



Prayer Ministry at St Barnabas

Why?

At St Barnabas' we believe in the power of prayer to change things and so we simply bring our concerns – large or small - to God and ask for his help.

Jesus said, "Where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them." (Matthew 18:12) With this in mind, we have formed a small team of people who will pray with those who would like someone to pray with them.

Where?

We have set aside an area of the church near the front on the left for this ministry in the hope that it will feel accessible but private.

When?

At least two team members will make themselves available in this area after the morning service each week. If you would like prayer and someone is already being prayed with, you can either wait until they are finished or you can approach another member of the team and ask if they will pray with you.

How?

You may wish to talk about the reason for wanting to pray but you do not have to. The main point of this time is to invite the Holy Spirit to meet us in our need and work in our lives.

Sometimes the prayer will be silent; St Paul wrote, “For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express. (Romans 8:26). Also it may help to remember that listening is an important part of prayer.

You may find that those praying with you talk about words or pictures that come into their minds during the prayer time or you may find that this happens to you yourself. Welcome these thoughts as they may be part of God’s answer to your prayer but treat them with caution – if they are from God then he will make that clear in time and you do not need to do anything in haste.

Occasionally people may pray in words you do not understand and that do not seem to make sense. This is simply a way of praying from the heart when you can't find the right words. Feel free to ask about this after the prayer time if you want to know more.

Confidentiality

Anything you say to a member of the team will be treated as strictly confidential. It will not be discussed with anyone – including other team members or the Vicar.

The only exception to this would be if we felt that someone’s life was at immediate risk and we would tell you if we were going to pass information on to a third party in those circumstances.

By law, we are also required to pass on information about terrorist acts and any threats to children or vulnerable adults.

