

# Prayer Calendar

December 2024

**Sun, 1 December** Lord, on this first Sunday of Advent we pray that the light of your love may shine brightly to bring light to all.

**Mon, 2 December** God of boundless love and endless comfort, on this Grief Awareness Week, we pray for all who are grieving. May they receive compassion and support and feel safe in the knowledge that you are with them.

**Tue, 3 December** Heavenly Father, as Bishop's Staff meets today, we ask you to give them ears to hear how you are already at work and the discernment to know how best to join in.

**Wed, 4 December** We pray for Readers as they journey through the season of Advent and Christmas. May they share with others the story of the birth of Christ afresh and share the hope this brings, so that all people will know Jesus is the light of the world.

**Thur, 5 December** Generous God, on this International Volunteers Day, we give thanks for all those who serve your church and community without financial reward. We give thanks for their faithful generosity and ask you to bless them richly in all they are and do.

**Fri, 6 December** Gracious God, as we remember St Nicholas today, we ask you to give us a spirit of generosity and imagination as we reflect your love in how we share what we have with those around us.

**Sat, 7 December** Loving God, we pray today for Lay Worship Assistants who will be leading worship across our diocese tomorrow and in the weeks to come. We give thanks for the gifts that they bring and ask you to enable them to help others to draw close to you.

**Sun, 8 December** Father, at this time of year we pray for all the extra services that will take place in the Deanery of Midsomer Norton. Please Lord, give our priests and worship leaders that strength that only you can give as they strive to tell everyone the great wonders you have sent us.

**Mon, 9 December** God of love, we thank you for Lay Pastoral Assistants across our diocese and for the way in which they care for people in their communities, with the gift of prayerful presence. We ask you to bless them in this, your work of love.

**Tue, 10 December** Loving God, I pray for those who are most in need in our community. Please help the churches to see their need and to know how to respond, in Jesus' name.

**Wed, 11 December** Lord God, help all who are working to grow our church communities, especially in rural areas. Give them strength and courage in their endeavours for You.

**Thur, 12 December** For all those in our Magnificat parishes we pray for a strength of faith and love for all in their communities. Send your Holy Spirit in abundance on all those who work tirelessly to uphold their communities.

**Fri, 13 December** Lord, help us to be faithful to you, as we pray together across our diocese. May we learn more of your desires for our future.

**Sat, 14 December** Loving God, as we remember John of the Cross, Poet and Teacher of the Faith, we give thanks for all those who help us grow in faith through their teaching and accompaniment. Help us always to remain open to learn more about you and to follow you more faithfully.

**Sun, 15 December** Jesus, help us to create a welcome for children that mirrors the love that you showed them, when others felt they were in the way. Give us the grace to learn from people of all ages.

**Mon, 16 December** Heavenly Father, we pray for all bell ringers, giving thanks for the way in which they summon us to worship you. As the bells call others to worship, we pray that they will follow that call themselves and worship you in word and deed.

**Tue, 17 December** Loving God, as we remember the founder of Save the Children, we pray for compassion and generosity towards children, especially those caught up in conflict. May they know the love and protection of Jesus through all their struggles and loss.

**Wed, 18 December** God, we give thanks for the new clergy joining Yeovil Deanery, and ask you to send the right person to be vicar of St Michael's, a large Yeovil parish. We pray for your Spirit's presence in Christmas services so that more people come to living faith in Jesus.

**Thur, 19  
December** Heavenly Father, we thank you for the people across our churches doing practical things, often unseen, to make it possible to welcome people to worship you. Help us to honour all those who serve behind the scenes.

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**Fri, 20  
December** God of all things, as people around our diocese prepare to celebrate Christmas in so many different ways, we ask you to give us a sense of unity in our diversity, bound together by love for you.

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**Sat, 21  
December** Heavenly Father, we pray for all those preparing to preach over the Christmas season. May you inspire them to speak of your hopes for the world in ways that bring fire into the hearts of those who hear them.

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**Sun, 22  
December** Loving God, as we approach the celebration of the birth of your Son, we pray for families who are divided at the moment, for whatever reason. We pray that they will find the peace which is beyond human understanding.

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**Mon, 23  
December** Lord, we pray with choristers across our churches, that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts; and what we believe in our hearts, we may show forth in our lives.

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**Tue, 24  
December** Lord, in the stillness of the night, as we await the birth of your Son, give us a longing for the true life that he brings into our lives, wherever and wherever we are.

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**Wed, 25  
December**  
*Christmas Day* Incarnate God, we give thanks today that you came among us as a vulnerable child, to show us what love truly means. Give us the grace and openness to receive the gift of your love.

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**Thur, 26  
December**  
*Stephen,  
Deacon, First  
Martyr* Father eternal, as we remember St Stephen, the first Christian martyr, we pray for all those who steadfastly continue to witness to your good news, even when it is dangerous or costly to do so.

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**Fri, 27  
December**  
*John, Apostle  
and Evangelist* Loving God, help our churches to grow in commitment to you, in numbers and diversity, and in partnership with our local communities in all that gives life.

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**Sat, 28  
December**  
*The Holy  
Innocents* Father of us all, we pray your protection over all our children that they may be saved from fear, abuse and neglect. Maintain their innocence and grant them a full and healthy childhood encircled by your love.

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**Sun, 29  
December** Let us pray for all who hold significant positions of responsibility in our communities, in our church life and in our nation. May they exercise their influence wisely with respect for the position they hold.

**Mon, 30  
December** Loving God, we give thanks for the ways in which you are already at work in our lives and world. As we look to the future, send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions and grace in living and telling your story.

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**Tues, 31  
December** As we look toward a new year with many challenges, let us leave this year with thanks for all that God has done and look forward to all that He will do in 2025.