mercy and grace, and that this will enable him to make the new start that he longs for.
6. Pray for Forest Bank Chaplaincy and their new Chaplaincy Manager as the selection and appointment process takes place.
7. B is struggling with a knee issue that will need surgery soon; pray for him and those who will treat him.
8. F is finding adjustment to prison life very difficult; pray that he will find the support he needs and will settle in soon.
9. Pray for C following a bereavement and very difficult funeral.
10. S is nearing the end of his sentence; pray that he will sustain the changes he has made in prison on the outside and that he will find a supportive worshipping community and an opportunity for employment.
11. Buckley Hall chaplaincy are running the Alpha course this month; pray for a good take up and that men may find faith through it.
12. Pray for T, whose brother has recently attempted suicide.
13. B is struggling with family relationships; pray for tolerance and understanding on all sides.
14. K's granddad has died recently; pray for K as he deals with this loss.
15. S is willing to be a mentor on the next Alpha course at Buckley Hall; pray for him as he takes on this role and for those he will support.
16. Pray that funding may be identified to sustain the development work and café at Greater Manchester Community Chaplaincy.

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17. T has not seen his sons for around 7 years and is now searching for them; pray for him that whatever the outcome he will find peace and that any reunion will be positive for all involved.
18. H has recently been released; pray for continued strength that he will stay away from the addictions that have plagued his life, and that he may find a deeper relationship with the God who loves him.
19. Pray for M, who is worried about his family and his own immigration status.
20. Pray for all fathers who are separated from their children because of their past behaviour; that they might take responsibility for their actions and that where appropriate there might be safe contact restored between them and their children.
21. P and J both have faith, but are still struggling with addictions; pray that they may be set free from them.
22. D has recently moved prisons. Pray that he will continue to walk in the faith he has found, and that his relationship with God will continue to strengthen as time goes on.
23. S and J are both feeling under threat and vulnerable; pray for peace and protection for them.
24. B wishes to change his religion to that of his fiancée's faith; pray for discernment and guidance for him that he might make the right choice for the right reasons.
25. Pray for healing and wholeness for D who is very unwell mentally and increasingly unpredictable.
26. S was a regular at Sunday service; pray that he might see the need to get back into fellowship as he moves to category D.
27. Pray for M, who is struggling to come to terms with his offence and his guilt.
28. W has applied to attend the Alpha Course; pray that he will have a real understanding of the Christian faith.
29. S has recently learned that his children, who were in foster care, have been separated; pray for him as he struggles with this news, and for his children.
30. Pray that P might be kept physically and spiritually safe, and will return to GMCC.
31. C is doing well and having a settled period; pray that this will continue.