



Glasgow Street Pastors

Bulletin - 10 April 2020

Easter Blessings.....

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens..."
Ecclesiastes 3: 1

Message from Linda:

During this week when we remember Jesus' suffering, we are also facing a day to day update of the suffering across our land. We connect with this in many different ways; we are blessed by having the hope of the cross to lift us in our response. May this be a time when Christians across our land share the hope of knowing Jesus as we all share the current experience together.



And this week, too, we have also heard about so many "acts of kindness". It has become a term we hear from our government leaders as well as our neighbours. Sharing those acts of kindness is something else we can share no matter who, no matter where. May this be a time when we show a willingness for kindness towards one another and also graciously accept kindness towards ourselves.

As we share prayer and fellowship with our teams, may we encourage one another to be open to the plan that God has for each one of us; whether at home, in the workplace or volunteering with our churches or in the community. May this be a time when we uphold one another and trust in our Father God.

PRAY *And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.*
Ephesians 6: 18

'Please see the prayer points from Willie

.....and as we worship this weekend may we meet the risen Christ and speak his name to others. And in the midst of where we are we can still say:



Here is an update from Stuart :

- Glasgow City Mission staff have been continuing with visits and phone calls and posting on Facebook.
- The Simon Community staff have been posting videos on Facebook all this week describing how their roles have changed and what they are doing to ensure that vulnerable people are kept safe, fed and made to feel cared for.
- Concern is being raised about the lack of availability of street drugs to meet demand. This is leading to the likelihood of more drug related deaths due to what is being 'added' to the already potentially lethal drugs being manufactured for distribution. A crisis within a crisis.
- Ascension Trust held a Zoom meeting on Thursday with 57 co-ordinators from across the country to consider 'good practice' during this period. Les Isaac asked the question, 'What is God saying to us to do' when we consider the future of Street Pastors.
- Paisley Street Pastors have been keeping in touch with each other through a prayer bulletin.
- Inside Central station which filmed our street pastors on duty will be aired on BBC Sun 3 May at 9pm
- A donation for £320 was received from the Kilt Walk which had to be cancelled. This was raised by two people who had signed up to raise money for GSP. Thanks to them.
- Street Pastors Scotland is encouraging prayer at 9:30pm on Saturday.
- Holland and Barrett (Sauchiehall St) donated Easter Eggs which have been passed on to the Simon Community for their hotel guests.

My thanks to Stuart and Lorna who continue to work from home during this period.

And finally,

Please be in touch if GSP can be of support to you: please do not be stuck. We are a family together and as such we care for one another.

Blessings,

Linda

Linda Burke
Chair - Glasgow Street Pastors
SCO39983



Context for prayer

- This weekend, as we celebrate the Lord's death and resurrection, let's remember and be thankful for His willingness to sacrifice Himself, disregarding His own personal interests, to rescue us from the dominion of darkness. Think also of the many doctors, nurses and support staff in the NHS who are presently giving of themselves by working long shifts on the front line, risking their lives for their patients.
- During this time of social isolation and lockdown, the Street Pastor teams are trying to remain in contact with another to support one another and to pray together for ourselves and for our world. The management team are also keeping everyone informed with a weekly bulletin and by email contact with the police and other partner organisations. This is to enable us to be ready to resume operations when the period of isolation ends and to offer any help that may be needed in the interim.
- On Sunday 3 May at 9pm BBC Scotland are showing a programme in their series *Inside Central Station* which will include Street Pastors and the work we are doing as Station Pastors within Central Station on Friday and Saturday nights.

Please pray:

- That the Lord will give us a deeper understanding of the nature and extent of Jesus' sacrifice for us as we celebrate Easter in our homes. Several of the Glasgow Street Pastors work for the NHS and, with their colleagues, are supporting and caring for their patients. Please pray that all NHS staff will be protected from infection and have the energy and dedication to care for patients who are seriously ill and unable to be in contact with loved ones.
- Give thanks for Zoom and other electronic communication packages that are enabling us to keep together as teams and to offer prayer and practical help as needed and for the positive response of Police Scotland to our contact with them. Pray particularly for one Glasgow street pastor who has been hospitalised with Covid 19. Pray that he will respond to treatment in hospital and recover quickly. Pray also for his wife at this time, that she will stay fit and that she will know the Lord's comforting presence and the support of His people.
- For this programme, that it will provide a fair representation of the work of Glasgow Street Pastors and that viewers will be given a positive picture of the pastors and their work.