

## Fortnightly Prayer Diary

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025**

In this Prayer Diary, the verses for our first week are drawn from the psalm of thanks (***1 Chronicles 16***) which David committed to Asaph and his associates, after the ark of God had been set inside the tent pitched for it. And the verses for our second week, as Advent continues, are drawn from ***Isaiah 51***.

### **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup>**

'Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done.' (***1 Chron. 16: 8***)

*"O Lord our God, as this year draws towards its close, so we thank you and praise you for all that you have done for us, for our church and for our nation. May we never cease to make known to others all that you have done."*

- Please pray that many individuals and parishes may consider joining Church Society. Pray that members would be greatly encouraged by being part of the society.
- Please pray for our Little Fishes and their families. Pray for good listening as the Christmas story is retold today.
- Please pray for those we know who are grieving at this time. Please pray for our Bethany team and all that they do.
- Pray for our Homegroups, as they provide teaching and care.
- Please pray for Gorse Lane (Alan and Bernadette Goody).

### **Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup>**

'Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.' (***1 Chron. 16: 9***)

*"O Lord our God, may we, today and every day, sing praise to you and proclaim all the wonders that you have done. May we delight to praise your Name and to tell of all your wonderful acts."* **P.T.O.**

- Pray for many wonderful and encouraging signs of the moving of the Spirit in our country over this season of Advent.
- Please pray for the children and staff from Cann Hall school, as they have their Christmas Service in St John's this morning. (HW)
- Please pray for the Christmas leaflets that have been delivered to be kept and read, and for people to plan to come to the services.
- Mission Links: Please pray for God's provision for Wycliffe Bible Translators as there is a funding shortage this financial year. And pray for peace and encouragement for Gift and Kathryn during this time of uncertainty in Uganda and worldwide.
- Please pray for Risby Close (Roger and Janet Goody).

### **Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup>**

'Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.' **(1 Chron. 16: 10)**

*"O Lord our God, we glorify your holy name and we rejoice in you. We thank you that you are our God and that we are your people."*

- Pray that the joy and love and peace of Jesus may abound in churches across our country.
- Please pray for our Mid-week Carol Service hosted by Wednesday Worshippers in St. Mark's today. Pray for good numbers, as guests are welcomed, and for hearts to be warmed in all who attend.
- Please pray for the DAC (Diocesan Advisory Council) meeting today when the plans for the new church hall will be discussed. (2pm)
- Pray for the young people in Ignite as they come to the end of the school term. Pray they will know the true meaning of Christmas.
- Please pray for Marine Parade West (Mary Grint).

### **Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup>**

'Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.' **(1 Chron. 16: 11)**

*"O Lord our God, we who are weak look to you, who are strong, and we pray that you will continue to strengthen our hands for service. And may we seek your face always."*

**P.T.O.**

- Please pray for staff, students and all who work and live at Oak Hill Theological College as they come to the end of term.
- Please pray for the children, parents and staff from Great Clacton Juniors years 3 & 4, as they have their Christmas Service in St John's this afternoon – and for Hannah as she gives a short talk.
- Pray for the first ever Lift Clacton (Clacton Coastal Academy) Carol Service being held in St John's this evening. Pray for a good attendance and for us to be able to welcome all who come.
- Persecuted Church: Around 1 in 7 of Christians globally face persecution and discrimination for their faith. Over this festive season please pray for our persecuted brothers and sister in Christ around the world as they too celebrate the birth of their Saviour.
- Please pray for St. Osyth Road West (Kathryn Hall).

### **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup>**

'Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles and the judgements he pronounced.' **(1 Chron. 16: 12)**

*"O Lord our God, help us to call to remembrance all that you have done. Help us to remember your miracles and the judgements you pronounced. And please forgive us when we forget."*

- Thank God for the continuing and vital work of The Christian Institute. Pray that all the lobbying work in Parliament may be both wise and effective.
- Pray for Mark as he takes the Christmas Assembly at Burrsville Infants this morning - and then answers questions from year 1.
- Please pray for the children, parents and staff from Great Clacton Juniors years 5 & 6, as they have their Christmas Service in St John's this afternoon – and for Hannah as she gives the talk again.
- Please pray for the Carol Singing outside the Ship Pub this evening. Pray for a good turnout, a good response and a joyful noise!
- Please pray for Martinsdale (June Hammerton).

### **Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup>**

'O descendants of Israel his servant, O sons of Jacob, his chosen ones.' **(1 Chron. 16: 13)**

**P.T.O.**

*“O Lord our God, we thank you and praise you that we are descendants of Israel and sons of Jacob. Help us to remember, unworthy as we are, that we are your children and your chosen ones.”*

- Pray for the establishment of good governance and a just and lasting peace in Gaza. Pray for an adequate flow of supplies and resources into Gaza. Pray for the return of all hostages to their families.
- Pray for all God’s faithful people in Clacton – pray that they may look to the Lord and seek his face today and always.
- Pray for all those who are planning and preparing for different parts of our Christmas services at the moment.
- Local churches: pray for all the special Christmas events and services being held in churches around the deanery. Pray that each one will make an impact on the community around.
- Please pray for St. Osyth Road East (June Hammond).

### **Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup>**

*“Listen to me, my people; hear me, my nation: the law will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations.”*

***(Isaiah 51: 4)***

*“Help us, O Lord we pray, to listen to you throughout these days of Advent. Help us to look to the rock from which we were cut and the quarry from which we were hewn. Help us to look to Abraham and to Sarah. And help us, most of all, to look to Jesus.”*

- Pray that the Lord may richly bless all that is said and done and prayed in churches across the country today. Pray that all of God’s people may rejoice to proclaim Jesus as Lord.
- Give thanks for our loving and caring church family.
- Please pray for our various services today. Pray that many will learn of God’s goodness, want to praise him, be encouraged in their faith and strengthened to live for him day by day.
- Pray especially for the Family Carol Service at St Mark’s – for us to be able to welcome some visitors, and for God to be at work.
- Please pray for Foxglove Close (Katrina Hammond).

## Monday, 15<sup>th</sup>

“My righteousness draws near speedily, my salvation is on the way, and my arm will bring justice to the nations. The islands will look to me and wait in hope for my arm.” *(Isaiah 51: 5)*

*“Praise you, O Lord our God, for sending our Lord Jesus to reign on David’s throne and over his kingdom. Thank you that he will establish it and uphold it with justice and righteousness for ever.”*

- Pray for all those who are working towards an end of the war in Ukraine. Pray for all who are ministering to the wounded and to the bereaved. Pray that they may minister with care, compassion and love.
- Please pray for all that will happen in the Church Office this week, as the preparation for Christmas services and activities continues.
- Give thanks for all our Little Fishes. Pray that they will continue to learn about and enjoy the Christmas story this morning.
- Please pray for the Carol Singing at Havenvale this afternoon. Pray that lots of residents will come and share the real joy of Christmas.
- Please pray for Kingsman Drive (Paul Harding).

## Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup>

“Lift up your eyes to the heavens, look at the earth beneath; the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment and its inhabitants die like flies. But my salvation will last for ever, my righteousness will never fail.” *(Isaiah 51:6)*

*“Help us, O Lord, always to bear in mind the passing nature of this world and the eternal nature of your salvation and your righteousness. Help us, O Lord, when so many are looking only to the earth, to lift up our eyes to the heavens and to prepare for your return in power and great glory.”*

- Pray that all God’s faithful ones across our country may lift up their eyes to the heavens, rejoicing in the Lord’s everlasting salvation and righteousness.
- Pray that God would help us to look after our buildings well, so that we can use them wisely this Christmas and throughout the year. *pro*

- Pray that the Gospel of the Lord may be proclaimed and lived out with love and a sense of urgency in our town.
- Thank God for all our links with schools in the parish. Pray that Hannah and Mark may continue to seize every opportunity to present the Gospel in school clearly, now and throughout next year.
- Please pray for Thoroughgood Road (Rachel Harding).

### **Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup>**

“Hear me, you who know what is right, you people who have my law in your hearts: Do not fear the reproach of men or be terrified by their insults.” *(Isaiah 51: 7)*

*“O Lord, in these Advent days, may your blessed Word and your law of love be at the centre of our hearts and lives. Drive away all fear of reproach and insult. May we rejoice to call you Lord.”*

- Pray for all those across our country who are poor. Pray that churches and Christians may be generous whenever they encounter cases of need.
- Pray that all the faithful here at St. John’s and St. Mark’s may delight to stand firm on the truth of God’s Word and on the Rock who is Christ.
- Please pray for our young people at Ignite – pray that they will feel and know some of the joy that comes with the Christmas message.
- Mission Links: Please pray for the teams of carol singers going out each day to raise awareness about the work of Betel. Pray for many opportunities and good public response during these days, leading up to Christmas.
- Please pray for Quilters Close (Alan and Marian Hills).

### **Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>**

“For the moth will eat them up like a garment; the worm will devour them like wool. But my righteousness will last for ever, my salvation through all generations.” *(Isaiah 51: 8)*

*“Thank you, and praise you, O Lord, that your righteousness and your salvation will last for ever. Long after all else has been devoured, you will remain.”*

**P.T.O.**

- Thank God for the signs of new spiritual life across our land. Pray for God's light to shine into the lives of all those who come to church over these Advent days.
- Please pray for your family, your neighbours, your community - pray for vital and effective outreach into our parish, especially over the Christmas season.
- Pray for the Together Christmas Special in St John's this morning, and for the Church School Choir coming to sing. Pray for good numbers, joyful praise and for the Good News to be heard.
- Persecuted Church: As we openly celebrate and enjoy our Christmas services, please continue to pray for those persecuted Christians in other countries who have to do this in secret, as for some this is literally a matter of life and death.
- Please pray for Coulsdon Close (Toni Hodgkins).

### **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>**

'Awake, awake! Clothe yourself with strength, O arm of the LORD; awake, as in days gone by, as in generations of old. Was it not you who cut Rahab to pieces, who pierced that monster through?' **(Isaiah 51: 9)**

*"Today, O Lord, we pray that you will clothe yourself with strength, as in days gone by. We pray that you may defy and destroy the work of the enemy, wherever it is to be seen. And we pray that many may see and rejoice in the triumph of righteousness, of justice, of mercy and of truth."*

- Please pray for the Lord to guide and to guard all who are working towards a system for helpful and proper episcopal oversight for all opposed to the proposed LLF prayers.
- Pray that the Lord may richly bless all the preparations for our Christmas services here at St. John's and St. Mark's.
- Please pray for all those who will be inviting a friend or neighbour to one of our carol services. Pray for positive outcomes.
- Please pray for all those who are struggling at this time – pray that they would know God's healing, help and comfort.
- Please pray for Mill Lane (Lynne Holden).

## **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup>**

‘Was it not you who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep, who made a road in the depths of the sea so that the redeemed might cross over?’ **(Isaiah 51: 10)**

*“Thank you, O Lord, that in days gone by you made a road in the sea, enabling the redeemed to cross over. Thank you, Lord, that it is a highway, the Way of Holiness. Thank you that the redeemed may still walk along that road, with singing in their hearts and mouths.”*

- Pray that the cathedrals and large churches will clearly proclaim the Gospel message over this Christmas period.
- Pray that all in our church may rejoice in Christ our Redeemer - that we may encourage many others to pass through the narrow gate, leading to life, and so have the joy of knowing the Saviour.
- Please pray for all in our church family who are ill at this time. Pray that they will know that God is watching over them.
- Other churches: Pray for the Christingle service at St Bart’s today.
- Please pray for St. Osyth Road East (Tovah Hollingshead).

## **Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>**

‘The ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.’ **(Isaiah 51: 11)**

*“O Lord our God, may the promise in this verse be true for all of us.”*

- Please pray for the many people across the country who do not usually attend church, but who will go to Carol Services over the Christmas season. Pray that many may hear the Good News of Jesus and may respond with joy.
- Please pray for all our Sunday services today – that they will bring God’s peace to many hearts.
- Pray for our Quiet Christmas service this afternoon. Pray that the people who need to hear the message will hear it clearly.
- Pray for all joining our online service today - for whatever reason.
- Please pray for Cherrytree Avenue (John and Clare Disney).