

St Mary's Church, Langley

Prayer Stations

Please follow the directions in red to move between the prayer points

Start at the **West Porch**

- 1** Sit and pray as you enter the church, a place of Christian worship for more than 800 years. Some come this way to celebrate – at Christian festivals, weddings and baptisms. Some will be sad – at funerals. Some may be at a crisis point or exploring faith. Pray that all those who enter will encounter the love of God, directly and through others. Welcome...

Go through the door and look up to the left

- 2 Coat of Arms.** Pray for the Royal Family, that they may use their high profile as a positive influence in the world. For the chapel of St George's, Windsor, our patrons, and its many visitors.
- 3 Bread Shelf.** This is where bread was placed for the poor of the parish. Pray for all those in poverty especially here in Slough, and for the work of the Foodbank. In the wider world, pray for the Fairtrade movement and for just trading agreements.

Turn round and face the **Statue of St Mary**

- 4** Pray for mothers and families all over the world. Pray that we might do God's will as Mary did.

Walk to the bottom of the steps to the right

- 5 Kedermister Library.** For the work of libraries and librarians everywhere and their contribution to education. For the impact of books and reading as a force for good around the world.
- 6 Family Pew.** Pray for those in authority. For our local councillors, and national and international government, for just and wise decision making.

- 7 **Pulpit.** Give thanks for 400 years of the preaching of God's word from this pulpit. Pray for our clergy and all preachers, that the Christian message may be as vibrant today as when Jesus taught.
- 8 **Books of Remembrance.** Remember with gratitude the self-sacrifice of those who gave their lives in war. Remember also those who have lived and served in this community, who are buried in this churchyard, and those who mourn their loss.

Turn to the left

- 9 **Lectern.** Pray for the impact of the Bible in all places at all times. For the work of the Bible Society, that the Holy Spirit will continue to inspire those who translate, publish and distribute the Scriptures, using forms that are relevant to each generation.

Walk through the screen

- 10 **Choir Stalls.** Pray for the use of the arts in worship and especially those who lead our worship through music throughout the parish. That all they do might lead people to know and love God more.

Move forward to the **Sanctuary.** You might like to kneel at the altar rail.

- 11 This area is the focus of our worship and the symbol of God's presence with us, the King of Kings who reigns in glory. Remember Jesus' death on the cross for us. Here we are refreshed, fed and equipped to take Jesus' love out into the world he has called us to serve.

Look up at the wall on the left

- 12 **Kedermister Memorial.** Remember the lasting contribution of Sir John Kedermister to this church. May we too leave a legacy of faith and service that draws other people to God for years to come. Pray for the generations of families that have lived in Langley and worshipped in this church, and for the current generations supporting each other.

Walk through to the North Aisle

- 13 Stained Glass Window.** Take a moment to remember Jesus' death on the cross for us.
- 14 Font.** Generations of children and adults have been baptised in this font. Pray for all those starting out on their life of faith and for parents and godparents as they guide them. Pray for all who have been baptised, especially those who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus.
- 15 Mother's Union Banner.** Give thanks for the work of the M.U. in this diocese over the last 130 years, in supporting family life. Pray for their work around the world, where they support women in dealing with issues such as HIV and the effects of climate change.

Move to the Prayer Space

- 16** Morning Prayer is said here regularly. Give thanks for the continuing witness of the church throughout the world, lifting the needs of our world to the God of the Universe. Pray for those in times of need who come to this space. That every Christian will seek God more deeply, and may support those in need through prayer and practical action.

Look at the north wall

- 17 List of Incumbents.** Give thanks for Langley clergy past and present, and pray for all who lead the church worldwide
- 18 Memorials.** Thank God for those who have lived and served in our community over the centuries.
- 19 Notice Boards.** Give thanks for the life of the churches in Langley. Pray that all our activities will be glorifying to God and grow his Kingdom here. Pray that we will be outward looking to our community and the wider world.

Move to the **North Porch**

- 20** Disabled access and toilets are part of our welcome to and provision for everyone. Pray that those living with disabilities in our community will not find that a bar to joining in and making their own contribution. Pray too that carers will find the support they need. Give thanks for the gift of clean water and sanitation, and pray for those around the world who lack these essentials.

Turn towards the **Organ Case**

- 21** The inscriptions on the outside of the organ case indicate the charities set up in the parish in the past, many of which now support the work of the present Almshouses. Give thanks for the vision and generosity of benefactors in the past, and pray that we too will have that same spirit of generosity from which future generations may benefit. Pray for the elderly that they may feel included and supported at a more frail time of life.
- 22** **Children's Corner** below the organ. Pray for all young children and their carers, that they will feel welcomed and learn together here about God's love. Pray for our Sunday Club, Crèche, Toddler Service and Jellibears Toddler Group, for those who lead and those who attend. Pray that children and families may be able to build a firm foundation of faith, that will sustain them for the rest of their lives.

Walk through to the **Vestry**

- 23** Pray for all the practical activities that go on in the vestry, giving thanks for those who serve week by week. May all that we do in and around our worship build faith and equip us to go out and serve in the name of our Saviour
- 24** **Bell Tower.** Give thanks for our faithful band of ringers. Pray that as people outside hear the bells, they may be aware of a deeper call in their lives and respond to their creator in worship.