

# The Gift of Years Rugby

## Prayer Letter

### Spring 2021

Lindsay Pelloquin, Lead Chaplain writes....

Greetings to all our friends and Prayer Partners,

We want to thank all of you who have been praying with The Gift of Years for the care homes in Rugby during their lockdown over the past year. I write this letter at the beginning of March as we begin to see the first signs of spring appearing – a little warmth in the air, snowdrops and crocuses and other green shoots peeping through the earth which bring us hope that the winter will soon be over. We eagerly look for a new springtime in our own lives and the opening up of our communities, churches, families and care homes.

#### The Gift of Years ministry to the care homes

- We ask you to continue praying for The Gift of Years Team as we carry on our remote ministry to the care homes for the time being. But please pray that as restrictions lift in the nation that we will gradually be able to return to our active face to face ministry in the care homes.
- Please pray that care home managers will value our ministry and want to have us back. That they will realise the great need of the residents of stimulation and social interaction, to counteract the effects of their long isolation and to lift their loneliness, depression and grief. Please pray that managers will recognise the importance of residents being enabled to practise their faith and draw strength and hope from it.
- Please pray that we can be a support and listening ear to staff who have been through so much stress and exhaustion and relatives who have felt so cut off from their loved ones.
- Please pray for the restoration and renewal of our ministry to care homes in Rugby.



Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers for us. God bless you all.

## **Lindsay**

### **World Day of Prayer**

The Gift of Years Team have produced a You Tube video for The World Day of Prayer on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. This video has been produced for the care homes and the churches and we invite you to join with Christians though out the world who will be praying on that day. This year the service comes from Vanuatu an island in the South Pacific. Click on this link.

<https://youtu.be/oOivxCP2ots>

### **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

We give thanks that all residents and most staff have now been vaccinated and it appears that if residents do catch Covid they are now only having mild symptoms or no symptoms at all. This is such good news! Staff are now able to have the Lateral Flow testing each time they go on shift thus minimising the risk of transmission of the virus in care homes. We give thanks for the wonder of modern science and for the commitment of the NHS in administering the vaccines and testing.

We give thanks that most of The Gift of Years Team have now been vaccinated and all will be done by May.

We give thanks that some care home restrictions will be lifted in March and residents will be allowed one visitor to come into the home following a Covid test and wearing appropriate PPE. Visitors will be allowed to be close to their loved one and hold their hand.

We give thanks for the care home staff who have been so wonderful during this time which has been so stressful and demanding for them. They have remained cheerful and caring and supportive of the residents.

### **Please pray for the residents.....**

Please pray for an opening up of residents' lives and that they may experience God's healing of the pain and sorrow that they have been through. May they be renewed and strengthened and be very aware of God's love and comfort.

### **Please pray for the relatives.....**

Please continue to pray for relatives. May they experience joy in being reunited with their loved ones.

### **Please pray for the staff.....**

Please continue to pray for staff to have the strength and resilience to keep going right to the end of the pandemic. Pray for more restful times to come. May their extraordinary efforts be recognised and valued.

Lindsay Pelloquin

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