

## Family

This month we want to see the appointment of a new Family Worker for the North West. Pray for wisdom for the Board as they make this decision, and for the person of God's choosing who will be able to carry out this invaluable work.

Family visits in prison resumed in July, but with restrictions, such as only one immediate member of the family allowed, and no children under 16 can visit. Pray for families as they cope with limited contact and feel isolated. Thanks to virtual visits some families have been able to see their loved one and keep connected.

Our Christmas Hope project allows prisoners and those released to request a hamper and toys for their families. With the present Covid19 crisis there are many challenges this year and it will need to be done differently. Pray for wisdom and creativity as to how to manage it in a way that is safe for everyone and will bless lives.

## General

We are so thankful for each one of you who have prayed for the work of Prison Fellowship NI and the people we serve over the last few months. Many of you have given generously and sacrificially, enabling us to continue to offer ongoing support to those impacted by crime.

Pray for wisdom as we move forward in these difficult times. Three of our staff have been on furlough and presently there's been no movement as to when our prison staff- Norman, Dean, Lynne & Joanne- and our Volunteers will be given access.

Pray for wisdom and direction for the Board as they navigate 'the way forward' in these uncertain times and help plan for return to work that is safe for us and for the men and women we support. As we work and adapt to 'doing ministry in a different way', pray we will know what to pick up and develop, and what we should lay down.

During the summer we were saddened to learn of the deaths of Jonathan, Bobby, Patricia and Hester. Each one has been a great support to the work of PF for many years and are a great loss to us and their families.

Pray for their families and friends that they will take comfort in the Lord's love and know that they are never alone. He walks beside them even in the darkest times.

## Aftercare

The Voices of Hope choir have continued to meet during lockdown. Although they are not able to get together, they meet over the telephone every Friday. Ali has been teaching them new songs and they are led in prayer by Kate, one of our volunteers.

Pray for **Neil** and all the men as they practice each week, pray they will once again be able to meet with others to share the transforming power of Christ in their lives.

Give thanks for all the services supporting ex-offenders which have been operating during lockdown or have recently started up again. It has been a very difficult time for ex-prisoners, but it has also been very difficult for those working from home, restricted offices, churches and in the local community.

Many services have continued to offer advice, legal support, food, counselling, addiction services, deliveries and much more. We are especially thankful for supporters of Prison Fellowship NI who have been giving and helping us throughout this time to offer hope and a new beginning to those released from prison. Please pray for all those working to support others.

Many of the men we help are disconnected not only from the community but also from technology. Pray for us as we seek to connect men during lockdown with services whilst helping them with technology that can be new and expensive to them. Could you help by giving towards our Aftercare service? This will help us to make inclusion much more achievable for those on the margins of society.

## Volunteers

We rely greatly on our volunteers for much of the work of PF and are so thankful in how they have helped in many valuable ways throughout the year. As we've moved into a very different season, pray for guidance for the way forward. Pray for each of our volunteers and their families, for protection for them and they are renewed physically and spiritually to return to their ministries again.

September 6th-13th is our annual Week of Prayer. Please put this date in your diary and use the prayer points on our website [www.pfni.org](http://www.pfni.org) as part of your daily devotional. The theme this year is 'The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation' (Ex 15:2).

Pray for prisoners, their families and those released who need His strength to face each day, His power to overcome their fears and His peace to replace their worries. Pray that each will place their trust in the One who is able, that He becomes their salvation.