# April 1st

Jesus said, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God." Think about the time we spend reading God's word and in prayer, and compare it to the time we spend eating and drinking.

#### April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not be afraid any longer, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom.." Lord, we praise you for your generosity.

#### April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Then Jesus said [to the woman caught in adultery], "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more." Lord Jesus, help us to not condemn ourselves but to turn our whole focus on you.

# April 4<sup>th</sup>

Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." Lord, give us the grace to turn away from the darkness and come out into your light.

# April 5<sup>th</sup>

Ps 102: O LORD, hear my prayer, and let my cry come to you.

Hide not your face from me in the day of my distress.

Incline your ear to me; in the day when I call, answer me speedily.

# April 6<sup>th</sup>

Jesus said to those Jews who believed in

him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." Lord give us the grace to understand what living in your word means.

# April 7<sup>th</sup>

Ps 95: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts. Lord, let us always be listening for you wherever we are, whatever we are doing.

# April 8th

Jesus said, "It is the spirit that gives life, while the flesh is of no avail. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life."
Let save us from becoming overfamiliar with your words, let us contemplate them every day.

### April 9th

Dt 10: For the LORD, your God, is the God of gods, the LORD of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who has no favourites, accepts no bribes; who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and befriends the alien, feeding and clothing him. So you too must befriend the alien.

# April 10th

As Jesus rode on a colt and approached the Mount of Olives, the crowd shouted, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest." And when the Pharisees wanted the crowd silenced Jesus said, "I tell you, if they keep silent, the stones will cry out!"

#### April 11th

The large crowd of the Jews found out that he was there and came, not only because of him, but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. And the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus too, because many of the Jews were turning away and believing in Jesus because of him. Lord, forgive us for the times when we are silent when we should speak out, give us the courage of Lazarus to speak.

# April 12<sup>th</sup>

Ps 71: For you are my hope, O LORD; my trust, O God, from my youth.
On you I depend from birth; from my mother's womb you are my strength.
I will sing of your salvation.

# April 13<sup>th</sup>

Ps 69: I will praise the name of God in song, and I will glorify him with thanksgiving:

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts revive! For the LORD hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

# April 14th

Jesus read out, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord." Lord, give us the grace to follow your lead.

#### April 15th

From Hebrews: 'For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has similarly been tested in every way, yet without sin. So let us confidently approach the throne of grace to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.'

#### April 16<sup>th</sup>

'At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.' Alleluia

#### April 17th

Ps 118: The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.

#### April 18th

Peter said, "God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he poured forth the promise of the Holy Spirit that he received from the Father, as you both

see and hear." Lord, may the Holy Spirit be alive in us.

#### April 19th

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"
She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher. Let us pause and share Mary's joy.

# April 20th

On the road to Emmaus: So Jesus went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Lord, let our hearts always be open to recognise you.

# April 21<sup>th</sup>

Peter said, "You are the children of the prophets and of the covenant that God made with your ancestors when he said to Abraham, In your offspring all the families of the earth shall be blessed. For you first, God raised up his servant and sent him to bless you by turning each of you from your evil ways." Lord, turn us away from evil ways.

# April 22th

Ps 118: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever."

#### April 23th

But later, as the Eleven were at table, Jesus appeared to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart because they had not believed those who saw him after he had been raised. He said to them, "Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature." Lord, save us from the temptation to not make the effort to do your will.

#### April 24th

Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." Lord, strengthen our belief.

# April 25<sup>th</sup>

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

Lord, grant us your wisdom and your strength to do your will.

# April 26<sup>th</sup>

Jesus said to his Nicodemus: "And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life." Lord, keep us firm in our belief.

# April 27<sup>th</sup>

God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn

the world, but that the world might be saved through him." Lord Jesus, let us always remember that you came to save not to condemn.

# April 28th

"For the one whom God sent speaks the words of God. He does not ration his gift of the Spirit.." Father, send your Holy Spirit to live in us and act through us; may we be as generous as you are.

#### April 29th

Ps 27: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

One thing I seek: to dwell in the house of the Lord.

#### April 30<sup>th</sup>

When it was evening, the disciples of Jesus went down to the sea, embarked in a boat, and went across the sea to Capernaum. It had already grown dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea was stirred up because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they began to be afraid. But he said to them, "It is I. Do not be afraid." Lord Jesus, may we be so at one with you that we are never afraid.

# Churches Together in Fordingbridge and District

#### **Prayer Link**

April 2022

This month's prayers are inspired by the Bible readings for the day.

Prepared by the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows and St Philip Benizi