

# May Dartford Prosper

## June 2021

### Praying for the Town, the Community and the Church

Welcome to the June edition of 'May Dartford Prosper', continuing to pray for our town and nation particularly in the light of the Covid-19 pandemic. For more details on any of these items, if there's anything you'd like included or if you wish to receive this electronically, please contact [pooleyiz@hotmail.com](mailto:pooleyiz@hotmail.com)

*I will pour out my Spirit on all people... Joel 2.28a*

#### Our Neighbourhoods

Pray for those who live around you, (the two households either side of you and five opposite).

Please pray for each household, remembering especially:

- relationships and family life
- children and young people
- elderly people
- those at school and work and those who have no work
- physical and mental wellbeing and protection from Covid-19
- that we will have opportunities to be witnesses for Jesus by our words and actions

and that we will be a blessing to our neighbours by having:

- good relations with them
- sensitivity to their needs

Pray too for awareness of harmful activities, for example domestic abuse, gang culture, human trafficking and terrorism, and for safety on our streets.

The Government's roadmap to exiting the lockdown is due to enter Step 4 on June 21 which will lift remaining restrictions. However, the number of cases (due mainly now to the Indian variant), is rising at the moment in some areas, including Kent, albeit from a very low base level. The Government will brief the country on June 14<sup>th</sup> as to whether Step 4 can go ahead the following week.

#### Pray

- For wisdom for the Government and special advisors as they decide whether to go ahead with Step 4 of the roadmap on June 21.
- Give thanks that hospitality and many other sectors were able to reopen on May 17. Pray for businesses

in this area who are able to trade again and for those who have ceased to operate.

- For businesses and staff who have to decide on the balance between home and office working in the coming months.
- Give thanks that people aged 30 and over are now able to book their first vaccination and that approaching 50% of the UK population has received both jabs.
- For staff and patients at Darent Valley Hospital, giving thanks that non-Covid related appointments and operations are now taking place again. Pray for people who are suffering the effects of Long Covid and for those who have lost loved ones.
- That rates will start to fall again in all areas of the country.

At last Sunday's Virtual Pentecost gathering, Pastor Leke Sanusi, who leads a church in South London and lives in Dartford shared how he was prayerwalking his neighbourhood last month when an Asian man came up to him and asked him why he had called him by name in his native language and given him a blessing. The pastor, who had been praying in tongues, was not aware of this. Their conversation of around 10 minutes in the street led to the man giving his life to Jesus and receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Leke's testimony (approx. six minutes) can be found at <https://youtu.be/LZ-V4Ysl7nl>

To view the Virtual Pentecost meetings go to [www.virtualpentecost.com](http://www.virtualpentecost.com)



## Pray

- Give thanks for the online Pentecost gathering on Sunday and that 46,578 individuals, churches and ministries registered to be part of this.
- Give thanks for Pastor Leke's testimony of seeing Pentecost happening today- and in Dartford! Give thanks that God is on the move, and for the encouragement this brings us here.
- For the prophetic words given over many years that there will be a great harvest, the like of which we have never seen before.
- That the Church in this nation, and in our town will be ready- for such a time as this!

A number of local churches started to meet again in person last Sunday while others are remaining online or combining both. Singing in church buildings is still not allowed and social distancing has to be observed. There now is a widespread sense among Christians that following the pandemic, church life will not return to what it was before, and that for many congregations, use of online meetings is here to stay.

## Pray

- Give thanks that Pentecost saw several churches meeting together again in their buildings.
- Give thanks too that many churches in this area have experienced an increase in numbers attending services online, and for new initiatives such as Virtual Pentecost and The Blessing which went around the world last summer.

## A declaration over the Church (first published Easter 2021)

Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life" John 11:25.

Father, we thank You for the sacrifice of Jesus and for Your eternal love, and we decree in this nation the celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus will be respected, honoured and loved by people of all communities. We thank You for the power of the Easter message to bring hope, life and salvation.

Lord, You are cleansing Your people of all that would restrict, restrain or bring reproach upon them in this day, and we surrender to Your hand upon our lives. (take a moment to confess anything the Holy Spirit brings to mind). We praise You Jesus, for the fullness of Your work of salvation in our lives through the cross and for Your triumph over every work of the enemy. Psalm 139: 23-24

As we cross over into a new season, we remember Jesus resolutely set His face to fulfil His mission. We declare that in this day, Your people are arising with faces set like flint to press into the new, rejoicing in the fresh possibilities that You will reveal in the days ahead, and we thank You for the greatness of the plans and purposes You have for individuals to partner with You to bring awakening to this land.

We declare Your grace is sufficient, and we decree in this nation every ministry, church or marketplace You have ordained for this season will be funded, resourced and equipped with God-given strategies and connections that every Kingdom plan and purpose will be fulfilled. We decree in this day of change and uncertainty, the "Name of Jesus will be lifted up, that all people will be drawn to Him." John 12: 32

Now Lord, we stand as Your Ecclesia in this nation, we celebrate the power of the Resurrected Jesus concerning Your purposes for this land. We decree this nation will cross over into the new, leaving behind the old tendencies for manmade solutions and instead embracing Your vision and desire for the United Kingdom. We declare every Kingdom purpose that has been halted or delayed will be reversed, in Jesus' Name.

By Suzanne Ferrett of Passion for the Nation, 2 April 2021 <https://passionforthenation.uk>

- Pray for those churches who are currently meeting outside- for good weather throughout the summer!
- Pray for church leaders and their congregations as they discern what their church will look like in the future and for wisdom in knowing how to prepare for this.

## Also for your prayers...

### Dartford Food Bank

The foodbank at present serves about 70 families a week with bags of groceries etc in Lowfield Street. There is a chance that they will be moving to another site in the future, although nothing definite has yet been decided. Give thanks for the faithfulness of the small number of helpers who have served on Tuesdays and for the many donations of non-perishables and money received since Covid began.

### Evergreen Care Dartford

Please continue to pray for Evergreen Care as they set up in Dartford with a base at Wilmington Community Church. Pray for their current publicity campaign, good links with local agencies and for volunteers to come forward. <https://www.evergreencareuk.org>

