



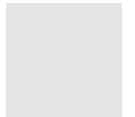
*CHRISM 14*

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***Prayer Diary for  
People at Work***

***CHRistians In Secular Ministry***

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## ***Praying for the World of Work***

CHRISM's purpose is: 'to help ourselves and others to celebrate the presence of God and the holiness of life in our work, and to see and tell the Christian story there'. The daily work that each of us carries out is part of our service to God – our vocation, our contribution to building his kingdom.

A major part of our task as MSEs is to help our work colleagues and the members of our congregations realise this and rejoice in it. We have a mission to support everyone by prayer and encouragement in all the different circumstances of their working lives, whether this is creativity, drudgery, decision-making, service, risk-taking, set process or individual initiative, working under direction or taking the lead, seizing an opportunity or dreading the future. When our parish clergy colleagues share this understanding, we are all liberated from valuing church members predominantly in terms of the work they do for 'the church'.

We have derived the prayer diary below from a detailed list of occupations maintained by the underwriters in a large life insurance company. It has been edited to make it reasonably gender-neutral, although a few descriptions have foiled us completely – if anyone can come up with a one- or two-word alternative for 'banksman' (person who helps road or rail vehicles to manoeuvre safely), please let us know. We have been assured that the Harbour Master qualification has been obtained by men and women. If you find that your own occupation, or one in which you have a particular interest, isn't on the list, we apologise. It won't be because that job doesn't need praying for. It is probably simply because the insurance company has never had to insure someone who did it.

'Work' covers an extraordinarily diverse range of activities, most of which never make it into an intercession list or cycle of prayer. Doctors, nurses, teachers, social and community workers, the police and aid workers feature regularly, but when did you last hear prayers (or pray yourself) for crane drivers, loss adjusters or roustabouts?

This prayer diary lists a different occupation for each day of the year, both as a focus for prayer and as a stimulus for thought about how each role fits into the complex network of activities which make up our everyday world. Looking at the list as a whole gives a wonderful impression of the glory and variety of creation, of the world in which box-office clerks, farmers and musicians labour alongside breakdown recovery patrols, stockbrokers and roofers to keep us all fed, housed, transported, informed and entertained. The sugar-beet cutter and slicer (November 24<sup>th</sup>), the HGV driver (July 10<sup>th</sup>) and the retail worker (April 16<sup>th</sup>) all make an essential contribution to marmalade, and the linesman (November 28<sup>th</sup>), gas engineer (May 8<sup>th</sup>) and glass worker (April 18<sup>th</sup>) ensure there is light to read the recipe, heat to boil the juice and jam jars for the end result.

There will be many ways to use the diary. We offer it as a catalyst, and hope that it will generate interest, prayer, enthusiasm and thanksgiving for the glorious web of work in which we and our colleagues engage each day.

## ***Daily Prayer Diary: The World of Work***

### ***January***

1	Abattoir Worker	2	Bouncer	3	Laboratory Technician
4	Call Centre Worker	5	Lathe Operator	6	Cycle Repairer
7	Foreman	8	Accountant	9	Box Office Clerk
10	Labourer	11	Candle Maker	12	Machine Operator
13	Debt Collector	14	Forester	15	Acrobat
16	Brakesman	17	Landlord	18	Canvasser
19	Make-Up Artist	20	Pawnbroker	21	Fork Lift Operator
22	Actor	23	Breakdown Recovery Patrol	24	Car Breaker
25	Technician	26	Manager	27	Deck Hand
28	Radiographer	29	Actuary	30	Breeder
31	Laundry Worker				

## ***February***

1	Car Hire Operator	2	Telephonist	3	Decorator
4	RAF personnel	5	Acupuncturist	6	Foundry Worker
7	Timber Merchant	8	Car Park Attendant	9	Thatcher
10	Delivery Driver	11	Rag and Bone Dealer	12	Advertising Executive
13	Fraud Investigator	14	Lawyer	15	Car Salesman
16	Market Research Interviewer	17	Demonstrator	18	Railway Worker
19	Aerial Erector	20	French Polisher	21	Lecturer
22	Care Assistant	23	Market Worker	24	Dentist
25	Aerobics Instructor	26	Receptionist	27	Funeral Director, Grave Digger
28	Letting Agent	29	Occasional and Seasonal Workers		

## ***March***

1	Careers Adviser	2	Stonemason	3	Designer
4	Referee	5	Agent	6	Power Engineer
7	Librarian	8	Caretaker	9	Masseur
10	Despatcher	11	Removals Worker	12	Aid Worker
13	Gallery Assistant	14	Tour Guide	15	Carpenter
16	Mechanic	17	Diamond Worker	18	Repairer
19	Air Traffic Controller	20	Gamekeeper	21	Toy Maker
22	Carpet Fitter	23	Metal Worker	24	Dietician
25	Reporter	26	Airline Cabin Crew	27	Gardener
28	Tractor Driver	29	Catering Staff	30	Meteorologist
31	Director				

## ***April***

1	Clown, Comedian	2	Rescue Worker	3	Airport Worker
4	Geographer	5	Traffic Warden	6	CCTV Operator
7	Meter Reader	8	Distiller	9	Researcher
10	Ambulance Crew	11	Geologist	12	Train Driver, Guard
13	Chauffeur	14	Midwife	15	Diver
16	Retail Worker	17	Doctor	18	Glass Worker
19	Travel Agent	20	Chemical Worker	21	Miner
22	Dock Worker	23	Textile Worker	24	Amusement Arcade Worker
25	Glazier	26	Treasurer	27	Chemist
28	Munitions Worker	29	Riveter	30	Analyst

## ***May***

1	Graphic Designer	2	Tree Surgeon	3	Chimney Sweep
4	Museum Attendant	5	Double Glazing Fitter	6	Roofer
7	Antique Dealer	8	Gas Engineer	9	Tunneller
10	Chiropodist	11	Musician	12	Drayman
13	Roustabout	14	Apiarist	15	Groom
16	Chiropractor, Osteopath	17	Typist	18	Navigator
19	Draughtsman	20	Tiler	21	Arbitrator
22	Haberdasher	23	Tyre Repairer	24	Chocolatier
25	Navy and Royal Marine Personnel	26	Driving Instructor	27	Animal Welfare Worker
28	Archaeologist	29	Gunsmith	30	Umpire
31	Choreographer Dancer				



## ***June***

1	Nurse	2	Dry Cleaner	3	Saddler
4	Architect	5	Hairdresser	6	Underwriter
7	Civil Servant	8	Nursery Assistant	9	Refuse collector
10	Safety Officer	11	Archivist	12	Cleaner
13	Usher, Verger	14	Claims Assessor	15	Occupational Therapist
16	Ecologist	17	Sales Representative	18	Venture Capitalist
19	Handyperson	20	Oil Refinery Worker	21	Army Personnel
22	Harbour Master	23	Economist	24	Salvage Worker
25	Aromatherapist	26	Haulier	27	Veterinary Surgeon
28	Lavatory Attendant	29	Optician	30	Editor

## *July*

1	Scaffolder	2	Artist	3	Health Visitor
4	Waiter	5	Clerical Worker	6	Park Keeper
7	Electrician	8	Schools Inspector	9	Asbestos Worker
10	Heavy Goods Vehicle Driver	11	Employee Relations Officer	12	Watchmaker, Jeweller
13	Coach Builder	14	Pathologist	15	Scientist
16	Auctioneer	17	Helicopter Crew	18	Water Board Official
19	Coal Merchant	20	Deck Chair Attendant	21	Stable Hand
22	Tailor	23	Auditor	24	Historian
25	Coastguard	26	Peat Digger	27	Engineer
28	Secretary	29	Author, Writer	30	Crane Driver, Hoist Operator
31	Weaver				

## ***August***

1	Commentator	2	Pest Control Operator	3	Engraver
4	Security Guard	5	Bailiff	6	Home Help
7	Welder	8	Commissionaire	9	Photographer
10	Entertainer	11	Sewage Worker	12	Baker
13	Riding Instructor	14	Welfare Worker	15	Community Worker
16	Physiotherapist	17	Entrepreneur	18	Shipbuilder
19	Bank Staff	20	Domestic staff	21	Wheel Clamper
22	Computer Analyst, Programmer	23	Piano Tuner	24	Environmental Health Officer
25	Shipping Clerk	26	Banksman	27	Human Resources Staff
28	Window Cleaner	29	Computer Engineer	30	Pilot
31	Estate Agent				

## ***September***

1	Shoe Maker	2	Bar Worker	3	Hydrologist
4	Window Fitter	5	Conference Organiser	6	Plasterer
7	Exporter	8	Barber	9	Hygienist
10	Administrator	11	Conservationist	12	Plumber
13	Factory Worker	14	Shop Steward	15	Bargee
16	Hypnotherapist	17	X-Ray Operator	18	Construction Worker
19	Police Officer	20	Farmer, Farm Worker	21	Sign Maker
22	Beautician	23	Ice Cream Manufacturer	24	Yacht Crew
25	Conveyancer	26	Politician	27	Fashion Designer
28	Social Worker	29	Bell Ringer	30	Immigration Officer

## ***October***

1	Youth Worker	2	Cooper	3	Postal Worker
4	Fashion Model	5	Speech Therapist	6	Bench Hand
7	Inspector	8	Zookeeper	9	Copywriter
10	Potter	11	Fencing Contractor	12	Shoe Repairer
13	Sports Coach	14	Bill Poster	15	Interpreter
16	Zoologist	17	Coroner	18	Press Officer
19	Ferry Operator	20	Toll Booth Operator	21	Bingo Caller
22	Interviewer	23	Brewery Worker	24	Correspondent
25	Printer	26	Film Director	27	Steeplejack
28	Blacksmith	29	Inventor	30	Broadcaster
31	Counsellor				

## ***November***

1	Prison Officer	2	Financial Planner	3	Stockbroker
4	Boat Builder	5	Iron and Steel Worker	6	Broom Maker
7	Critic	8	Project Manager	9	Firefighter
10	Stuntman	11	Boat Hire Operator	12	IT Consultant
13	Bus Driver, Conductor	14	Crossword Compiler	15	Proof Reader
16	First Aid Instructor	17	Submariner	18	Boatswain
19	Janitor	20	Ticket Inspector	21	Lifeboat Crew
22	Psychiatrist	23	Fish and Chip Shop Worker	24	Sugar Beet Cutter and Slicer
25	Bodyguard	26	Journalist	27	Business Consultant
28	Linesman	29	Psychologist	30	Fisherman

## ***December***

1	Surgeon	2	Boiler Operator	3	Judge
4	Butcher	5	Livestock Dealer	6	Quarry Worker
7	Fitter	8	Surveyor	9	Bookmaker
10	Kennel Hand	11	Butler	12	Lock Keeper
13	Quartermaster	14	Flooring Contractor	15	Tax Inspector
16	Boom Operator	17	Kiln Worker	18	Buyer
19	Locksmith	20	Radar Operator	21	Food Process Worker
22	Taxi Driver	23	Botanist	24	Knitter
25	Workers in essential services	26	Retail Sales Staff	27	Loss Adjuster
28	Cadet, Apprentice	29	Customs Officer	30	Football Manager
31	Teacher				

**CHRISM is the  
National Association of  
CHRistians In Secular Ministry**

for **all** Christians who see their secular employment as their primary Christian ministry, and for those who support that vision.

To further this aim, CHRISM publishes a quarterly Journal, releases occasional papers and organises an annual retreat.

Conferences are held regularly and worldwide links pursued.

**CHRISM** welcomes members, both lay and ordained, from all Christian denominations, encourages them to be active within their own faith communities and to champion ministry in and through secular employment.

**Further information may be obtained from the website:**

**[www.chrism.org.uk](http://www.chrism.org.uk)**

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