



Dear MCBC Family

This last year has certainly been a rollercoaster of emotions that none of us could have expected. We have had to draw strength from reserves we never even knew we had. For some, it has been a time of growth, development, a chance to reassess their life and a chance to get back to things they enjoy. Some have found beauty in nature, have enjoyed the slower pace of life, have taken the opportunity to learn new skills and to deepen their relationship with Jesus.

For some however it's been a time of loneliness, isolation, grief, frustration, disappointment, fear and anxiety. Some have lost loved ones, have missed significant life events, have seen everything they know turned upside down and have had their mental health stretched further than they thought possible.

The good news is that even in all these feelings Jesus has still been present. He walks with us through the good and the bad, through the joy and the pain, through the celebration and the lament. There may have been times in this last year when our faith has been tested and we have questioned Jesus in a way we have never done before but the good news is he answers those questions with love.

This 24 hours of prayer will be focussing around the verse
"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."
John 10:10

Life to the full means that Jesus offers us something that the world cannot give. He invites us into wholeness, offers us healing and shalom.

As we commit (as a church community) to spending 24 hours in prayer from 8pm on Maundy Thursday, we would encourage you individually to commit to at least an hour outside of your usual routine. We would also encourage you to finish this time by watching MCBCs Tenebrae Service that will be live streamed on Facebook and YouTube at 8pm on Good Friday.

There are 7 different prayer areas that have been created to aid you in your prayers and we would encourage you to share with others what you learn as you pray into these different themes and listen to the voice of God. There are also ways to be creative and we would encourage you to share pictures of your creativity with your friends and on social media. Let's let the world know that we as a faith family are praying for them.

We are praying that God will bless you and speak to you during this time.

Jonathan and Catherine