

# Prayer Diary For each day in December.



## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December Advent Sunday

ALMIGHTY God,  
give us grace that we may cast away the works of  
darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in  
the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus  
Christ came to visit us in great humility;

that in the last day, when he shall come again in his  
glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the  
dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him  
who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost,  
now and ever. Amen.

## Monday Dec 2nd

**For the international abolition of slavery day.**

## Tuesday Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> For our Diocese

Bishop David and the staff team in Diocesan office  
and the way they serve us.

## Wednesday Dec 4<sup>th</sup> For our Schools

For governors in each School as they plan and recruit  
staff. For all the Children as they approach Christmas.

**Thursday Dec 5<sup>th</sup> For Care Homes** as Chris visits  
and leads worship in Residential Homes @ Silver  
Birch and Tully West Manor. Pray for these moments  
of sharing God's fellowship.

**Friday Dec 6<sup>th</sup> For our Sit Out and Street Fair**  
people coming into the Parish Church this evening.

### St Nicholas' Day Prayer

Almighty Father, lover of souls,  
who chose your servant Nicholas  
to be a bishop in the Church,  
that he might give freely out  
of the treasures of your grace:  
make us mindful of the needs of others  
and, as we have received, so teach us also to give;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

**Saturday Dec 7<sup>th</sup> For our pulpit Swap tomorrow**  
Sam is coming to the Parish, John to 1<sup>st</sup> S'field  
and Chris to 2<sup>nd</sup> S'field.

**Sunday Dec 8<sup>th</sup> For our Saintfield Churches**  
For Sam Bostock and congregation in 1<sup>st</sup> Saintfield.  
John Torrens and congregation in 2<sup>nd</sup> Saintfield.  
Father Tony McHugh and congregation in RC Church.  
For the Baptist Church and congregation to call a  
pastor to come, lead them and teach God's Word.

For our 'Blue Christmas Service' at 4.00pm for anyone  
who finds the season sad and difficult.

## Monday Dec 9<sup>th</sup>

For our Christmas events in the Parish this week.

## Tuesday Dec 10<sup>th</sup> For Human Rights Day.

That all may have respect and rights no matter who  
they are.

## Wednesday Dec 11<sup>th</sup>

**For those we know in Hospital.**

## Thursday Dec 12<sup>th</sup>

For our 'Reason for Hope' Mission in that God will  
nudge people towards.

## Friday Dec 13<sup>th</sup>

For those who struggle with depression and mental  
health challenges.

## Saturday Dec 14<sup>th</sup>

For our Worship tomorrow and that as many families  
will come to SPACE Christmas.

## Sunday Dec 15<sup>th</sup> For our Worship today.

For our SPACE Christmas in hall and families all  
together to join for faith and fun.

## Monday Dec 16<sup>th</sup>

For those who are unemployed and who are trying to  
make ends meet. May they find help and support.

## Tuesday Dec 17<sup>th</sup> For those bereaved this year

## Wednesday Dec 18<sup>th</sup>

For the SAMS Ireland Office in Lurgan, for Gillian and  
Claire

## Thursday Dec 19<sup>th</sup>

For Family members traveling home and for those  
who are too far away to come home.

**Friday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>**

For families who have enjoyed new babies arriving this year and this is their first Christmas.

**Saturday Dec 21<sup>st</sup>**

For our partner Church in La Paz, Bolivia, Church of the Redeemer. For Pastor David and the whole congregation.

**Sunday Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>**

For our Worship today and especially our Silver Band Candlelit Carol Service.

**Monday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>**

For Sally as our Office Administrator, Ian as Sexton, William as Graveyard Convenor and Chris as Vicar. That they can enjoy a well-deserved break after Christmas.

***Christmas Eve Prayer for Children to use***

Dear God,  
on this Christmas Eve, we want to think about the real reason for this happy season: Jesus' birth. We'll give and receive gifts to say how much we love each other, just like the three kings brought gifts to Jesus.

But instead of thinking about what we might get for Christmas, help us to focus on what we can give to You. We want our hearts to be ready so we can truly enjoy celebrating Jesus' birthday and the peace and joy He came to give us. We want to give You a happy heart that wants to obey You, God—one that loves You and others.

Tonight  
we think about that special night long ago when a big, bright star shone in the sky along with an angel that frightened shepherds. And the good news given to those shepherds was for us, too: "Don't be afraid. Tonight in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born. This is the Messiah, the Son of God. He is the very best gift You will ever give us. Tonight, we just want to thank You again for how much You love us, just as we are. Thank You for the way You care for us and will never leave us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

***Christmas Day***

We greet your coming, God, with wonder: You come to be with us; yet you remain far greater than we can imagine. You are near; and your wisdom sets you apart from us. You appear among us; yet we cannot describe your glory.

We greet your coming, God, with repentance: We are more or less satisfied with ourselves; but your presence exposes our sin and failure. We are self-confident; but you challenge our confidence in ourselves. We are proud of our understanding; but you show us that we do not know everything.

We greet your coming, God, with joy: We had no true idea of what you are like; but you have shown us yourself in Jesus Christ. We felt our human life could be of no importance to you; but you have shown its value by appearing among us as a man. We are aware of the gulf between us and you; but you have bridged it with love. God, we greet your coming in Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen

For those who work today looking after our Hospitals, Roads, Safety and welfare.

**Boxing Day**

For all who found Christmas hard and sad.

**Friday Dec 27<sup>th</sup>**

**For time to relax**

**Saturday Dec 28<sup>th</sup>**

For Thomas & Yen on their Wedding Day.

**Sunday Dec 29<sup>th</sup>**

For our Worship at 10.00am, the last of the year.

**Monday Dec 30<sup>th</sup>**

For World peace and hope in countries divided by war, hate and violence.

Tuesday Dec 31<sup>st</sup> Last day of 2024.

As the dawn breaks on a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends. Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of race, colour or creed.

Let us keep God of our own understanding in our hearts and to chant God's name each day. Let us lead the world from darkness to light, from falsehood to truth and from wrong to right.  
Let us remember that we are all one, embracing all, discriminating against none.

May your year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings shower upon you and bestow upon each of you a bright, healthy and peaceful new year. Amen