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**Guided Walk around Long Crendon for Rogation Day**

For over 1000 years, people have kept up the tradition of ‘Rogation’ - walking around the boundary of the parish and asking for God’s blessing on the land and the people working on it. Today, we can pray for the health and work of the whole community, as we take this circular walk through our village.

At certain points along the way, there will be a chance to:

1. Read a short verse from the Bible,
2. Reflect on an aspect of village life, and
3. Pray.

*Don’t forget bring a snack which forms part of reflection along the way!*

**The Route**

From the Recreation Ground; along the High Street to St Mary’s; back up to Chilton Rd; along the footpaths beyond Carters Lane to Lower End; and down Bicester Rd to The Square.

You can pick up the walk wherever you like.

**As you leave your house**

***Pray:***

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come;

thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

**Number 1 – Stop in the Recreation Ground**

***Read****:* Such a large crowd of witnesses is all around us! So we must get rid of everything that slows us down, especially the sin that just won’t let go. And we must be determined to run the race that is ahead of us. [Heb 12:1]

***Reflect****:* Look around at all the places to play, rest, meet, and worship – how many can you think of?

***Pray:***

Lord Jesus,

We thank you for all the clubs and community services which enrich our village.

We pray for their leaders & volunteers, their finances, and all who are missing them.

And we thank you for our parish council and local government.

Grant them wisdom to guide us through this crisis. Amen.

*Walk through the Rec, and turn left into the High Street*

**Number 2 – Stop at the Doctors’ Surgery**

***Read:***Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. [Joshua 1:9]

***Reflect:***Paint a rainbow with your fingers – for each stripe, name of a different category of key worker.

***Pray:***

God of hope,

we commend to your protection all healthcare professionals and key workers

who are putting themselves at risk as they attend to the needs of other people:

as we thank them for their courage and compassion,

we pray that your Holy Spirit will support and encourage them,

especially at times of physical or emotional exhaustion,

that they may know the strength of your healing love.

We ask this for your tender mercy’s sake. Amen.

**Number 3 – As you continue to walk along the High Street**

***Read*:** Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God [Philippians 4:6]

***Reflect:*** Think about your own work and life at home – what’s good and what’s tough?

**Number 4 – Stop in St Mary’s Churchyard**

***Read:*** For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. [John 3:16]

***Reflect:*** Stand as still and quiet as you can – what can you hear?

***Pray:***

God of compassion,
We commend all who have died into your loving care.

Be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their darkness, be their light;
Through him who suffered alone on the cross, but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Walk up to Chearsley Rd, then back towards Chilton Rd*

**Number 5 – As you walk up Chilton Rd**

***Read:***Give thanks in all circumstances. [1 Thessalonians 5: 18]

***Reflect:***Think of as many things as you can to say thank you for.

**Number 6 – Stop outside the School Gates**

***Read:*** Jesus took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them. [Mark 10:16]

***Reflect:***What do you miss about school?

***Pray:***

Lord Jesus

We pray for our school and pre-schools.

For children learning at home or without their friends.

For teachers and staff to remain healthy and strong for us.

And for parents learning to teach at home.

Please hold them all in your arms and bless them.

Amen

*Continue up Chilton Rd, and take the footpath on the left just past Seven Acres. Turn left into the field at the end.*

**Number 7 – Stop at the top of the field, looking downhill to the fields beyond the village**

***Read:***The Lord will indeed give all that is good. And our land will yield its increase. [Psalm 85:12]

***Reflect:***Eat your snack!

***Pray:***

Almighty God

We thank you for the food we have to eat.

We pray for the safety of farmers and food producers.

And for the right amount of rain and sunshine for the crops and livestock to thrive.

Amen

*Continue downhill, through the gates at the bottom, and along the footpath to Lower End (Bicester Rd).*

**Number 8 - As you walk along Bicester Rd towards The Square**

***Read:***Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us - and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work of our hands! [Psalm 90:17]

***Reflect:*** Spot as many shops, services, and businesses as you can

***Pray:*** Say a single word of blessing for each of them as you walk past:

(Eg. Strength, Courage, Security, Peace, Provision, Favour, Life, Health, Safety, Protection)

**Number 9 – Stop in The Square**

***Read:***Jesus said: ‘Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest’. [Matthew 11:28]

***Reflect:***Look around at the shops and places to eat which serve us. Think of the other ones in the village you haven’t walked past.

***Pray:***

The Lord bless you, and keep you.
Make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn his face towards you, and give you peace

In the morning, in the evening,
In your coming, and your going,
In your weeping, and rejoicing,
He is for you, He is for you.

Amen

*Walk back towards the War Memorial, briefly up Chearsley Rd, and turn right into the Recreation Ground.*