

It is great to work with people while they are in prison, but their need is often greater following their release. As Christians we can help them navigate life on the outside, helping with practical needs, encouraging a change in their



sense of identity and providing a bridge as they reconnect with the community. It is about engaging their agency, so that lasting change is possible.

That sense of God working has never left me, and I am humbled

by the testimonies of those I work with to His goodness. Jesus calls us to show His love to those on the margins of society, including prisoners.

The Gospels could not be clearer on this, and on the availability of redemption, no matter what we have done. It is a privilege for me to be able to serve Him, my brothers and sisters in prison, and those who have been released.

Mark Mansell
Free Church Chaplain
Rye Hill Prison

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Please make cheques payable to: **GM Prison Prayer**

and state if you would like to **Gift Aid it**

Check out our Facebook Page or www.gmccsupport.org

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HMP & YOI STYAL; HMP YOI THORN CROSS & HMP HINDLEY

GREATER MANCHESTER COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY

Prison Prayer letter for April 2026

A Chaplain's story

It was never in my life plan to spend time in prison! I had been involved in a local church for many years, often working with the marginalised, but I had never been inside a prison. I first visited a prison when I was invited to participate in a Sunday service at a local jail, which I agreed to, in no small part because I was curious to see what it was like.



Rather than the popular view of what life is like in prison, the things that struck me were the humanity of the people who I met there and the clear sense of God's presence. That was more than 10 years ago and since that first visit I have found myself more and more

involved in prisons. I now work as a Prison Chaplain across two jails.

I started as a volunteer, but have subsequently been ordained and taken up a role which allows me to work more closely with those in prison. I have also taken up roles with Community Chaplaincies supporting prison leavers.



CHAPLAINCY &

SPIRITUAL CARE

April 2026

- 1 Pray for all those who mourn the loss of a man who recently died at HMP Manchester. He was popular with everyone.
- 2 Pray for L who has suffered serious health issues and is struggling to recover.
- 3 Pray for J who is coming to terms with the effects of new medication.
- 4 Pray for all the Official Prison Visitors who give their time so generously to spend quality time with all inmates.
- 5 Pray for M, who is hoping to finally reconnect with a long-lost daughter.
- 6 Pray for all the preparation to make sure Eid al Fitr is celebrated with dignity and respect.
- 7 Pray for volunteers who are the jewel in the crown of so many Chaplaincy Teams.
- 8 Pray for R, our chaplain who will be visiting a few churches to give a presentation about the work of GMCC
- 9 Pray for G, who was released from prison in January and is looking to engage in our services.
- 10 Pray for J, who is being released very soon and has been referred to us for support.
- 11 Pray for D. who has recently received and new place to live after 13 years of being homeless.
- 12 Pray for N, one of our visitors, who has been in hospital.
- 13 Pray for all our staff here at GMCC who have gone through some difficult times recently.
- 14 We give God thanks for some small grant funding that has come through, please pray that more will come through.
- 15 We give God thanks for His goodness and faithfulness towards us as a charity.
- 16 We give God thanks for the people who come and speak and lead worship at our chapel service each Tuesday to invest in people.

Client Testimonies

Recently we have been able to sort out accommodation for one of our clients called D. He has been struggling with homelessness and without a home for a very long time. He is engaging really well with our services and he positively engaged with of his various support workers.

One of our other clients called P has been doing really well with us. he is very engaging with the bible studies on Thursday, chapel service on Tuesdays and he helping out with chores on our kitchen. He is doing whatever he can to positively re-integrate into society which is amazing.

Please do continue following future newsletters with many more testimonies of lives impacted.