



Prayers

Tuesday 1st – Saturday 5th December

This week as we begin Advent, pray for all the churches across Devon, as they deal with the enormous challenges of connecting with their communities and celebrating Christmas, whilst traversing the restrictions under which we live. Pray that their energy will be restored, their enthusiasm for being shining lights in their communities will grow, and that they, and all whom they connect with, may be blessed with the peace that only comes from God.

1. On World Aids Day pray for the 38 million people across the world who are currently living with HIV or AIDS. Pray that they may have the courage to live each day with faith and peace in their hearts. Pray that, with so many other distractions, we remember that HIV has not gone away and there is still a vital need to raise money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education.
2. As we enter National Grief Awareness week, pray for people in your community who are grieving at this time. Pray that they will find rest from the exhausting process of grieving and that they will lift their eyes to the sky above and be comforted by the love of God, who holds them in their saddest hours. Pray that we will know how best to support people who are grieving and how we can reflect God's love through our actions.
3. For the Paignton Christ Church & St Paul, Preston Mission Community, their priest John Pout, and for all who live and worship in Paignton St Paul Preston and Paignton Christ Church parishes. In our link with the Diocese of Thika in Kenya, give thanks for the churches which have been transformed through the 'Umoja' Church and Community Development Process. Pray for Benson, the Umoja trainer, and the clergy and lay facilitators who will enable more churches across the diocese to start on this journey to sustainable development.
4. Pray for all prison chaplains across Devon as they fulfil a vital role in supporting prisoners and prison staff. As they come alongside and support others, pray that they will reveal God's love and bring hope to those who are feeling hopeless. Pray for strength for prison chaplains as they offer a message of light to those who are living in a dark place. Pray for the South West Carols online events taking place this weekend; that many people without faith will tune in and be touched by the true message of Christmas.
5. Pray for the Bishop's Diocesan Council which will take place online today. Pray for the new St Helen's Fellowship of Lundy Island, that its rule of life may bring tranquility and peace to those who follow it, wherever they are. Pray also for the Mothers' Union Global Day of Action against gender based violence which is taking place today; may their voices be heard throughout the world and may positive and lasting change happen.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."
John 3:16

Sunday 6th – Saturday 12th December

We pray for the homeless in Devon and all the organisations who are working so hard to help homeless people this winter. Pray that every homeless person will find food, safety and shelter, and that they will be able to begin the process of changing their lives. Give them hope for a brighter future and inspire us to do all we can to support them on their journey.

6. For the Plymouth Charles Mission Community, their clergy Olly Ryder, Mike Knight and Reuben Crossley, and for all who live and worship in Charles with Saint Matthias Plymouth.
7. For the Plymouth Emmanuel Mission Community, their clergy Karl Freeman, Tony Williams, Bev Cree, Brown and Darryl Cree, their reader Timothy Lyddon, and for all who live and worship in Plymouth Emmanuel with Saint Augustine and Saint Paul.
8. For the Plymouth Partnership in Mission (PPiM) and the planting priests Rob Fowler, Adam Price, Phill Brokenshire and the PPiM Curate Jon Devereux.
9. On International Anti-Corruption Day we pray for all countries where people are hungry, sick, homeless or defenceless because of corruption. Pray that leaders, and those who acquire anything through corrupt means, will realise the evil of corruption and work hard to eliminate it. Pray that new leaders will emerge, who will lead their countries towards peace, justice and prosperity.
10. On UN Human Rights Day we pray that the hearts of all people will be filled with a desire to ensure justice and equality for every human being. Pray for an end to all division, and a human society built on love and peace.
11. For the Plympton Mission Community, their clergy Robert Harris and Richard Wakerell, their reader Robert Harrison, and for all who live and worship in Plympton St Maurice and Plympton St Mary.
12. In our link with the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, pray for the St John the Evangelist congregation within the Ammochostos parish, who serve the needs of Cypriot neighbours and English-speaking people of all nationalities living in the towns and villages of the District.

Gracious Father, as we enter this season of Advent and Christmas, we pray that the challenges and hardships of this year will not weigh heavily upon our shoulders. May we wait expectantly with hope for brighter days ahead, a deep sense of peace that all will be well, and a profound understanding of your immeasurable love for each and every one of us. Thank you for sending your one and only Son as a testament of your love for us. Help us to keep our eyes fixed on you and give us the right words to express your love to those who need to hear it. Amen

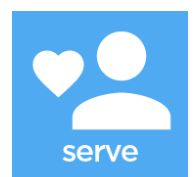
Sunday 13th – Saturday 19th December

This week bring to God all those people in your community who are anxious about Christmas. The financial pressure can feel overwhelming. The pressure on already strained relationships can feel suffocating. For anyone whose loved-one has died in the past year, Christmas can be acutely painful. Pray for people you know who may be struggling at this time.

13. For the Plymstock Mission Community, their clergy Jennie Appleby, David Appleby and Carl Budden, their reader Graham Dee, and for all who live and worship in Plymstock and Hooe.
14. In our link with the Diocese of Bayeux-Lisieux in France, pray for an increase of vocations to the religious life and to ordained ministry, and for parishes, their clergy and people in the area of Vire.
15. For the Raleigh Mission Community, their clergy Martin Jacques and Karen Young, and for all who live and worship in Otterton, East Budleigh with Bicton and Budleigh Salterton.
16. For the Saint Andrew & Saint Paul Mission Community, their clergy Joe Dent, Leon Sim, Philip Cairns and Tim Partridge, and for all who live and worship in Saint Paul Stonehouse and Saint Andrew Plymouth.
17. For the Saint Bartholomew and Saint Mark Ford Mission Community, their priest Richard Silk, and for all who live and worship in Devonport Saint Bartholomew and Saint Mark Ford.
18. As schools break up for the Christmas holidays, we give thanks for all those who work in our schools and pray that they will have a relaxing break. We also pray for families for whom Christmas is a difficult time; that God's peace will rain down upon their homes. On International Migrants Day we pray for those who are strangers in foreign lands, going to sleep tonight unfed and unwelcome. Pray for all the charities and organisations who strive to help those who are escaping persecution and conflict, and that we as Christians are moved to do everything in our power to welcome, help and empower these people.
19. In our link with the Province of Melanesia, we pray for the new Chaplain to Seafarers, Revd Bobby Chuchuni and for the work carried out in Honiara, Noro Port in the Western Province, Lata in Temotu and Port Vila in Vanuatu. We pray for the safe passage of all those returning to their home islands across Melanesia this Christmas.

Information included in this prayer diary is taken from the diocesan database, where people have given us permission to do so, and was accurate at the time of publication.

If there are any changes please email: database@exeter.anglican.org



Sunday 20th – Thursday 31st December

Pray for anyone in your community who is alone for Christmas; that they may receive an unexpected visit, gift, message or telephone call and may know that they are loved. This week as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we give thanks that God loved us so much that he gave us His son. Pray for your family and friends, that this Christmas they will see the light of Jesus.

20. For those who are homeless this Christmas, that they will find a warm meal, a warm bed and the knowledge that they are valued and loved by God.
21. For the Saint Boniface, Saint Budeaux and Saint Philip Mission Community, their clergy Stephen Beach and Michael Doyle, their reader Martin Clements, and for all who live and worship in Saint Philip, Weston Mill, Saint Budeaux, Saint Boniface and Devonport.
22. For the Saint David Mission Community, their clergy Nigel Guthrie, Belinda Speed-Andrews and Ash Leighton Plom, their readers Howard Friend and Charlotte Townsend, and for all who live and worship in Saint David.
23. For the Saint James Mission Community, their clergy Henry Pryse, Steve Turner and Martin Poolton, and for all who live and worship in Saint James.
24. Pray for all our hospital chaplains, NHS staff and care staff who are working over Christmas and for anyone who is in hospital at this time.
25. On Christmas Day as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we pray that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men on this day of great joy.
26. For the Saint Jude Mission Community, their priest Tim Smith, their reader Jackie Yates, and for all who live and worship in Saint Jude Plymouth.
27. For the Saint Leonard Mission Community, their clergy Simon Austen, Chris Keane and Paul Sutton, and for all who live and worship in Saint Leonard with Holy Trinity.
28. For the Saint Matthias Mission Community, their clergy John Beckett and Paul Barton, their readers Ruth Beckett and Lindsay Glazebrook, and for all who live and worship in the parish of Saint Matthias, Saint Mark and Holy Trinity, Torquay.
29. For all our PTO Readers across Devon, that they may be blessed in their intergenerational mission; young and old, lay and ordained, to live out the good news and be a blessing in the communities that they serve.
30. For the Saint Pancras Mission Community, their clergy Lawrence Braschi, Sarah Sharland and Phillip Baul, their reader Paul Lumb and for all who live and worship in Saint Pancras Pennycross.
31. As we prepare to enter a new year, we take time to reflect on 2020. Pray for those who have faced considerable hardship, that 2021 will be a new chapter for them. Be thankful for the many blessings we have received this year. Pray for Devon, for our nation and for those who lead us, that we may enter the New Year with a great hope for brighter days ahead.

**DIOCESE
OF EXETER**

 **THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
IN DEVON**

