



August 2004

Week 1. Mission

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'My prayer is not for them alone.

I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you.

May they also be in us that the world may believe that you have sent me.

I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one.

I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me'

JOHN 17:20-23

Thank you to Revd Terry Tennens, Work Dynamics who shares these thoughts about the inspirational St Cedd:

'St.Cedd's story begins in Northumbria with his three brothers who were adopted by Aidan into the monastery at Lindisfarne. As young boys they were taught the Gospels, the Psalms, to read and write and to preach and were ordained as missionary priests.

1. Reaching out to society

St Cedd first learnt to be a missionary in Mercia. Then the King of the East Saxons wanted a similar mission, it was Cedd and one other who sailed down the North Sea, in a little small sailing boat and found the remains of a Roman fort. In AD 654 they built a monastery. Within a year they established Christian communities in Mersea, Prittlewell, Upminster and Tilbury. So successful was he, that he was recalled to Lindisfarne after one year and consecrated bishop of the East Saxons.

The Celtic missionaries did not complicate their message. They came saying simply:

'we see that you are reaching out to your gods with your own spirituality. We have come to introduce you to the God who reaches out back to you, the one who came as Jesus, who loved the world so much he was even prepared to die for us all'.

2. Reaching out to the Church

Cedd's real place in history came as the interpreter of the great Synod of

Whitby AD664. Where the continental approach to faith which was organised, structured and managed by Rome pitted against the Celtic which was free, spontaneous, trusting, and local. Cedd was trusted by both sides and he spoke Irish and Latin.

Bede the historian, likens Cedd to the Holy Spirit at Pentecost who enabled different peoples from different backgrounds to understand the Apostle Peter.

Today we need bridge-builders in the Church to assist in different groups to discover the heart of God in one another. Unity is at the heart of God.

3. Reaching out to God

Cedd went to establish an Abbey at Lastingham in Yorkshire. Before he laid a single stone, Cedd fasted for 40 days, eating each day only watered milk, some bread and an egg. He spent those days praying and claiming the ground for Christ. Which he did!

Cedd travelled both the internal road of his relationship with God through prayer and fasting, and also the external road of leading and serving others towards God.

A three pronged life:

- Reaching out to people with the message of hope in Christ
- Reaching out to those in the church with a message of love and unity.
- Reaching out within our own souls to God alone who can satisfy and fill us with his own very full Holy Spirit'



Week 2. Holiday clubs

During August some congregations in Colchester and surrounding villages will provide holiday clubs for school age children. Let's support these initiatives in prayer.

Please pray:

- For safety, fun and lots of energy for the adults!
- For seeds to be planted – for children to move on in their journey

to faith

- For children to be touched by love of God for the first time
- For the Gospel to be proclaimed clearly :
Colossians 4:4, Romans 1:16, Proverbs 8:35, 2 Corinthians 3:17
- For impact of God's love on the schools and the local community

- Families – during holiday time when there is sometimes increased pressure on the family unit, pray for whole families to be transformed by love of God
- For opportunities to pray with the children and their families and for God to reveal Himself to them
- For good weather!

Journey Into Wholeness (JIW)

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Christian training and outreach to "New Age" spiritual seekers

This years Mind, Body and Soul Exhibition is on:

25th + 26th September. JIW will have a stall to offer prayer and help to seekers.

Please pray for:

1. Love, vision and unity, and for Jesus to be glorified.

2. Practical and inspiring workshops on 10th and 11th Sept to equip the JIW Team and others interested in effective outreach to spiritual seekers.
3. The Committee, prayer supporters, stand workers, and prayer walkers ~ for wisdom, revelation and protection
4. Production of good literature
5. Inspiration for a new venture, "Life Mapping" ~ presenting how God guides, including use

of prophetic prayer.

6. Provision and support of a dynamic and effective prayer room during the Mind, Body, Soul weekend.
7. Good contacts and divine appointments
8. God's provision.
9. For those praying, supporting, working, for materials, equipment and finance.

Thank you

CYO news

Now that schools have finished for the summer the team are having a bit of a break and also spending time on a few other youth projects.

DJ leaves CYO this month after working with us for eight years. At the time of writing he is still looking for a new job. Please join us in praying for God's best for him.

2nd August CYO Board and Trustees meet. This meeting, the last of the current financial year, will be making some big decisions about CYO's management and ministry in the

forthcoming year.

Please pray for:

- shared vision,
- lots of wisdom
- clear sense of God's leading.

3 – 6 August. Kingsland Holiday Club. Tim & Collective are working with the 11's-13's Please pray for Collective as they get stuck into this amazing opportunity to spend a whole week making God known to young people from the west Colchester area.

5 August SoundNation Café, Prettygate, with Collective The café continues through the

summer. This evening is a special which will link to the Holiday Club – we trust that many new young people will start attending the café and will make a serious commitment to Christ as a result.

9 – 13 August Collective are in Manchester learning new songs. As well as learning new songs, the team have to learn new dance routines and will be recording a single which can be sold at events.

They will also be working with Innervation Trust at a number of festivals over the summer to promote the work.

Week 3. Feedback

It has been so encouraging this month to receive so much feedback from those praying on the prayernet.

Jeremiah 18

The Potter's house. Sense of God's desire and purpose for Colchester to be redeemed. That we can ask God to call Colchester back into it's original purpose and design in Jesus name.

Jeremiah 9; 23-24

"Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom, or the strong man boast of his strength, or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness upon the earth, for in these I delight, says the Lord."

I believe God is saying that we in Colchester have gloried in our ancient town (wisdom?), in the strength of our army (strength) and in our industries - from Flemish weavers through to Paxman's etc. - (riches) He seeks us to glory in Him alone; our only pride should be that He is Lord over our town.

Galatians 6; 14 *'may I never boast except in the cross of Christ'*,

'Declare the vision of Jesus over Colchester: Rev 1:12

- *"Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lamp stands;"*

Thank God that right now the Lord Jesus is walking among the different expressions of the church in Colchester and seeing the situation with perfect clarity

- *"And in the middle of the lamp stands I saw one like a son of man, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and*

girded across His chest with a golden sash."

Thank God that Jesus came as a high priest for the whole world carrying the names of all the tribes of the earth over his heart and dying for the sins of us all, and all our tribes and nations

- *"His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire."*

Declare that Jesus has received the kingdom and dominion of the whole earth from the ancient of days like in Daniel 7:14

- *"His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters."*

Declare that everything that has opposed him has only refined and strengthened his position, and that it is only a matter of time before the earth is filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea

- *"In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength."*

Declare that the angelic hosts, the prophetic word of God, and the revelation of Jesus, overcome every spirit and idolatry at work

- *"When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man. And He placed His right hand on me, saying, "Do not be afraid"*

In prayer, place every family, every leader, politician, every government, and military command underneath the feet of Jesus.

- *"I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades."*

Declare that only Jesus and his kingdom can overcome unbelief,

fear, suicide, false religion and every cause of pain and suffering of this world and bring peace and justice to our town and Nation.

God is showing us the authority we now have to pray for our town. We are united in prayer and *'If my people who are called by my name (the Church) would humble themselves and pray. Then I will hear from Heaven and forgive their sins and heal their land.*

We see in the next few months the opportunity to pray for the healing of Colchester both with Russ Parker and SSFR. Let's join our church leaders as they ask God to heal wounded history in this place. Ask God to forgive this town for all her wrong doing and bring His cleansing, healing power.

All of Psalm 24

Bad weather led to Spurgeon changing his plans. He found himself in an environment where he heard and responded to the gospel message. Sense that we need to be praying for God to use events to get people in a place to hear and respond to the Gospel.

People travelled down the river to establish business and trade in Colchester. Pray that what flows out from this town will bless others

And finally a promise to Colchester Prayernet?
Galatians 6; 7 - 10 especially verse 9, *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."*

Week 4. STAND Project

The STAND project - a strategy to Tackle All Night-time Disorder—is a joint initiative between The Colchester Town Partnership and Colchester Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. In September 2003, Urban Cultures were asked to carry out an intensive study of Colchester's evening and night-time economy. You can obtain a full copy of this report by contacting the Town Partnership.

For many residents the night-time economy is a source of disturbance and nuisance.

Fear is a real problem for many.

The Strategy for managing the evening and night-time economies seeks to lessen the dominance of young drinkers and the venues they frequent, reduce the dead period early evening and re-establish a diverse range of activities making the centre attractive to the general public. It seeks to reduce fear.

We want to support the work of

the Town Partnership as part of our prayer for the town.

We thank God for:

- Town Partnership Chief Executive Chris Rawlinson and her team working to make Colchester a better place to be
- The police force and other crime prevention agencies
- Their vision and determination to implement agreed strategy

We pray for:

- Creative ways to manage the night-time economy
- A reduction in fear, criminal activity. A feeling of safety.
- The establishment of an alcohol free venue within the town centre
- CO1 Youth Café. A new venture to be opened in Holy Trinity Church (Trinity St) in the centre of town. This will provide a safe meeting place for teenagers and young people. During the daytime it will be

open to shoppers and visitors.

Please continue to pray for:

1. Simon Taylor as he works to establish this project.
2. Finances. £30,000 is needed to get this project started.
3. The Trustees as they seek to promote Christianity as a relevant part of today's culture

Last month Tim Abbott and myself met with Chris Rawlinson to talk about the use of a town centre shop for 24/7 prayer. This was a very positive meeting and we have provisionally booked a week leading up to Christmas for this.

Please pray for:

- Increased opportunities to partner together for the sake of this town
- The provision of a shop
- Continued positive relationships to develop as we seek to serve in whatever way we can

Friends International (COSCI)

Friends International

Colchester (COSCI) would value prayer for the Summer programme for Pre-sessional students which has already begun! Praise for:

- The good trip to Clacton on July 17th
- The warm reception of St Paul's church members as they gave the new students a lovely English tea!
- Several students attending the Visa Bible study course on Wednesdays.
- Growing attendance at the All nations on Sundays at

4.30 pm. on campus.

Please pray for:

- people to help with Tea and Talking every Tuesday from 7.30- 9 pm.
- helpers to help with the trips organised to the BBQ on the 7th August to Tiptree.
- stamina and strength for all the FI/COSCI team!

Pray that many good friendships will be built up during the summer which will lead to students coming to know Christ as their Saviour. Many thanks from Joan

If you can help with transport for

the trips or help with Tea and Talking e-mail Joan Davies at : cosci@essex.ac.uk or ring her on 862070.

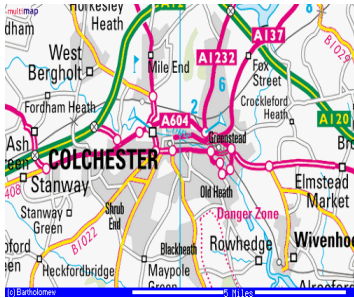
If you receive scriptures and/or direction as we pray please feedback to Colchester prayernet.

We can then either forward your comments to those we have prayed for, or pray further by including it in the next prayer guide.

Thank you to those who faithfully share with us each month



1, Lodge Court
West Bergholt
Colchester



24 Hour Prayer for Colchester

Thank you for your continued commitment to pray with others on the Colchester Prayernet (CPn). Please keep in contact by writing or emailing:

- **admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk** with feedback, requests etc.
- **info@colchesterprayernet.co.uk** if you would like more information to share with your congregation or would like me to speak with your Minister about CPn.
- **admin@colchesterprayernet.co.uk** if you would like to borrow books or tapes from the CPn library
- **watchman @colchesterprayernet.co.uk** for information

Please check out the Colchester Prayernet web site at:

- **www.colchesterprayernet.co.uk** We hope to develop this further with links to other sites such as CYO, TBN, Alpha etc and also to united church events in the town. Please tell us what you think!

Future prayer events

ALPHA PRAYER MEETING

On behalf of Alpha in Essex there will be five Beacon Prayer Meetings across the county.

There will be one covering the Colchester and Tendering Districts on: **10th September** at **St Johns Church**, Ipswich Road Colchester.

The evening will start at 7 pm with light refreshments and the meeting will begin at 7:30pm finishing by 9 pm.

The aim is to provide an opportunity to pray for the national Alpha Invitation promotion, and for the Colchester and Tendering communities. We will have a snap shot of what is going on and then pray.

150 churches across Colchester and Tendering have been invited to this prayer event. **All are welcome please put this date in your diary!**

Other Prayer Events

The 'Seeking God's Blessing for Colchester' Steering group have invited Russ Parker to Colchester. Russ will be spending the day with Ministers and other

Christian leaders on **October 6th 2004.**

Russ Parker is best known for his teaching, book, and prayer ministry 'Healing Wounded History'. He will encourage us and help us to pray more effectively for our town.

'Sowing Seeds For Revival' (SSFR) Dates:

17th—20th November 2004

A further opportunity for us to unite and gather to pray for the town. Colchester Prayernet in partnership with Kingsland Equipping Track have invited Martin Scott (SSFR) and a prayer team to visit us.

There will be times of corporate prayer, some teaching and some on-site praying and prayer walking. We hope to build on the work of Russ Parker and the many years of prayer for the land and people of Colchester. All are welcome to this event. For more details please contact Teresa at Colchester Prayernet.

PRAYER BREAKFASTS:
No Prayer Breakfast in August

A week of prayer 24/7

Provisional dates:

Weds 15th Dec 2004 - Weds 22nd December (Inc.)

Following on from the very positive meeting Tim Abbott and myself had with the Town Centre manager Chris Rawlinson we have provisionally booked the above week of prayer to be held in one of the empty shops in the town centre.

We are very excited to be able to launch this alongside the Town Partnerships Christmas activities. Please continue to pray for this event and pop the dates in your diary too!

Please ask God to help us as we continue to unite in prayer and action for the sake of our town.

Other dates:

Journey Into Wholeness

Prayer meeting: Mount Zion Salvation Army, Ipswich Rd
Mon 2nd Aug. at 8.15 pm
Mon 20th Sept. at 8.00 pm
Prayer training for exhibition: Mount Zion.
Fri 10th Sept. 7.30 pm-10 pm and Sat 11th Sept.