

— Psalm 19:1 (NIV)

## March 2025 Prayer and Praise Calendar

#### Week One:

 March 1 – We praise God for all conversations between students, nurses, faculty, and NCF staff at the Student Ministries <u>Refresh</u> retreat held in York, Pennsylvania last month. The retreat focused on the power of vulnerability and how it can open doors for connection and empathy in life and patient care.

## Week Two:

• March 2 – God also showed up in some big ways as faculty and nurses met for our February Journal Club on <u>Empathy: The Gift</u> <u>of Connecting.</u> We are so grateful to Jane Hall, NCF's former National Director, for sharing her insight and experiences with us.

• March 3 – We pray for wisdom, insight, and justice for our local, state, and national leaders. Many decisions impacting the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities are at stake.

• March 4 – We honor and celebrate Kathy

Schoonover-Shoffner, NCF's National Director, and her 25 years of service with InterVarsity! Join us in continuing to pray for wisdom and discernment for Kathy as she leads the ministries of Nurses Christian Fellowship and the editorial staff of the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.

- March 5 Pray for Christy Secor, NCF's Spiritual Formation/Prayer Specialist, and her husband, Dan, as he begins monthly IV infusions of Kisunla to treat his Alzheimer's Disease. Pray for protection from side effects such as brain swelling and bleeding in the brain. We pray this new medication will help reduce the progression of the disease.
- March 6 Pray for Katharine Provost, NCF's Associate Student Ministry Director, and Christy Secor as they meet and discuss the content for our May <u>Blessing of the Hands</u> event. We ask God to use this event to encourage faculty and nurses working in difficult situations and who often find themselves understaffed. Pray for renewed purpose as we serve individuals, families, and our communities.

- March 7 Please pray for all the nurses who work for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other federal agencies. These nurses are federal employees and there is much anxiety about layoffs and job loss among federally employed nurses. Please lift them in prayer to protect their jobs, bring peace to the federal workforce, strengthen the nurses to continue to do God's work, and for God's plans to prevail amidst all the changes that are taking place.
- March 8 Pray for the needed renovations occurring in the home Lara Kaiser, NCF's Associate Director of Student Ministry, and her husband, Andy, recently purchased. Floors and sub-floors are being replaced in some of the rooms and the house is being inspected and treated for termite damage. Pray they can complete these projects in a timely manner.

## Week Three:

- March 9 Lara Kaiser is working with several new chapters that are planting this spring. Pray that NCF's staff can support them well and that these new groups will be able to overcome obstacles and connect with interested students.
- March 10 Pray for the nurse group leader trainings that are taking place today. We
  pray that it is a meaningful time for NCF nurse group leaders who are providing support
  to students, faculty, and nurses coast to coast. May they discover ways to help their
  groups thrive and be encouraged.
- March 11 Pray for Jen Wojtysiak, NCF's Associate National Director, Christy Secor, and Kathy Schoonover-Shoffner as they come together and plan for the April 12<sup>th</sup> <u>Healing</u> <u>Encounters with Jesus Retreat and Journal Club.</u> Pray God uses this time to provide deeper connections in our faith and practice among students, faculty, and nurses.
- March 12 Pray for the nurse group in Salem, Oregon as they begin to reform. Give them wisdom as they look for the best time to meet. Provide encouragement to those who are praying about the possibilities.
- March 13 Praise God for the continuing conversations happening with the <u>NCF</u>
   <u>Podcast Following Jesus in Nursing!</u> Kathy Schoonover-Shoffner is taking a deeper dive into questions surrounding the provision of spiritual care for our patients.
- March 14 Pray that God uses the devotionals, <u>Following Jesus in Nursing</u>, on the YouVersion app to reach students, faculty, and nurses with needed encouragement and hope. We pray this app will be a helpful way to share more about the work and ministry of Nurses Christian Fellowship.
- March 15 We ask God to grant each member of NCF's staff and the *Journal of Christian Nursing* editorial team with his love to do the work of the ministry. May we serve with eyes focused on the eternal.

## Week Four:

- March 16 We thank God for the community that's a part of our nurse groups. Pray for our nurse groups to continue to be safe places for students, faculty, and nurses. We lift our <u>Sunday night prayer group times</u> and ask God to use this time to draw us into deeper intimacy with you, God.
- March 17 Continue to pray for nurses around the country who are tired, weary, and facing staff shortages and a lack of resources in their work environments. May they be reminded of God's presence in their lives and that they are not alone in the challenges they face. May NCF be used in their lives to be a support and encouragement in their faith and their practice.
- March 18 We are thankful for open doors with students, faculty, and nurses and pray for new opportunities and conversations to provide support and encouragement through our student and nurse groups. We ask God to continue to provide wisdom and discernment as we follow his leading for what is his work.
- March 19 We praise God for seeds being planted through our student and nurse groups. Remind our student leaders, faculty advisors, and nurse group leaders that their faithfulness makes a difference not only now, but in the years to come of others.
- March 20 We praise God for the recent announcement Lara Kaiser and her husband, Andy, made regarding the upcoming birth of their child in late June. We ask for a safe delivery and that this little one would follow Jesus intently in all they say and do. Pray for Lara as she continues to work and balance the needs of her growing family.
- March 21 Pray for the NCF Texas nurse group <u>Refresh retreat</u> that begins today and lasts through March 23<sup>rd</sup>. May students, faculty, and nurses from across the country experience hope and renewal in their faith in Jesus Christ.
- March 22 Celebrate and praise God for the ways Jesus works through nurses to
  effectively bring needed care and healing to patients throughout the world. Pray that
  nurses can continue to reach and benefit those in need through their daily work and
  that they keep their sense of identity and purpose rooted deeply in Jesus Christ.

# Week Five:

- March 23 We ask God for wisdom and discernment for NCF's leadership team. Join us in asking God how we can grow and serve more students and nurses in knowing and following Jesus.
- March 24 Pray for the safety of nursing students, faculty, and nurses in their programs and worksites. We ask for healing for nurses who have experienced violence from a patient or family member. Pray for managers and administrators to take the needed steps to care for and protect the safety of their staff.

- March 25 We pray for the work and outreach of faith community nurses in their churches, parishes, and communities. May God bless and encourage them in the challenges and barriers they encounter.
- March 26 Pray for our Marketing team as we meet to discuss and finalize our outreach events for National Nurses Month in May. We ask God to use these events to be a support and encouragement for students, faculty, and nurses. Pray that these events will help students, faculty, and nurses to better know and follow Jesus in nursing.
- March 27 Praise and thank God for readers of the *Journal of Christian Nursing* who take time to express how the journal is beneficial to them personally and in their nursing practice. This encouragement is fuel for our creativity and stamina in producing three issues simultaneously at varying stages of development.
- March 28 Pray that God continues to provide creative thinking and focus to the staff who produce NCF's social media. Ask him to use this outlet to invite more nurses into NCF and to offer information and content that strengthen nurses' work and faith.
- March 29 Pray for perseverance so that "in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary" (Galatians 6:9, NASB).
- March 30 Thank you, God, for the courage you have given nurses in representing their faith.
- March 31 As the JCN editors and designers develop and produce articles this year, ask God to stimulate interest among nurses and students to consider world and local missions as God moves them.

You can download the March 2025 prayer calendar here.