



**P** 40 *days of*  
**Prayer**

**Journey  
Guide**

**40 DAYS OF PRAYER**

ASH WEDNESDAY - PALM SUNDAY 2022

# PRAYERS for **40** DAYS ...

Life doesn't always go as planned. We have certainly learned this over the past year. At some point, you'll face impossible obstacles and barriers — situations that make you think there's no way you are going to survive this. But God wants to help you handle uncertainty when it comes your way. He is ready and willing to give you a breakthrough, but it doesn't just happen spontaneously; breakthroughs happen when you seek them. And the way you seek them is through prayer. We hope that the next 40 days will provide you with a greater connection with God. May your awareness of the power of prayer deepen in leaps and bounds. Prayer makes us aware of the presence of God, thus living our lives in conscious awareness of Him.

Start every prayer with thanksgiving. Praise him for his presence in your life and the love he shows you daily and all the blessings in your life. End your prayer time with a moment of contemplation. What will flow from this prayer? Is there a message for you? Spend some quiet time with God.



## Noon Prayer

Practice the presence of God

- Start your day in prayer
- Create listening spaces during the day – set alarms on your phone
- Pray whilst you're driving
- Pray whilst you're doing the washing or washing dishes
- Pray whilst standing in line
- End your day in prayer
- Listen to gospel songs as often as possible
- Explore creative ways of worship and pray
- Read your Bible as often as possible.
- Spend a day with God

## LET'S PRAY TOGETHER AS A CHURCH EVERY DAY FOR 40 DAYS 12PM.

We would like to pray together as a church every day for 40 days at 12pm. Please set an alarm and print out this document to have with you wherever you might be. We will also send out the day's prayer daily on our WhatsApp group (please contact Kerry to add you – [kerryw@bmc.org.za](mailto:kerryw@bmc.org.za)). You are also welcome to join the Called to Prayer virtual group that meets every Thursday at 12 on Google Meet (please contact [nadjaa@bmc.org.za](mailto:nadjaa@bmc.org.za) for more information).

May God bless you abundantly in the next 40 days as you seek and draw closer to God. May you have many breakthroughs and may you know the power of prayer intimately.

Shalom  
Your BMC Ministers

Gavin Landers / Boitumelo Makgamathe / Kamogelo Monoametsi

## Day 1: 3 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for the Covid-19 Pandemic



**Bible Reading: Joel 2:18-27** <sup>18</sup> Then the LORD was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. <sup>19</sup> The LORD replied to them: "I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations. <sup>20</sup> "I will drive the northern horde far from you, pushing it into a parched and barren land; its eastern ranks will drown in the Dead Sea and its western ranks in the Mediterranean Sea. And its stench will go up; its smell will rise." Surely, he has done great things! <sup>21</sup> Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things! <sup>22</sup> Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches. <sup>23</sup> Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before. <sup>24</sup> The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil. <sup>25</sup> "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten - the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm - my great army that I sent among you. <sup>26</sup> You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the LORD your God, who has worked wonders for you; never again will my people be shamed. <sup>27</sup> Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the LORD your God, and that there is no other; never again will my people be shamed.

**Prayer:** God of wonders, bring about your restoration in a world suffering from COVID-19. Amen

**Memory verse:** *"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten... You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you." (Joel 2:25-26)*

## Day 2: 4 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for the World



**Bible Reading: Romans 8:18-30** <sup>18</sup> I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. <sup>24</sup> For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? <sup>25</sup> But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently. <sup>26</sup> In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. <sup>27</sup> And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. <sup>28</sup> And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. <sup>29</sup> For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. <sup>30</sup> And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified.

**Prayer:** Father, your groaning, frustrated world depends on you for its redemption and well-being. Help us to wait in hope for this to happen. Amen.

**Memory verse:** “However, we hope for something we have not yet seen, and we patiently wait for it.” (Rom 8:25 CEV)

### Day 3: 5 March FOCUS: Pray for Families



**Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 6:1-12** <sup>1</sup>These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, <sup>2</sup>so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. <sup>3</sup>Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may

increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, promised you.

<sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. <sup>5</sup>Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. <sup>8</sup>Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. <sup>9</sup>Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. <sup>10</sup>When the LORD your God brings you into the land he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you—a land with large, flourishing cities you did not build, <sup>11</sup>houses filled with all kinds of good things you did not provide, wells you did not dig, and vineyards and olive groves you did not plant—then when you eat and are satisfied, <sup>12</sup>be careful that you do not forget the LORD, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

**Prayer:** Father, through Your Word, weave together the members of our family in love. Amen

**Memory verse:** “Impress these commandments on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up” (Deut 6:7).

### Day 4: 6 March FOCUS: Pray for our Country



**Bible Reading: 2 Samuel 7:22-24** <sup>22</sup>How great you are, Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. <sup>23</sup>And who is like your people Israel—the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? <sup>24</sup>You have

established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, LORD, have become their God.

**Prayer:** Father, redeem us as a people for yourself. May our nation be a shining light that proclaims your wonder. Amen



**Memory verse:** “God went out to redeem Israel as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders.” (II Sam 7:23).

## Day 5: 7 March

**FOCUS:** Pray against Global Warming and preservation of Nature



**Bible Reading: Psalm 104:1-24** <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD, my soul. LORD my God, you are very great; you are clothed with splendor and majesty.<sup>2</sup> The LORD wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent<sup>3</sup> and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.<sup>4</sup> He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.<sup>5</sup> He set the earth on its foundations; it can never be moved.<sup>6</sup> You covered it with the watery depths as with a garment; the waters stood above the mountains.<sup>7</sup> But at your rebuke the waters fled, at the sound of your thunder they took to flight;<sup>8</sup> they flowed over the mountains, they went down into the valleys, to the place you assigned for them.<sup>9</sup> You set a boundary they cannot cross; never again will they cover the earth.<sup>10</sup> He makes springs pour water into the ravines; it flows between the mountains.<sup>11</sup> They give water to all the beasts of the field; the wild donkeys quench their thirst.<sup>12</sup> The birds of the sky nest by the waters; they sing among the branches.<sup>13</sup> He waters the mountains from his upper chambers; the land is satisfied by the fruit of his work.<sup>14</sup> He makes grass grow for the cattle, and plants for people to cultivate-bringing forth food from the earth:<sup>15</sup> wine that gladdens human hearts, oil to make their faces shine, and bread that sustains their hearts.<sup>16</sup> The trees of the LORD are well watered, the cedars of Lebanon that he planted.<sup>17</sup> There the birds make their nests; the stork has its home in the junipers.<sup>18</sup> The high mountains belong to the wild goats; the crags are a refuge for the hyrax.<sup>19</sup> He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down.<sup>20</sup> You bring darkness, it becomes night, and all the beasts of the forest prowl.<sup>21</sup> The lions roar for their prey and seek their food from God.<sup>22</sup> The sun rises, and they steal away; they return and lie down in their dens.<sup>23</sup> Then people go out to their work, to their labour until evening.<sup>24</sup> How many are your works, LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

**Prayer:** Father, help us see ourselves as part of Your creation and to never ruin Your splendor and majesty in any work of Your hands. Amen

**Memory verse:** “How many are your works, Lord! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures” (Ps 104:24).

## Day 6: 8 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for Political Leaders



**Bible Reading: Isaiah 1:23-28** <sup>23</sup> Your rulers are rebels, partners with thieves; they all love bribes and chase after gifts. They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow’s case does not come before them.<sup>24</sup> Therefore the Lord, the LORD Almighty, the Mighty One of Israel, declares: “Ah! I will vent my wrath on my foes and avenge myself on my enemies.<sup>25</sup> I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities.<sup>26</sup> I will restore your leaders as in days of old, your rulers as at the beginning. Afterward you will be called the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City.”<sup>27</sup> Zion will be delivered with justice, her penitent ones with righteousness.<sup>28</sup> But rebels and sinners will both be broken, and those who forsake the LORD will perish.

**Prayer:** Father, deliver us with just and righteous leaders. Amen

**Memory verse:** “I will restore your leaders as in days of old” (Is 1:26).

## Day 7: 9 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for our Country's Economy



**Bible Reading: Zechariah 1:16-17** <sup>16</sup>“Therefore this is what the LORD says: ‘I will return to Jerusalem with mercy, and there my house will be rebuilt. And the measuring line will be stretched out over Jerusalem,’ declares the LORD Almighty. <sup>17</sup>“Proclaim further: This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity, and the LORD will again comfort Zion and choose Jerusalem.’”

**Prayer:** Lord, in Your mercy, move us further away from poverty and return us to more experiences of prosperity. Amen

**Memory verse:** *“This is what the LORD Almighty says: ‘My towns will again overflow with prosperity’ (Zech 1:17).*

## Day 8: 10 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for those Unemployed



**Bible Reading: Ruth 2:1-9** Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, a man of standing from the clan of Elimelek, whose name was Boaz. <sup>2</sup> And Ruth the Moabite said to Naomi, “Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favour.” Naomi said to her, “Go ahead, my daughter.” <sup>3</sup> So she went out, entered a field and began to glean behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she was working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelek. <sup>4</sup> Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, “The LORD be with you!” “The LORD bless you!” they answered. <sup>5</sup> Boaz asked the overseer of his harvesters, “Who does that young woman belong to?” <sup>6</sup> The overseer replied, “She is the Moabite who came back from Moab with Naomi. <sup>7</sup> She said, ‘Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.’ She came into the field and has remained here from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter.” <sup>8</sup> So Boaz said to Ruth, “My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me. <sup>9</sup> Watch the field where the men are harvesting and follow along after the women. I have told the men not to lay a hand on you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.”

**Prayer:** Father, we pray that like Boaz, we too may allow the unemployed into our lives to glean something from what we have been able to harvest. Amen

**Memory verse:** *“So Boaz said to Ruth, ‘My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with the women who work for me.’” (Ruth 2:8).*

## Day 9: 11 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for Corporate and Government Employees



**Bible Reading: Daniel 6:1-5** It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, <sup>2</sup> with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. <sup>3</sup> Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. <sup>4</sup> At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for

charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. <sup>5</sup> Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.”

**Prayer:** Father, keep us and others honest and diligent in the work assigned to us. Amen

**Memory verse:** “*The administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so.*” (Dan 6:4).

## Day 10: 12 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for Employees in Industries



**Bible Reading: I Kings 5:8-18** <sup>8</sup> So Hiram sent word to Solomon: “I have received the message you sent me and will do all you want in providing the cedar and juniper logs. <sup>9</sup> My men will haul them down from Lebanon to the Mediterranean Sea, and I will float them as rafts by sea to the place you specify. There I will separate them and you can take them away. And you are to grant my wish by providing food for my royal household.” <sup>10</sup> In this way Hiram kept Solomon supplied

with all the cedar and juniper logs he wanted, <sup>11</sup> and Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his household, in addition to twenty thousand baths of pressed olive oil. Solomon continued to do this for Hiram year after year. <sup>12</sup> The LORD gave Solomon wisdom, just as he had promised him. There were peaceful relations between Hiram and Solomon, and the two of them made a treaty. <sup>13</sup> King Solomon conscripted laborers from all Israel—thirty thousand men. <sup>14</sup> He sent them off to Lebanon in shifts of ten thousand a month, so that they spent one month in Lebanon and two months at home. Adoniram was in charge of the forced labor. <sup>15</sup> Solomon had seventy thousand carriers and eighty thousand stonecutters in the hills, <sup>16</sup> as well as thirty-three hundred foremen who supervised the project and directed the workers. <sup>17</sup> At the king’s command they removed from the quarry large blocks of high-grade stone to provide a foundation of dressed stone for the temple. <sup>18</sup> The craftsmen of Solomon and Hiram and workers from Byblos cut and prepared the timber and stone for the building of the temple.

**Prayer:** Lord, give vision to those in industry to build life giving partnerships. Amen

**Memory verse:** “*In this way Hiram kept Solomon supplied with all the cedar and juniper logs he wanted, and Solomon gave Hiram twenty thousand cors of wheat as food for his household, in addition to twenty thousand baths of pressed olive oil. Solomon continued to do this for Hiram year after year.*” (I Kings 5:10-11).

## Day 11: 13 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for Safety and Security



**Bible Reading: Isaiah 32:14-20** <sup>14</sup> The fortress will be abandoned, the noisy city deserted; citadel and watchtower will become a wasteland forever, the delight of donkeys, a pasture for flocks, <sup>15</sup> till the Spirit is poured on us from on high, and the desert becomes a fertile field, and the fertile field seems like a forest. <sup>16</sup> The LORD’s justice will dwell in the desert, his righteousness live in the fertile field. <sup>17</sup> The fruit of that righteousness will be peace; its effect will be quietness and confidence

forever. <sup>18</sup> My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.

<sup>19</sup> Though hail flattens the forest and the city is leveled completely, <sup>20</sup> how blessed you will be, sowing your seed by every stream, and letting your cattle and donkeys range free.

**Prayer:** Father help us to realise that safety and security will not come to us apart from You. Amen

**Memory verse:** *“My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest.”* (Is 32:18).

### *Day 12: 14 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray against Crime



**Bible Reading: Psalm 62:10-12** <sup>10</sup> Do not trust in extortion or put vain hope in stolen goods; though your riches increase, do not set your heart on them. <sup>11</sup> One thing God has spoken, two things I have heard: “Power belongs to you, God, <sup>12</sup>and with you, Lord, is unfailing love”; and, “You reward everyone according to what they have done.”

**Prayer:** Father, be with us as we live in the midst of crime. Protect us and teach us Your ways. Amen

**Memory verse:** *“Power belongs to you, God, and with you, Lord, is unfailing love and You reward everyone according to what they have done.”* (Psalm 62:11).

### *Day 13: 15 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray for your Community



**Bible Reading: I Peter 3:8-15** <sup>8</sup> Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. <sup>9</sup> Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. <sup>10</sup> For, “Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. <sup>11</sup> They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. <sup>12</sup> For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” <sup>13</sup> Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

**Prayer:** Father teach us your ways as we seek to be a helpful presence in our community. Amen

**Memory verse:** *“Whoever would love life and see good days must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it.”* (I Pet 3:11).

### *Day 14: 16 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray against Domestic Violence



**Bible Reading: James 4:1-10** What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. <sup>3</sup> When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the

world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? <sup>6</sup> But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble." <sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. <sup>9</sup> Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. <sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

**Prayer:** Father, you call us to be a humble presence in the lives of others. Give us wisdom to be such a presence. Give us wisdom to deal with those in our lives that overstep this mark and resort to ways that violate. Amen

**Memory verse:** *"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."* (James 4:10).

### *Day 15: 17 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray against Femicide



**Bible Reading: Proverbs 3:27-33** <sup>27</sup> Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act. <sup>28</sup> Do not say to your neighbour, 'Come back tomorrow and I'll give it to you'-when you already have it with you. <sup>29</sup> Do not plot harm against your neighbour who lives trustfully near you. <sup>30</sup> Do not accuse anyone for no reason-when they have done you no harm. <sup>31</sup> Do not envy the violent or choose any of their ways. <sup>32</sup> For the LORD detests the perverse but

takes the upright into his confidence. <sup>33</sup> The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous.

**Prayer:** Father, may we confront and oppose any act of violence committed against a woman. Amen

**Memory verse:** *"Do not plot harm against your neighbor, who lives trustfully near you."* (Prov 3:29).

### *Day 16: 18 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray against Abuse of Drugs



**Bible Reading: I Corinthians 10:13** <sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

**Prayer:** Heavenly father we pray for all those who are struggling with addiction to drugs. We know gracious God that in their struggle to overcome this addiction they have caused pain to their families and friends. We pray for strength and courage to overcome the battle they are facing. We present their cries of agony before you, that you may hold them in your love that they may be assured of your help. You are the God who makes a way even in the wilderness. God grant them the strength to overcome their addiction and give their families strength to support them in the journey to healing. Bless all those who struggle with trials today and be their helper in their time of need. So, whenever they feel knocked down by their addiction, we pray father that you would raise them up again to fight another day. We pray that in their wilderness of despair and hopelessness provide a way out for them in Jesus 'name

**Memory verse:** *"Do not be misled: 'Bad company corrupts good character.'"* (I Cor 15:33)

**Day 17: 18 March**  
**FOCUS:** Pray against Bullying in schools



**Bible Reading: Ephesians 4:29-32** <sup>9</sup> Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

**Prayer:** Heavenly father we pray for all manner of violence in schools and institutions of learning to end. We pray that all children in schools may be safe and that they treat each other with love and respect. Lord in your mercy hear our prayers.

**Memory verse:** *“Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness.”* (1 John 2:9)

**Day 18: 19 March**  
**FOCUS:** Pray for Widows



**Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 24:19-22** <sup>19</sup> When you are harvesting in your field and you overlook a sheaf, do not go back to get it. Leave it for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow, so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. <sup>20</sup> When you beat the olives from your trees, do not go over the branches a second time. Leave what remains for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow. <sup>21</sup> When you harvest the grapes in your vineyard, do not go over the vines again. Leave what remains for the foreigner, the fatherless and the widow. <sup>22</sup> Remember that you were slaves in Egypt. That is why I command you to do this.

**Prayer:** We pray for all those who are grieving the loss of their partners. We pray Lord for them that in their loss and pain may you become the source of hope and healing. We pray for all those who feel the burden of responsibility over their families. We pray Lord that in their sense of loneliness may they be comforted by your abiding presence. We pray Lord that they may lean on you at all times and raise their cries to you in their difficulties. May you provide Lord for them in their anxiety of losing their providers. Remove the fear oh God of living without their partners and worrying about their security without their protectors. Dear lord may your constant love guide them at all times in Jesus's name.

**Memory verse:** *“The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.”* (Psalm 146:9)

**Day 19: 20 March**  
**FOCUS:** Pray for Single Parents



**Bible Reading: Philippians 4:12-13** <sup>12</sup> I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. <sup>13</sup> I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

**Prayer:** Dear heavenly father we pray for all those who are faced with the challenge of raising children on their own. We pray Lord that you give them the wisdom to train these children in the way of the lord. Calm their fears and anxieties, in their daily struggles to take care of

those under their care. Assure them of your faithfulness even when we walk through the darkest period of our lives. Many Lord, worry about being able to provide and care for their children. Father we pray that in the abundance of your mercies and grace May you show up in times of the greatest need. We pray Lord that you help them to walk out the journey of being single parents with humility and kindness. We pray for strength when they feel weary and hope when they feel disillusioned. Comfort when they feel lonely and guidance when they feel lost. Father where there is lack, we pray for provision.

**Memory verse:** *“Children are a heritage from the Lord, offspring a reward from him.”* (Psalm 127:3)

### **Day 20: 21 March**

**FOCUS:** Pray for those struggling with Relationships



**Bible Reading: Galatians 5:13-15** <sup>13</sup>You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. <sup>14</sup>For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” <sup>15</sup>If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

**Prayer:** Gracious and wonderful God we pray for all those who find themselves in distress due to the relationships that they are in. We pray Lord that may they learn to find contentment in you and not any human relationship. We pray for those who find themselves in Toxic and abusive relationships. Father we pray that they may learn what is right for them and to find comfort in you.

**Memory verse:** *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”* (John 13:34)

### **Day 21: 22 March**

**FOCUS:** Pray for those affected by Cancer



**Bible Reading: Psalm 103:2-4** <sup>2</sup>Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits- <sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

**Prayer:** We pray for all those who suffer from Cancer. We pray that the treatment that they are going through would heal them and restore. We pray that your loving hand of mercy may touch them, comfort them in their pain and bless them with healing. That they may be assured of love even in the midst of unbearable pain. We pray lord that when they lose hope and feel like giving up, give them courage and hope they need for each day.

**Memory verse:** *“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* (Isaiah 41:10)

### **Day 22: 23 March**

**FOCUS:** Pray for those struggling with Health Issues.



**Bible Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:9-10** <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. <sup>10</sup>That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**Prayer:** Most gracious and wonderful God. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ for all your people who face diverse kinds of illnesses. Help them to always trust that you are stronger than any disease and that you are greater than any weakness in our bodies. Loving God we pray that your healing touch may fall upon them. In your word you assure us that by your stripes we are healed, we declare that healing in the name of Jesus Christ. We thank you Lord that you are the healer and restorer of our physical bodies. We pray for your healing touch, send your spirit to heal and free them from all illness in the almighty name of the great physician Jesus Christ.

**Memory verse:** *“He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.”* (Psalm 107:20)

### *Day 23: 24 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray for those who succumbed to Covid-19



**Bible Reading: Revelation 21:4** <sup>4</sup>‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’

**Prayer:** Loving and merciful God we lift up to you all who have lost their loved ones to the covid 19 pandemic. We pray that may you restore their broken hearts and souls. May they be comforted by your mercy and be assured of your presence in times of loss.

**Memory verse:** *“The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”* (Psalm 34:18)

### *Day 24: 25 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray for those who Work in Hospital



**Bible Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6** <sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; <sup>6</sup>in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

**Prayer:** Dear God we pray for all health care professionals that in their endeavor to help all those who suffer in illness may they find help in you. May they be assured that you are their constant help in all times.

**Memory verse:** *“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who<sup>[a]</sup> have been called according to his purpose.”* (Romans 8:28)

### *Day 25: 26 March*

**FOCUS:** Pray for the Elderly



**Bible Reading: Psalm 103:1-5** <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. <sup>2</sup> Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits- <sup>3</sup> who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, <sup>4</sup> who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion, <sup>5</sup> who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.

**Prayer:** Heavenly Father we pray for all the elderly in our community we pray that you bless them with good health and renew their strength in Jesus’s name.

**Memory verse:** “who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.”  
(Psalm 103:5)

## Day 26: 27 March

FOCUS: Pray for the Lonely



**Bible Reading: Psalm 68:4-7** <sup>4</sup>Sing to God, sing in praise of his name, extol him who rides on the clouds; rejoice before him—his name is the LORD. <sup>5</sup>A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. <sup>6</sup>God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land. <sup>7</sup>When you, God, went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness.

**Prayer:** God our omnipresent parent, take care of the lonely, neglected and rejected people. Keep them company with your infinite love.

**Memory verse:** “God sets the lonely in families, he leads out the prisoners with singing; but the rebellious live in a sun-scorched land”. (Psalm 68:6)

## Day 27: 28 March

FOCUS: Pray for those in Debt.



**Bible Reading: Deuteronomy 15:1-6** At the end of every seven years you must cancel debts. <sup>2</sup>This is how it is to be done: Every creditor shall cancel any loan they have made to a fellow Israelite. They shall not require payment from anyone among their own people, because the LORD’s time for canceling debts has been proclaimed. <sup>3</sup>You may require payment from a foreigner, but you must cancel any debt your fellow Israelite owes you. <sup>4</sup>However, there need be no poor people among you, for in the land the LORD your God is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he will richly bless you, <sup>5</sup>if only you fully obey the LORD your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today. <sup>6</sup>For the LORD your God will bless you as he has promised, and you will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. You will rule over many nations but none will rule over you.

**Prayer:** God of abundant blessings, we pray for freedom of those in financial debt, whose lives is imprisoned by debt.

**Memory verse:** “This is how it is to be done: Every creditor shall cancel any loan they have made to a fellow Israelite. They shall not require payment from anyone among their own people, because the Lord’s time for cancelling debts has been proclaimed.” (Deuteronomy 15:2)

## Day 28: 29 March

FOCUS: Pray for those who are Suffering with Depression



**Bible Reading: 1 Kings 19:1-4** Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, “May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them.” <sup>3</sup>Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, <sup>4</sup>while he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness. He

came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors."

**Prayer:** God of healing and restoration, we pray for those suffering, despair, disenchantment and bewilderment. Release your people lord from depression.

**Memory verse:** "While he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors" (1Kings 19:4)

## Day 29: 30 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for those who Lost Possessions due to Covid 19.



**Bible Reading: Joel 2:20-25** <sup>20</sup>"I will drive the northern horde far from you, pushing it into a parched and barren land; its eastern ranks will drown in the Dead Sea and its western ranks in the Mediterranean Sea. And its stench will go up; its smell will rise." Surely, he has done great things! <sup>21</sup>Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things! <sup>22</sup>Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green.

The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches. <sup>23</sup>Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before. <sup>24</sup>The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil. <sup>25</sup>"I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten-the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm-my great army that I sent among you.

**Prayer:** God of providence, God of creation, who is in creation and sustains creation. Restore what has been lost, our houses, jobs, financial security and livelihood.

**Memory verse:** "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten-the great locust and the young locust the other locusts and the locust swarm: my great army that I sent among you." (Joel 2:25)

## Day 30: 31 March

**FOCUS:** Pray for those who are Persecuted as Christians.



**Bible Reading: James 1:1-5** James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations: Greetings. Trials and Temptations <sup>2</sup>Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup>Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. <sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

**Prayer:** Holy Trinity you bestowed upon us gifts, talents, and enabled us to carry our crosses and follow you. Give us the strength to carry our crosses in the midst of suffering, pain, rejection and persecution.

**Memory verse:** "Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." (James 1:4)

## Day 31: 1 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Courage, Strength and Endurance



**Bible Reading: Jeremiah 1:6-10** <sup>6</sup>“Alas, Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

**Prayer:** God of power, strength and courage, you call us to follow you and participate in your work. Bless us with courage and endurance to be faithful to your call.

**Memory verse:** *“Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.* (Jeremiah 1:8)

## Day 32: 2 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Spiritual Wisdom and Intelligence



**Bible Reading: Proverbs 8:1-5** Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? <sup>2</sup>At the highest point along the way, where the paths meet, she takes her stand; <sup>3</sup>beside the gate leading into the city, at the entrance, she cries aloud: <sup>4</sup>“To you, O people, I call out; I raise my voice to all mankind. <sup>5</sup>You who are simple, gain prudence; you who are foolish, set your hearts on it

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ you came to dwell in our midst to and became the epitome of wisdom. We pray that as we seek to embody you, may you bless us with your wisdom and intelligence.

**Memory verse:** *“Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice?”* (Proverbs 8:1)

## Day 33: 3 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Prosperity and Success



**Bible Reading: Philippians 4:14-19** <sup>14</sup>Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles. <sup>15</sup>Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; <sup>16</sup>for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need. <sup>17</sup>Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. <sup>18</sup>I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup>And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

**Prayer:** God of all blessings, you are rich in mercy and make us prosper through your grace. Bless our attempts, aspirations, plans and ambitions to become a prosperous generation. We trust in you to fulfill our desires.

**Memory verse:** *“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 4:19)

## Day 34: 4 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Healing of the Soul, Mind and Body



**Bible Reading: John 5:1-7** Sometime later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. <sup>2</sup> Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. <sup>3</sup> Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. <sup>5</sup> One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” <sup>7</sup> “Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”

**Prayer:** Light of our lives, healer of our being, redeemer of our broken lives we come to you Lord with broken souls, mental burnout, and our frailties. Heal us with your hand of power and healing.

**Memory verse:** “At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.” (John 5:9)

## Day 35: 5 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Forgiveness and Reconciliation



**Bible Reading: Matthew 18:29-35** <sup>29</sup> “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’” <sup>30</sup> “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. <sup>32</sup> “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’” <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. <sup>35</sup> “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

**Prayer:** Holy Trinity you blessed us with the gift of forgiveness and reconciliation, instill in us your compelling spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

**Memory verse:** “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I cancelled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’” (Matthew 18:32-33)

## Day 36: 6 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for Religious Leaders



**Bible Reading: Matthew 16:13-20** <sup>13</sup> When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> They replied, “Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

**Prayer:** Spirit of the living God, you raised generations of religious and spiritual leaders for centuries. We pray for your guidance, intuition, zeal and passion among religious leaders to lead your faith communities.

**Memory verse:** “And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it” (Matthew 16:16)

### Day 37: 7 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for the resurgence of Church Witness in society



**Bible Reading: Acts 1:4-8** <sup>4</sup>On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup>For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>6</sup>Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup>He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ you called your church to follow your teachings and be witnesses of your Gospel in the world. We pray for faithful and fervent commitment of the church to your witness during, dismal, and difficult times.

**Memory verse:** “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

### Day 38: 8 April

**FOCUS:** Pray for rebuilding of Church Communities affected by Covid-19



**Bible Reading: Nehemiah 2:11-18** <sup>11</sup>I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days <sup>12</sup>I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on. <sup>13</sup>By night I went out through the Valley gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. <sup>14</sup>Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King’s Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through; <sup>15</sup>so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate. <sup>16</sup>The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work. <sup>17</sup>Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace.” <sup>18</sup>I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me.

**Prayer:** God of renewal and redemption we come to you in faith and obedience, acknowledging our sin. Restore communities of faith in our midst and give us hope for the future, and assurance of your presence.

**Memory verse:** “I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, ‘Let us start rebuilding.’ So they began this good work.” (Nehemiah 2:18)

**Day 39: 9 April**  
**FOCUS:** Pray for Peace and Unity



**Bible Reading: John 17:14-21** <sup>14</sup>I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. <sup>15</sup>My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. <sup>19</sup>For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. **Jesus Prays for All Believers** <sup>20</sup>“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, <sup>21</sup> that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus Christ upon your departure you gave us your peace and prayed your unity among disciples. Bestow your divine peace and unity in your church, communities and nations.

**Memory verse:** *“that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.” (John 17:21)*

**Day 40: 10 April**  
**FOCUS:** Pray for your Relationship with God



**Bible Reading: Psalm 1:1-6** <sup>1</sup> Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, <sup>2</sup> but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law, day and night. <sup>3</sup> That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither-whatever they do prospers. <sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. <sup>6</sup> For the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**Prayer:** Loving and compassionate Lord we long for an intimate relationship with you, our parent. Our relationship with you has been disrupted by life events and destructive activities. Rebuild and sustain it lord with your Grace.

**Memory verse:** *“That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither whatever they do prospers.” (Psalm 1:3)*

It would be awesome to get your feedback on the 40 days praying together.  
Please send an email to [nadjaa@bmc.org.za](mailto:nadjaa@bmc.org.za) with your reflections.