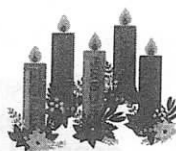


**PARISH OF ST PAUL'S, SALE  
PRAYER DIARY**

**DECEMBER 2024**



Thank you for using this Prayer Diary. Each week we suggest a prayer of Meditation to focus on as we start our prayers. Please also pray the thanksgiving prayer, for particular events or organisations, for the streets and for the World. On pages 3 and 4 there are some further prayers to use.

**Week: 2 – 8 December:**

**Meditation:** "For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods." (Psalm 96. 4)

**Thanksgiving:** That God calls us to worship him and be a witness for him.

**We pray for:**

The Christmas Tree Festival  
Parents worrying about the cost of Christmas  
Babes and Tots  
Community Choir

**Streets:** Alston Avenue, Fairlands Road, Meadows Road, Wickenby Drive.

**World:** For all families displaced as a result of ongoing wars.

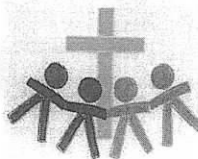
**Week: 9 - 15 December:**

**Meditation:** I will send my messenger ahead of you who will prepare your way. (Mark 1. 2)

**Thanksgiving:** For all who have inspired and helped me on my Christian journey.

**We pray for:**

Revd Becky and the Ministry Team  
For all responsible for delivering the Christmas message in local schools and nurseries  
The Carol Service and all who will attend it  
Local traders



**Streets:** Ashfield Road, Fieldvale Road, Moorside Court, Wolseley Road.

**World:** For world leaders that they may work together to seek peaceful ways to end conflicts.

**Week: 16 - 22 December:**

**Meditation:** The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor, to bind up the broken hearted, freedom to captives, release from darkness to prisoners. (Luke 4. 18)

**Thanksgiving:** For our capacity to wonder, which has been called the most pregnant human faculty, for in it are born our art, our science, our religion.

**We pray for:**

The continuing work of the Bible Society and the Bible Reading Fellowship.

The Samaritans and all Counsellors and befrienders.

Prison Chaplains.

CAP (Christians Against Poverty)

**Streets:** Beechfield Close, Fonthill Grove, Mossdale Road.

**World:** For Amnesty International and all prisoners of conscience.

**Week: 23 - 29 December:**

**Meditation:** Mary said, "My soul is full of joy in God my Saviour." (Magnificat)

**Thanksgiving:** That joy is at the heart of our Christian faith.

**We pray for:**

The Children's Society

All working to bring joy to people in Christmas projects.

Our hospitals, hospices and care homes and all who will be working there over Christmas.

Those for whom Christmas will be a difficult or lonely time.

**Streets:** Belgrave Road, Friars Road, Osborne Terrace.

**World:** The good news of Christmas and all who work to tell others of it.



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### Other prayers for Advent and Christmas



Joy  
As  
the  
hand  
is made  
for holding  
and the eye  
for seeing,  
you have fashioned  
me O Lord, for joy.  
Share with me the vision:  
to find that joy everywhere;  
in the holly berry's beauty,  
in the owl's melody,  
in the flame of a candle,  
in a person of compassion,  
in the shining eyes of a child,  
in the love of friends and family,  
in Christmas lights and  
starlit sky  
and most of  
all in  
Jesus.

*(Joyce Huggett)*



### Obedience

O Brother Jesus, who as a child was carried into exile; remember all those who are deprived of their home and country; who groan under the burden of anguish and sorrow; enduring the burning heat of the sun; the freezing cold of the sea; or the humid heat of the forest; searching for a place of refuge; cause these storms to cease, O Christ.

FOR UNTO US  
A Child  
IS BORN

Move the hearts of those in power; that they may respect the men and women whom you have created in your own image; that the grief of refugees may be turned into joy, as when you led Moses and your people out of captivity.

*(Joyce Huggett)*

### The Nativity

Among the oxen (like an ox I'm slow)  
I see a glory in the stable grow  
Which, with the ox's dullness might at length  
Give me an ox's strength.  
Among the asses (stubborn I as they)  
I see my Savior where I looked for hay;  
So may my beast like folly learn at least  
The patience of a beast.  
Among the sheep (I like a sheep have strayed)  
I watch the manger where my Lord is laid;  
Oh that my baaing nature would win thence  
Some woolly innocence!

*(CS Lewis)*

