

Sunday 25th – Wednesday 31st

We pray for all those who will be alone this Christmas, all those who do not have anywhere to lay their head, all those living in fear, and all those for whom Christmas is a difficult time. We pray that you would meet with them Lord, that they would know they are not alone, that you are their refuge, a very present help in times of trouble, and that you love them.

25. On Christmas Day, we celebrate the birth of our saviour, Jesus Christ who has rescued and redeemed us. O come let us adore him, for he alone is worthy! We give thanks for our friends and families, and we pray for rest and reconciliation, comfort and joy.

26. On St Stephen's Day we remember the first martyr, who before his death gazed steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God, and who prayed for the forgiveness of those who killed him. Lord, please strengthen us in our suffering, teach us to love our enemies, and help us to faithfully bear witness to your name.

27. On the Feast Day of St John the Evangelist, we give thanks for his Gospel, written so that we may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, and by believing have life in his name (John 20:31). We pray that through his writings we would deeply know this truth and share it with others that they may too believe.

28. For the St Jude Mission Community, its priest Tim Smith, LLMs Jane Sanham, Jackie Yates, and for all who live and worship in St Jude, Plymouth.

29. In our link with the Diocese of Thika, we pray for the four area Archdeacons and the clergy in each Archdeaconry who head up ministry with Children, Mothers' Union, Youth, Men's groups, Mission and Prayer Ministry. We also pray for Ven. Patrick Mukuna who is the Director of Mission, Training and Development.

30. For the St Leonard Mission Community, its clergy Simon Austen, Chris Keane, Paul Sutton, and for all who live and worship in Saint Leonard with Holy Trinity.

31. On New Year's Eve, we remember all that has taken place this year, and amidst the trials and difficulties, we give thanks for every blessing, knowing that God works all things for the good of those who love him. May we enter the New Year holding fast to the hope we have in Jesus.

Amen.



DECEMBER PRAYER DIARY

Dear God, as Christmas approaches, we remember that at the heart of Christmas is the birth of your Son Jesus, whom you sent to us to be the saviour of the world. In this season of Advent, please help us keep our hearts fixed on you, our Wonderful Counselor, our Mighty God, our Everlasting Father, our Prince of Peace. Amen.

Thursday 1st – Saturday 10th

During Grief Awareness Week, we pray for those in our communities who are grieving, please show them your peace and give them rest. Lord, help us to weep with those who weep and to reflect your love to those who mourn.

1. For the Pinhoe Church with Hope (Pinhope) Mission Community, its clergy Wiz Slater, Adrian Hough, Rachel Dunn, and for all who live and worship in Pinhoe with Poltimore.

2. In our link with Bayeux-Lisieux, we pray for increase of vocations to both lay and ordained ministry, that people would answer the call to serve the church across the Diocese. We also pray for parishes, their clergy and people in the area of Vire.

3. On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, we pray for all people with any form of disability. We pray that the church would be a place of accessibility and inclusion. Lord, help us grow in understanding and compassion.

4. On World Wildlife Conservation Day, we pray for all those dedicated to the preservation of creatures great and small. Lord, you gave us the Earth to cherish and steward, convict us to do what we can to protect all you have created.

5. For the Plymouth Emmanuel Mission Community, its clergy Karl Freeman, Robin Brown, Tony Williams, Bev Cree, Darryl Cree, and for all who live and worship in Emmanuel with St Paul, Plymouth.

6. On St Nicholas Day, we remember your servant Nicholas whose legacy is one of generosity. Lord, help us to give freely, just as we have freely received, and help us to be mindful of those in need that we might love others as you have loved us, Jesus.

7. For the Plymouth Charles Mission Community, its clergy Michael Knight, and for all who live and worship in Charles with St Matthias and St Simon, Plymouth.

8. For the Lee Abbey Small Missional Community in Ford, Plymouth, its leader Margaret Warne and for the curate Rev'd Jonny Devereux at St Mark's Plymouth.

9. On International Anti-Corruption Day, we pray for all countries where people are hungry, sick, homeless or defenceless because of corruption. We pray for leaders who would recognise the evil of corruption and seek justice for all people.

10. On International Human Rights Day, we pray for all those around the world whose human rights are ignored or violated. Help us build a society built on the knowledge that every person is made in God's image.

Sunday 11th – Saturday 17th

This week on the 13th December is the Feast Day of St Lucia, celebrated in many countries with candlelit parades as a mid-winter festival of light. Lord, help us to be the light in our communities, bringing hope and warmth where there is darkness. 'Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your father who is in Heaven.'

11. For the Plympton Mission Community, its clergy Robert Harris, Richard Wakerell, Pat Brenton, LLM Robert Harrison, for Rev'd Lizzie Green who is to be licensed as a Team Vicar this month, and for all who live and worship in Plympton St Maurice and Plympton St Mary.

12. For the Raleigh Mission Community, its clergy Martin Jacques, Mike Williams, and for all who live and worship in Otterton, East Budleigh with Bicton, Budleigh Salterton.

13. For the St Andrew & St Paul Mission Community, its clergy Joe Dent, Tim Partridge, Leon Sim, Philip Cairns, and for all who live and worship in St Paul Stonehouse and St Andrew Plymouth.

14. For the St Bartholomew and St Mark Ford Mission Community, its clergy Richard Silk, and for all who live and worship in Devonport St Bartholomew and St Mark Ford.

15. We pray for all Churchwardens across Devon, we give thanks for their ministry, their wisdom and patience, and pray that you would sustain them as they serve in their communities, inspired by Christ who came not to be served but to serve.

16. For the Plymstock Mission Community, its clergy Jennie Appleby, Jo Parker, Carl Budden, LLM Graham Dee, and for all who live and worship in Plymstock and Hooe.

17. In our link with Cyprus and the Gulf, we give thanks for the work, mission and worship that has taken place across the Diocese this year and pray for the 'Friends of the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf' and for their continued support of the work of the Diocese.

Sunday 18th – Saturday 24th

As schools break up for the Christmas holidays, we pray for staff and students, that this would be a time of rest and restoration. We also pray for families severely impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, we pray for your provision and your peace this winter.

18. On International Migrants Day, we pray you would give us compassion and care for those who come to our shores seeking refuge. In your mercy, help those who are fleeing from danger, and sustain those who work to bring them relief.

19. For St Boniface and St Philip, Weston Mill, their priest Michael Doyle, LLM Martin Clements, and for all who live and worship in St Philip, Weston Mill and St Boniface, Devonport and for St Budeaux and their priest Stephen Beach.

20. On International Human Solidarity Day, we celebrate our diversity and pray for unity amongst all God's children across the globe. We pray that divisions would fall away and that all people would be united in Jesus Christ.

21. For the St David Mission Community, its clergy Nigel Guthrie, Belinda Speed-Andrews, Ash Leighton-Plom, LLMs Howard Friend, Charlotte Townsend, and for all who live and worship in St David.

22. In our link with Melanesia, we pray for the Brothers and Sisters of the four Anglican Religious orders in Melanesia as they go out on their Christmas missions across the Pacific. We pray for calm seas and open hearts and minds to receive the Good News of the birth of Christ.

23. For the St James Mission Community, its clergy Henry Pryse, Martin Poolton, Steve Turner, reader Joan Ridgway, and for all who live and worship in St James, Exeter.

24. On Christmas Eve we pray, Lord, remind us of the great love and humility you displayed in coming down to earth in the form of a baby, prepare our hearts for your return.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6