

St Paul's Egham Hythe

Place a stone on our prayer cairn
to remember a loved one who has died

Why a prayer cairn?

Originally the piles of stones called cairns were built by people to commemorate an event or simply the passing of travellers at remote spots on mountain trails or other parts of the countryside.



We invite you to say a prayer and add a stone to our cairn to remember the life of someone you have loved – whether they died recently or a long time ago.

What do I do?



Think of the person you would like to pray for today and write their name on a stone to place on the cairn. You might like to hold the stone in your hand for a while, remembering the person and what they meant to you. The stone becomes a symbol of the love and prayer you offer.

If you like, you could pray using one of the psalms, prayers or readings on the sheet, or make up your own prayer.

Please feel free to place a stone for each person you would like to remember.

Psalms and Readings

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters; He restores my soul. He leads me in right path for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Psalm 116

Gracious is the Lord and just; Yes, our God is merciful.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

The Lord keeps the little ones; I was brought low and God saved me.

I believed, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"; I said in my alarm, "No man is dependable".

Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. O Lord, I am your servant, You have loosed my bonds.



Romans 8:35, 38- 39

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 14:1-3

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance...

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”



Prayers you might like to use

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

A Thanksgiving prayer

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
you have blessed everyone who knew (name.....)
God our Father, we thank you now for their life,
for every memory of love and joy,
for every good deed
and every sorrow they shared with us.
Thank you for their life and
thank you for the rest in Christ they now enjoy.
Thank you for giving them to us,
and thank you for the glory we shall share together.
In the name of Jesus. Amen.

When we are grieving

Dear Lord, thank you that there is healing in your presence. I call on your name asking for the Holy Spirit to come near and touch me with your healing balm. I release my sorrow to you, and I ask you to fill every void in my heart with your peace and love. Thank you for (name.....'s) life on earth and for the time I had with them. I entrust them to your love and care, in your holy name. Amen.