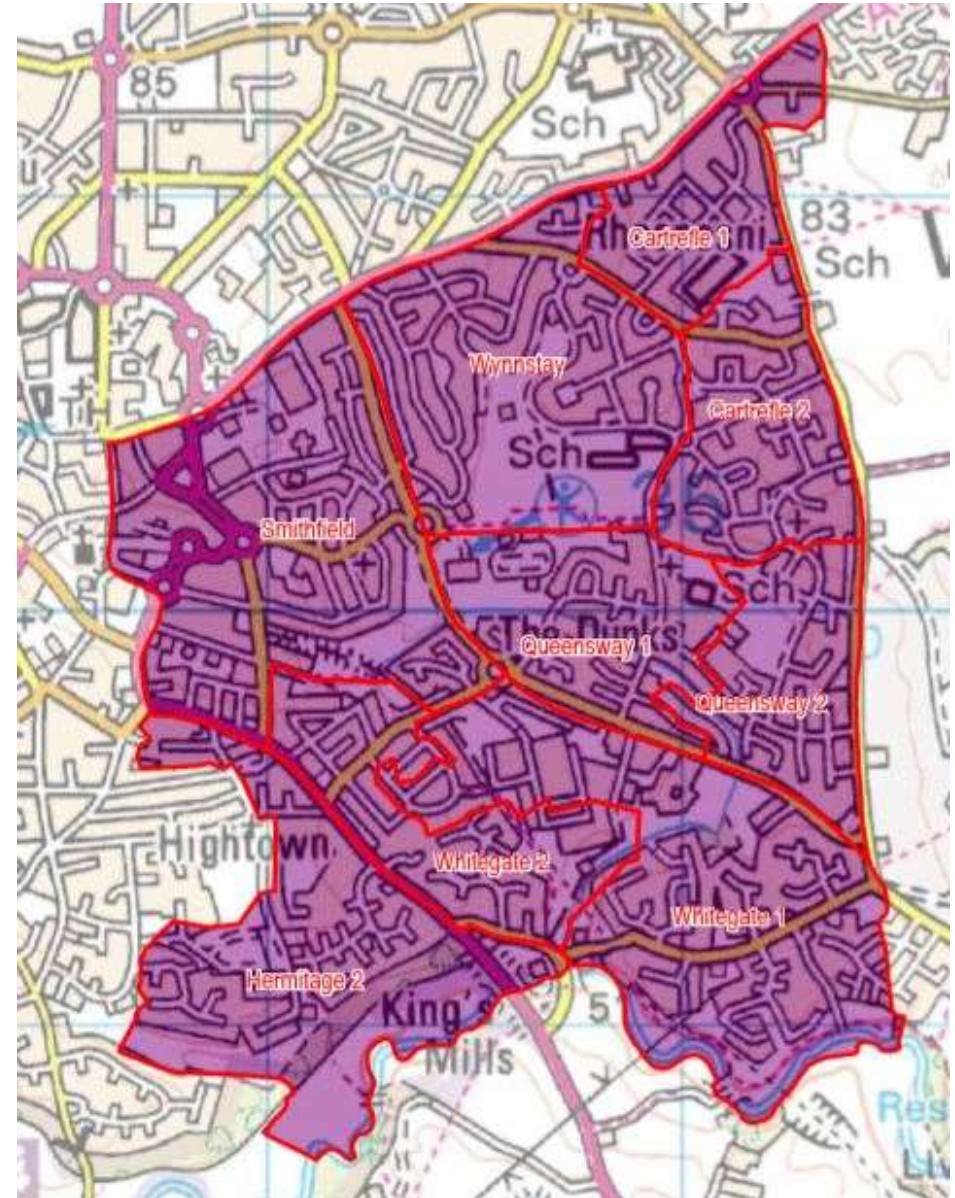




## ***Weekly Prayer Guide***

### ***Praying for the Churches and Community of Caia Park***

When Jesus taught us to pray 'Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done', community life in 1st century Palestine was in many ways very different, and in many ways very similar to life in 21<sup>st</sup> century Caia Park. At the heart of community life there remain families, neighbours and local institutions. However things like the rate of change, life expectancy, the roles of men, women, old and young, forms of learning, employment, travel and the nature of community institutions are all very different. We believe prayer for communities to prosper and reflect what Jesus called 'The Kingdom of God' is very important. So those who become Caia Friars will commit themselves to this pattern of prayer and we offer this guide to as many as will seek to participate in community prayer life in this way. And may God bless you and the community of Caia Park through our prayers.



Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

In addition to this Prayer Guide the Caia Friar's WhatsApp Group regularly updates with people and subjects to pray for.

#### **WEEK 1: Sunday**

Pray for the churches serving Caia Park, for their leaders, vision worship, outreach and service to the community. For St Anne's Church, St Mark's Church and Rock Chapel, Smithfield.

#### **Monday**

Pray for the schools of Caia Park, for their staff and children. For good education, relationships, ambition. For Hafod y Wern, St Annes and Gwenfro schools along with the High schools.

#### **Tuesday**

Pray for health and well-being across the park, for the Health Centre and other support agencies. For Deva House and those who work with the elderly.

#### **Wednesday**

Pray for community groups and networks across the park. For Caia Park Partnership, Venture and Gwenfro Valley play schemes and the many other clubs and organisations.

#### **Thursday**

Pray for people who have influence in Caia. Senedd Member Lesley Griffiths, Westminster Member Sarah Atherton, Local Councilors representing Caia on WCBC and Caia Park Community Council.

#### **Friday**

Pray for better facilities across Caia Park while being thankful for recent improvements. For the refurbishment of St Mark's. Ask for more job opportunities and remember local police serving the area.

#### **Saturday**

For the work of the Church Army Centre of Mission based in the Tin Can Youth Centre working with local children and young people. Other Christian ministries on Caia including Foodbank, Holiday Hunger and YWAM.

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#### **WEEK 2: Sunday**

Pray that God would grant churches & their leaders a Godly understanding of how the churches are to communicate in word and deed the Gospel of Jesus amongst the Caia Park community. Pray for St. Anne's Church.

#### **Monday**

Leadership and governance at our local schools are of great importance. Pray for senior staff and governors as they seek to guide their school in the year ahead and help inspire the school community, so pupils fulfil their potential.

#### **Tuesday**

Based at the Health Centre is the Health Improvement team which is involved in promoting healthy living styles, exercise, good dietary habits and cooking skills. Pray for the team and its work, and wellbeing in the community.

#### **Wednesday**

Kristian at the Partnership heads up the Public Health Trust 'CONVERSATION' project, helping the community define its aims and objectives and work for problems to be tackled. Pray for Kristian, that good will come thru his work.

#### **Thursday**

The Bible teaches us to pray for those in positions of Authority. Locally our Borough Councillors decide how monies are to be spent and new initiatives launched. Pray for the 5 councillors from the Caia Park community.

#### **Friday**

Pray for peace on the Park and reductions in the level of crime. The local police, the community agents and the Community Council all play an important part in reducing crime and encouraging peaceful relationships.

#### **Saturday**

Pray for Christians living on Caia Park, seeking to be good neighbours. Pray for those who live on Caia Park but worship off the Park, that good relationships with local churches will bring salt and light to the Caia community.

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### **WEEK 3: Sunday**

Pray that the churches of Caia Park will be caring communities providing fellowship and friendship for all who come and where all can progress in their spiritual life of faith and service. Pray for Rock Chapel, Smithfield.

### **Monday**

Pray for the Secondary schools attended by young people from Caia Park. The secondary school is often a challenging environment socially and educationally, and results in recent years have been less than hoped for.

### **Tuesday**

Pray for the G.P.'s serving the Caia Park community, that they may be good listeners and diligent physicians. Pray to for the Early years provision for parents and youngsters, for play schools, nurseries and flying start staff.

### **Wednesday**

Jesus taught us to pray 'give us this day our daily bread'. Let us pray for responsible food shops on the Park, for the weekly Food Bank outlet at St. Marks, School meal services, Food Poverty projects & food at playgrounds

### **Thursday**

The policies of the UK and Welsh governments have direct effects on local populations. Pray for wisdom for our representatives as they consider policies such as Education, Health & Social Care, the Minimum wage, Policing policies.

### **Friday**

Much of Caia Park is a pleasant environment. New facilities have replaced old, & groups like the environment group have encouraged tidy gardens & the avoidance of litter. Pray for a Godly pride in maintaining standards.

### **Saturday**

Youth organisations can have a helpful character building role in lives of young people; sports & youth clubs, uniformed organisations or performing arts. Pray that leaders may emerge willing to enrich our local young people.

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### **WEEK 4: Sunday**

Pray that Caia Park will see healthy and hopeful development of Spiritual life in the community, that darkness will be replaced by spiritual light and unrest will be replaced by Godly peace in individual lives and neighbourhoods. Pray for St. Marks Church

### **Monday**

Pray for persistence & progress in good parenting on Caia Park & good relations between home & school. Income levels for many families are low. Digital provision at home is becoming important, another expense to manage.

### **Tuesday**

The challenges of living on a low budget can lead to many anxieties, often leading to poor sleeping, and temptations for a quick fix be it gambling or drugs or alcohol. Jesus taught us to pray 'lead us not into temptation'.

### **Wednesday**

Today's society has many agencies, public, private, voluntary sector, church. Pray that on Caia Park agencies will work together for the good of the community. Pray that trust between workers & workers & clients, will prosper.

### **Thursday**

Borough Councillors have an important role in listening to constituents' representations, sometimes in crisis situations. Pray for Councillors Prince, King, Harper, Jeorret and Cameron.

### **Friday**

Pray for new residents settling in the Caia community, some perhaps having experienced a difficult period of life. Pray that a helping hand will be offered and that new residents quickly settle in the community.

### **Saturday**

As time passes after the shock of the pandemic, communities emerge different from how they went into the experience. Pray that the Caia Park that emerges will learn the lessons it is meant to learn.

## A SCRIPTURE FOR EACH WEEK

**WEEK 1 The Beatitudes** Jesus said: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**WEEK 2 Salt and Light** "You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

**WEEK 3 Love for Enemies** "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbour and hate your enemy.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**WEEK 4 Giving to the Needy** "Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. "So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Caia Friars are supported by:



The Caia Prayer

**Loving Heavenly Father, your word reminds us that the pastures of the wilderness shall overflow. We pray your blessing on Caia Park. May each street be watered with your love and every house become a home for Christ. Let there be an end to dependence on what does not satisfy, so that the fruit of your Spirit can bring wholeness to the community. Though Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen**