



Weekly Intercessions



in the Scottish Episcopal Church
in the Charges of St Margaret, Renfrew & St John, Johnstone
Week beginning Sunday 13 December 2020

Advent 3 Gaudete Sunday

The aim of this leaflet is to help you pray at home as part of the Worldwide Anglican family in the Scottish Episcopal Church. Please use this sheet in conjunction with weekly Pewsheets and the SEC Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer.

Join in the Daily Offices at
<https://tinyurl.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>
9am Morning Prayer & 530pm Evening Prayer
(Monday to Friday)

You can follow these Daily Offices online at
www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/
where you will find Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer each day of the week. All the Psalm and Bible texts are automatically there for the day and any commemoration or Festival.

Just before the Lord's Prayer you can insert these prayer intentions for the day and the names of those for whom we have been asked to pray in their different needs from the Pewsheets. Also are included the Benedictine Prayers of Union which Rev Reuben uses everyday being an Oblate of Alton Abbey in Hampshire.

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER **each SUNDAY 7pm**

The Call to a National Day of Prayer, is in response to the Covid -19 pandemic, people of faith across our nation are invited to join in prayerful solidarity with this witness. Light a candle at 7pm each Sunday, in the window of our homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, the source of hope in this life.



A prayer to use when you light your candle:

For all that is good in life, thank you,
For the love of family and friends, thank you,
For the kindness of good neighbour and Samaritan stranger, thank you.
May those who are vulnerable, hungry, or homeless,
experience support,
May those who are sick, know healing,
May those who are anxious or bereaved, sense comfort.
Bless and guide political leaders and decision-makers,
with wisdom,
Bless and guide health workers and key workers,
with strength and well-being,
Bless and guide each one of us,
as we adapt to a new way of living.

And may the light shining from our windows, across
road and wynd, glen and ben, kyle and isle, be
reflected in our hearts and hands and hopes.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Some prayers for use during the pandemic

God of all mercy and compassion,
life and death are in your hands.

Hear our prayers in this time of illness and infection,
of isolation, fear, and uncertainty:
for the sick, and those weighed down by pain, distress,
loneliness, and anxiety;
for all who care for them, conscious of the risks they bear;
and for those who have responsibility for public health and social order.

Hear the cry of the afflicted and let them be comforted,
so that all who suffer may come to know
that they are joined to the sufferings of Christ,
who gave his life for the salvation of the world;
and by your blessing on them and those who care for them,
may they be restored, according to your will,
to soundness of body and mind,
and offer you joyful thanks in your Church.

Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

God of our Salvation,
you have ordained that we should serve you
in serving one another.

Look upon this nation,
burdened at this time with many cares and anxieties,
with infection, sickness, and untimely death.

Grant us grace to work together,
with honest and faithful hearts,
each caring for the good of all;
that, striving first for your kingdom and its righteousness,
we may have added to us all things that we need
for our daily sustenance
and the common good.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Based on a prayer of Geoffrey Fisher)

O God, whose love we cannot measure,
nor even number thy blessings:
we bless and praise thee for all thy goodness,
who in our weakness art our strength,
in our darkness, light,
in our sorrows, comfort and peace,
and from everlasting to everlasting art our God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, world without end.

(Supplement to the Indian Book of Common Prayer)

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked (John 20. 19)

Ever-present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness, be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness, be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities and speak of your goodness
to an emerging world.
For Jesus' sake.

(A prayer by Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark)

Faith in action – HIV/AIDS

1st December is International AIDS Day. In the SEC prayer cycle for December we pray for unconditional acceptance of people living with HIV/AIDS as equal members of the body of Christ. The HIV pandemic affects every part of our world, including Scotland. Thanks to the development of effective treatment, many people are now living with HIV rather than dying from AIDS. Recent years have seen an increase in new HIV infections in Scotland - the majority within the heterosexual population. People living with HIV face stigma and discrimination on a regular basis.

We remember the millions of people throughout our world who are living with HIV. People in the developed world who have access to life saving treatments, but who often struggle to manage the regimes. People in the developing world with little or no access to treatment, families who have lost an entire generation; orphaned children who struggle to bring up their siblings. We pray for all those who are committed to changing this situation God of love and compassion, hear the prayers of your people.

AMEN

Daily Intercessions in the United Charges of St John's Johnstone & St Margaret's Renfrew

Sunday 13 December intentions – **Gaudate Sunday**

In the Anglican Communion

Pray for the Falkland Islands (Extra-Provincial to Canterbury)

The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton - Bishop to the Forces and Bishop to the Falkland Islands

In the SEC we pray for

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Brechin (Bishop Andrew Swift).
- Companions of Our Lady & St Mungo (Ellen Barrett, Alison Joy Whybrow).
- Holy Name, Cumbernauld (Vacant, Ray Gascoigne).
- St Matthew's, Possilpark (David Wostenholm, Stewart Wood).
- St Columba's, Bridgend, Isle of Islay (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).
- Liz Crumlish, being ordained priest at St Oswald's Maybole by Bishop Kevin this afternoon.

In our local Charges

We pray for hope for an end to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world & healing for all who are suffering from covid-19 at home and in hospital.

We pray for those named on our pewsheet – for health, healing, and wholeness in their lives.

We pray for each other as we worship together whether in our church buildings, by telephone or online.

We pray for our plans to keep the feasts between now and Candlemas, that we may feel connected as we share celebrations from our homes.

We pray for growth in the lives of our Charges, we pray that we may

each take part in inviting new people to become part of the life of our churches in Johnstone & Renfrew.

In our communities

We pray for all affected in their lives, work and finances by the increased restrictions required for the safety of all and especially for those who cannot visit loved ones at home or in care homes.

We pray for those living with HIV/AIDS and for an end to discrimination. We pray for wisdom and integrity and a worldwide vision for our Nation's leaders – may they help us to work together for the common good of all. We pray for all those involved in the vaccination programme against COVID.

We pray for parts of the world suffering because of war, terrorism, or natural disasters and that we may share in responsibility for our brothers and sisters across the world.

Monday 14 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

Sodor & Man (*England*) The Rt Revd Peter Eagles

El Camino Real (*The Episcopal Church*) The Rt Revd Mary Gray-Reeves

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Porvoo Link: The Church of Ireland.
- Diocesan Chancellor (Bruce Erroch); Diocesan Registrar (Ronald Inglis).
- St Bride's, Glasgow (Kevin Francis, Gregor Duncan).
- St Andrew's, Milngavie; (Andrea Hagenbuch, Fraser Gold).
- St Paul's, Kinlochleven (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).



In our local Charges

as Sunday and we pray for those in the leisure, travel, hospitality and retail sectors as they deal with a period of severe restrictions.

We pray for any who are anxious about what to do for the best to keep others safe but still keep in contact with loved ones, that in this season they may feel hope for a safer world in the coming year.

We pray for Charges in the Renfrewshire Region as they plan for Advent and Christmas: Heartlands Group, Holy Trinity Paisley, St John's Greenock, & St Bartholomew's Gourock.

We pray for our online and telephone worship on Wednesdays that we may find this a time of blessing.

We pray for all spiritual writers, directors and retreat leaders who nourish our spiritual lives.

In our communities

We pray for our Government Ministers and the Scientific advisors as they make plans for our future as a nation and as they face difficult decisions in the light of rises in the rates of COVID-19 in different areas.

We pray for the areas of the UK facing further restrictions due to the coronavirus, especially remembering the impact on the BAME communities.

We pray for all those with responsibilities for migrants and asylum seekers and for just and compassionate responses to those risking their lives to escape violence, persecution and exclusion to find safety for themselves and their families.

Tuesday 15 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

Sokoto (*Nigeria*) The Rt Revd Augustine Omole

El Salvador (*Central America*) The Rt Revd Juan David Alvarado Melgar



In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
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- Cathedral Chapter.
- Cathedral Church of St Mary, Glasgow (Kelvin Holdsworth, Oliver Brewer-Lennon, John Riches, Ellen Barrett).
- Cathedral Church of St John the Divine, Oban. (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).
- Cathedral Church and College of the Holy Spirit, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

In our local Charges

as Sunday and for the youngsters in our families at church and in our extended families who are away from us.

We pray for any whose lives are particularly restricted at this time because of long-term conditions or disabilities, that they may receive support and human contact to enhance their wellbeing and feel hope for a time when restrictions can be safely lifted.

We pray for all with caring responsibilities and those unable to visit loved ones at home or in hospital.

We pray for our local schools and the staff working in them especially as they endeavour to make up for the learning and support that children have missed.

We pray for students returning home and for those having to stay behind because they have tested positive for coronavirus.

We pray also for children having to learn at home because they need to self-isolate.

We continue to pray for ecumenical relationships and for a shared Christian witness to the people of Scotland during this Advent season.

In our communities

We pray for all mothers and fathers and for foster carers.

We pray for people living completely alone and feeling isolated and cut off, we give thanks for people helping neighbours.

We pray for those who feel vulnerable and frightened by all that is happening, and those who are anxious or scared to go out.

We pray for people who must shield or self-isolate, especially those protecting and supporting vulnerable family members.

Wednesday 16 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

South Ankole (*Uganda*) The Rt Revd Nathan Ahimbisibwe

Eldoret (*Kenya*) The Rt Revd Christopher Ruto

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Porvoo Link: The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland.
- St Mungo's, Alexandria (Vacant).
- St Augustine's, Dumbarton (Vacant).
- St Finan's, Kinlochmoidart and St Mary's, Strontian (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

In our local Charges

as Sunday and for people working from home and all those looking after children at home.

We pray for the households, couples, families, and our friends in our congregations.

We pray for our telephone church service this afternoon that it may help us to be an inclusive church.

We pray for our online service this evening: that it may be a time of blessing to us all.

We pray for our worship over the coming months and especially for planning for Advent and Christmas, that we can find ways to celebrate and to live these seasons and festivals in ways that will speak to us and to others about Christian hope in times that may seem dark.

Pray for our Regional Council meeting this evening

In our communities

We pray for Key workers and those who are working as child-minders and carers in the residential care settings of our Charges.

We pray for Outreach Workers of Glasgow City Mission and their support to the homeless and the vulnerable children of our region and for all those community initiatives that are helping to feed those in need.

We pray for our Prime Minister – Boris and First Minister – Nicola in their work for the common good. May they be wise in the discharge of their duties for the Nation.

We pray for areas of conflict throughout the world and for the work of international agencies and charities who provide relief.



Thursday 17 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

South Dakota (*The Episcopal Church*) The Rt Revd John Tarrant
El-Obeid (*Sudan*) The Rt Revd Ismail Gabriel Abudigin

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Edinburgh (Bishop John Armes).
- Diocesan Architect (Rebecca Cadie); Diocesan Surveyor (Elliott Glenesk).
- All Saints, Bearsden; (Kirstin Freeman).
- St Michael & All Angels, Helensburgh (Dominic Ind, Pat Smith, Kevin Boak).
- Christ Church, Lochgilphead (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

In our local Charges

as Sunday and we pray for ourselves as we learn to worship together, whether in our buildings, online or by telephone, may we be a blessing

to one another as we gather.

We pray for Bishop Kevin as he gets to know people around the Diocese on the phone and virtually and for his recent move to Bishop's House.

We pray for the mission of all Christian churches as they seek to make known the Gospel throughout Scotland.

In our communities

We pray for manual workers, street repair workers, refuse collectors and open-spaces maintenance workers.

We pray for a renewed sense of neighbourliness in our streets.

We pray for those living in care homes and their families who hope to be able to visit them safely soon.

We pray for people feeling frustrated and anxious, those worried about jobs, those seeking work and employment and for any who face economic hardship.

We pray for the groups which used to use our hall in Renfrew – AA & CA, and the Brownies and Dance classes, may they find new ways of working.

We give thanks for all volunteers helping to sustain the most vulnerable in our community.

We pray for Mental Health Services in the NHS and voluntary sector. May they have the resources and capacity to respond to the great needs at this time.

Friday 18 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

South Kerala (*South India*) The Rt Revd Dharmaraj Rasalam
(*Primate*)

Ely (*England*) The Rt Revd Stephen David Conway

Embu (*Kenya*) The Rt Revd David Muriithi Ileri



In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Porvoo Link: The Church in Wales.

- Drumchapel Ecumenical Partnership.
- All Saints, Jordanhill (Sydney Maitland).
- St Bride's, Onich (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

In our local Charges

as Sunday and for ourselves, that we may embody the two great commandments of Jesus in all of our living, at home, at work and in the community as we get used to this way of living in our communities.

We pray for the BAME communities as they face the pains and challenges of the ongoing COVID19 situation in Britain and the impact it is having on them along with the issues raised by the BLMs campaigns in the UK and abroad.

We pray for our carol celebration this evening that through the telephone and Zoom we may welcome the season and enjoy joining in with the singing at home.

We pray for those preparing for worship on Sunday.

In our communities

We pray that we may find an end to homelessness in our society once and for all and for the Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Action Group as they seek to find ways forward.

We pray for all those who bring their talents to the arts.

We pray for the success of researchers and scientists looking for a cure and vaccine for COVID-19 and for the work of the vaccination programme

We pray for spiritual renewal in Johnstone and Renfrew and that we may all feel empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the Good News.

Saturday 19 December intentions

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

Dioceses of

South Rwenzori (*Uganda*) The Rt Revd Jackson Nzerebende

Enugu (*Nigeria*) The Most Revd Dr Emmanuel Chukwuma

Enugu North (*Nigeria*) The Rt Revd Sosthenes Eze



In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway; Bishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church; the people of Scotland.
- Diocesan Property Committee (Gordon Fyfe).
- St Aidan's, Clarkston (Nicholas Taylor).
- St Margaret of Scotland, Newlands (Vacant, Maggie McTernan, Charlotte Methuen).
- St Columba's, Poltalloch (Diocese of Argyll and The Isles).

In our local Charges

as Sunday and for all who are preparing to lead worship in our churches tomorrow, that the words of God's challenge and grace may be delivered and received by us all and that we may also feast on the sacraments. We pray for one another as we get used to worshipping together at home, online and in our church buildings and we pray for the return of singing soon.

We pray for all victims of abuse, especially for those who are not safe in their own homes.

In our communities

We pray for world leaders in their work of helping the poorest areas and regions of the world during this pandemic time.

We pray for our First Minister Nicola as she leads Scotland.

We pray for people who are lonely, isolated, or desolate.

We pray for all those who work for the wellbeing of children and seek to prevent the lifelong impact of trauma and disadvantage.

We pray that new people will join the lives of St John's & St Margaret's.

From Alton Abbey Hampshire – Benedictine Foundation

Prayers of Union

For those in pain or sorrow:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

For those in doubt or fear:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

For all bishops, priests and deacons:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

For all monks and nuns:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

For all members of our Confraternity:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

For the unity of all Christians:

Mother of Jesus, pray.

May all who honour you,

Know the power of your prayer.

Saint Benedict, Father of monks,

Pray for us and all children.

Lord, arouse in your Church

the spirit which guided our holy father Benedict.

Fill us with that spirit and grant that we may love what he loved
and put into practice what he taught.

Help us to be steadfast in the service of your will,
that we may grow in number and holiness.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

or

The Prayer Anima Christi (Soul of Christ) – Contemporary
Version, David Flemming, SJ

Jesus, may all that is you flow into me.

May your body and blood be my food and drink.

May your passion and death be my strength and life.

With you by my side, enough has been given me.

May the shelter I seek be the shadow of your cross.

Let me not run from the love which you offer,

but hold me safe from the forces of evil.

On each of my dyings shed your light and your love.

Keep calling to me until that day comes

when, with your saints,

I may praise you for ever. **Amen.**



Leading your Church
into Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your
Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Everybody is invited and welcome
but household by household and online
at this time of COVID-19 sadly!



The SEC is dedicated to becoming a welcoming, open and inclusive spiritual environment for all people- irrespective of gender, sexual and sexuality identities. We seek to offer a place for you to connect with the true self that we believe God has made you. If you feel different – welcome! We are different because we believe that as we walk with Jesus Christ together our lives are transformed and find fresh meaning and purpose, sharing in the gift of life as we know it now. You have found a new home and family to grow and flourish- welcome!



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