

PRAYING FRIENDS – GUIDELINES

PCC of Southbourne with West Thorney

PURPOSE

To pray for the needs of members of the church family (including weekday groups such as Craft Club, Coffee Connect etc.) and their immediate family.

Membership is restricted to the worshipping church family at St John's and St Nicholas'. If a member of the group moves away they will be removed from the list within approximately 6 months.

Praying Friends messages are moderated to ensure that they comply with these guidelines. Not complying with the guidelines will delay the posting of your prayer request.

When you receive a request

- Pray for as long as you feel called to do so, or until an update is posted.
- All requests are confidential; please do not discuss them with others or forward messages. Data privacy regulations mean that **Praying Friends requests must not be shared outside of the praying friends group**. This means that requests cannot be shared with the wider church community or used in intercessions within a service without the consent of those being prayed for.
- Please delete Praying Friends requests when they are no longer needed – either after you have prayed, when an update is received or when prayer is no longer required.

When posting a request

- **If you are requesting prayer for another person(s) it is important that you have their permission(s) to share the prayer request with Praying Friends; please make this consent clear in your request.** In the case of individuals under 16 years of age, you must show the consent of a parent or guardian. If it is not possible to obtain the person's permission, eg because they are incapable due to illness, you must obtain the consent of the carers/ guardian/ next of kin to share the request with Praying Friends.
- Keep requests brief and to the point. Please choose your wording carefully so that the need is clear, but those reading are not overwhelmed by detail. The aim is to give enough information, so that recipients can pray intelligently. Please include the words Praying Friends, the name of the person prayer is requested for and, if necessary, your relationship to this person, for example, *Praying Friends: Joe Bloggs, Annie Bloggs' nephew.*
- When appropriate, please send an update so we can continue to pray for a specific need.
- **Please send news of answered prayer – God is good!**

To join Praying Friends please contact Rob and Sarah Page pages4@btinternet.com and confirm you have read these guidelines.