

Prayer Ministry at St Peter's and St Paul's

What is Prayer Ministry?

Prayer ministry is ministering the love and power of Jesus directly to someone, to bring healing and wholeness of mind, body and spirit. It's what Jesus did and he commanded his disciples and all Christians to do what he did in his name. And this continues across the Church today.

Healing can range from physical to inner/emotional healing or healing from past traumas. God loves to see his people healed and set free to flourish and we love to partner with him in this.

Who is Prayer Ministry for and How can I access it?

Prayer ministry is for everyone to receive, for all ages and all issues. You may be moved to seek prayer by something said in one of our services or just have a sense of needing to come to Jesus for healing. At St Peter's and St Paul's prayer ministry is available in a variety of ways:

- At Sunday Services via an experienced dedicated prayer ministry team.
- In children and young people's groups by their leaders.
- Via the Pastoral Care Team or Vicar
- Via Lifegroups.

What should I Expect?

- The person praying will introduce themselves and ask your name, if not known, and what you want Jesus to do for you. If you are new to this type of prayer, they will explain what to expect.
- They will stand or sit slightly to the side and in front of you and will ask if they can lay a hand on your shoulder or head. Its OK to say no as well as yes.
- They will then invite the Spirit of God to come and wait for His presence.
- Waiting can seem strange but is quite normal and during this time the person praying will be silently asking God what he wants to do and how to pray.
- They will then pray taking account of your need and how the Holy Spirit is leading them.
- If it's a physical condition, they may ask if they can lay a hand on the location of the issue, but not anywhere that might be deemed inappropriate, and will speak healing directly to the condition.
- They may sensitively share with you a word, picture, or scripture they believe may be from God and test it with you to see if it resonates or is not applicable. *All words and pictures shared should support Biblical truth and encourage you, not rebuke, correct, or direct you.*
- They may ask you what if anything you feel Jesus is doing or saying to help them pray for you.
- When appropriate they will bring ministry to a close by thanking God for all He is doing in you and for His unconditional everlasting love.
- If you receive physical healing, you should not stop medication without agreement of your doctor.

Prayer Ministry with Children and Young People:

- If undertaken, this will usually take place in their groups by the Children/Youth group leaders.
- A shorter more age-appropriate model will be used for younger children.
- Where words or pictures etc are received, these will be shared and talked through with the parent/guardian not directly with the child.
- Ministry may occasionally take place outside their groups. Wherever possible trained Children & Young People leaders will pray, but where not available the prayer ministry team will do so.

We would love to pray with you. We will only share what has been discussed and prayed for where required to do so for legal and safeguarding reasons in line with our Safeguarding Policy. If you have any questions please do speak to Steve Webster, Sally Minnett or Vicar Johnny.

A Policy and Core Model document has been approved by the PCC, setting out more detailed guidance for those praying, including specific safeguarding guidance related to Prayer Ministry.