

Prayer by Nick Fawcett, '*For Such a Time as This*', © Kevin Mayhew Publishers.

For those struggling due to this crisis, and those seeking to help them
So many are worried, Lord. Calm their fears.

So many are hurting. Tend their wounds.

So many are grieving. Comfort them.

So many are lonely. Assure them of your presence.

So many are vulnerable. Protect them.

So many are struggling to make ends meet. Provide for them.

So many are despairing. Encourage them.

So many are sick. Heal them.

So many are seeking to bring help to those infected. Equip and enable them.

So many are looking to defeat this disease. Guide them.

So many are in need, Lord, and so many more soon will be.

Reach out to them, in love, tenderness and mercy, and see them safely through. Amen.

You can download a free e-book of Nick's prayers at
<https://nickfawcett.uk/2020/03/27/free-e-book-of-coronavirus-prayers-out-now/#more-2979>

Ryde emergency response scheme:
Coronavirus Ryde Support Hub – Call (01983) 811105
between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Contacts:
Church office: closed at present
Website: www.rydebaptist.org

 @rydebaptist
Minister: Rev Kerry Birch
01983 564137
Church Secretary:
Sally Pratt
01983 641305
rydebaptistsecretary@gmail.com

Reg Charity no 1133780
All Deacons available by ☎ if needed.

Please note! Items for 7/52 should be given to **Sally** by **midnight THURSDAY** on 641305 or email: ian.pratt5@btopenworld.com

7/52 @ RBC

5 April 2020

As we cannot share palm crosses today, why not hang a **green branch** or **wreath** on your door or in your window to celebrate this special day?



Check out our website at www.rydebaptist.org for general updates.

More specific pastoral information, sermon notes and suggestions for reading and study will be on <https://www.rydebaptist.xyz> —the Sunday supplement.

If you are willing to join a list of folk who would be happy to call others who are alone at home within Ryde, please contact Kerry.



What's On

Worship at home with Premier Radio **10 am Sunday**.
BBC1 10.45 am Palm Sunday service from Hereford Cathedral
Check <https://baptist.org.uk/> for the latest news from the Baptist Union.



Join BU General Secretary Lynn Green and other leaders for prayer broadcasts every Wednesday and Sunday evening at 7 pm. Available at https://baptist.org.uk/Groups/338268/prayer_broadcasts.aspx

For more prayers from Christian leaders, see <https://www.premierchristianity.com/Blog/9-prayers-on-coronavirus-to-add-your-Amen-to>

For a helpful short theological mediation on the coronavirus by N T Wright, take a look at <https://time.com/5808495/coronavirus-christianity/>

Wealthy countries are struggling to deal with **coronavirus**, but the situation is much worse in countries that are poorer and where the health systems are not as developed as ours. Here are some links to various missionary organisations working alongside frightened and needy people:

Baptist Missionary Society: What we can learn from Nepali Christians on <https://www.bmsworldmission.org/news/in-crisis-nepali-christians/>

Tear Fund: a very helpful article by Dr Ruth Valerio on https://www.tearfund.org/2020/03/decoding_coronavirus/
How Tearfund is responding on https://www.tearfund.org/en/2020/03/tearfund_response_to_coronavirus/

Leprosy Mission Day of Prayer 'Next Wednesday, 8 April, we are planning to cease working for one day to wait on God to seek direction for the unique and worrying challenges that we currently face.' Hear a prayer from India on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FgC3nT8iKvQ&feature=youtu.be>

More info from missionary groups next week. Please pray for those mentioned on the previous page, and if you are able to donate there are links on the pages given.

It is easy to be overwhelmed with the world situation, but this poem by G M Hopkins reminds us that God is still involved in his world:

God's Grandeur

*The world is charged with the grandeur of God.
It will flame out, like shining from shook foil;
It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil
Crushed. Why do men then now not reck his rod?**
*Generations have trod, have trod, have trod;
And all is seared with trade; bleared, smeared with toil;
And wears man's smudge and shares man's smell: the soil
Is bare now, nor can foot feel, being shod.*

*And for all this, nature is never spent;
There lives the dearest freshness deep down things;
And though the last lights off the black West went
Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs—
Because the Holy Ghost over the bent
World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.*

(* heed his authority)

Thank you for your continued financial support of the work of the Church. If you would like to set up a standing order, bank details are as follows:

**RBC Barclays current account number 20731102
sort code 20—60— 55**

If you usually give in cash or by cheque, we suggest that you save it up until you have a few weeks' worth and then contact Kerry or one of the deacons who can collect it from you.

Offerings for **February** were as follows:
Cash and Envelopes **£894.20** Standing orders **£1605**

Total: £2499.20

