



Weekly Intercessions



in the Scottish Episcopal Church
in the Charges of St Margaret, Renfrew & St John, Johnstone
Week beginning Sunday 19 December

Advent 4

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.

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.

9am start Monday to Friday - You can pray with the Renfrewshire Region using the Zoom/Telephone details call 01314601196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407# Participant ID: # Passcode: 076546# Press *6 on the phone to unmute yourself so that others can hear you joining in or clicking this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83241840407?pwd=YnBqWkxEeW5NMIBuTDRmbDc0cFZhUT09>

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

JOINT CALL TO PRAYER

each SUNDAY 7pm

Light a candle in your window at 7pm on Sunday, along with Christians of all denominations. You can say the prayer below as you do so.



We pray:

*Living God
And Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pour out your Spirit upon us
And fill the hearts of your faithful people.
May your Spirit come as the One who speaks for us
And advocates on our behalf.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

*Living God
And Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pour out your Spirit upon us
And kindle in us the fire of your love.
May your Spirit comfort us in our sorrow
And strengthen us in our weakness
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

*Living God
And Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pour out your Spirit upon us
And create your people anew.
May your Spirit come to counsel and direct us
And grant to us wisdom in all we face.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

*Living God
And Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pour out your Spirit upon us
And renew the face of all the earth.
May your Spirit help us to care for Creation
And to live as those who cherish the gifts you have given.*

*Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

*Living God
And Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Pour out your Spirit upon us
And set us free to worship and glorify your name.
Come, Holy Spirit,
And fill our hearts with love for you.
Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.*

In a joint message, church leaders in Scotland said:
"The Gospel of John speaks of the One who is to come and of the One who is go. Jesus is the One who is to go and he must do so first. On hearing this, the disciples of Jesus are filled with sorrow and he explains to them that 'if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you'. The disciples fear that they will be left bereft and Jesus reassures them that his absence will be filled by the outpouring of 'the Spirit of truth'. The Spirit is the One who is to come and Jesus is the One who is to go. (John 15: 26-27; 16: 4b-15)

"Who is the Spirit who is to come? In the Gospel of John, the word used to describe the Spirit is variously translated as 'Advocate', 'Comforter', 'Counsellor', 'Helper' or simply transliterated as 'Paraclete'. (John 15: 26) The word used is found in only one other place in the New Testament outwith the Gospel and here it is used to describe Jesus. Jesus is the One who stands before the Father and pleads for us. (1 John 2: 1)

"[On this Pentecost Sunday], we give thanks to God for the Spirit outpoured on the people of God. The Spirit comes to be the abiding presence of God in our lives and in the life of the people of God. We give thanks that the Spirit is the One who has come."

Signed by:

Most Rev. Mark Strange, Primus, on behalf of the College of Bishops, Scottish Episcopal Church
Rt. Rev. Dr Martin Fair, (then) Moderator of the General Assembly, Church of Scotland
Most Rev. Leo Cushley, Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, Roman Catholic Church
Rev. John Fulton, Moderator, United Free Church of Scotland
Rev. Donnie G. MacDonald, Moderator, Free Church of Scotland
Rev. Paul Whittle, Moderator, United Reformed Church (Scotland)
Rev. Martin Hodson, General Director, Baptist Union of Scotland
Rev. Mark Slaney, District Chair, Methodist Church (Scotland)
Rev. May-Kane Logan, Chair, Congregational Federation in Scotland
Lt. Col. Carol Bailey, Secretary for Scotland, Salvation Army
Adwoa Bittle, Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Rev. Claire Fender, District Superintendent, British Isles North District, Church of the Nazarene
Pastor Chris Gbenle, Provincial Pastor, Province of Scotland, Redeemed Christian Church of God
Bishop Francis Alao, Church of God (Scotland)/Minority Ethnic Churches Together in Scotland (MECTIS)
Rev Fred Drummond, Director, Evangelical Alliance (Scotland).

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 (December) – HIV/AIDS

You may wish to consider doing one or more of the following:

- pray for people living with HIV/AIDS
- commemorate International AIDS Day on the 1st December each year
- pray for all those whose lives are affected by HIV/AIDS
- pray for more effective drugs to combat this disease
- support charities who work with people living with HIV/AIDS
- volunteer in a hospice for those dying from this disease
- unconditionally accept people living with HIV/AIDS as equal members of the body of Christ

**God of all compassion,
Comfort your sons and daughters who live with HIV.
Spread over us all your quilt of Mercy, Love and Peace.
Open our eyes to your presence reflected in their faces.**

Open our ears to your truth echoing in their hearts.
Give us the strength
To weep with the grieving,
To walk with the lonely,
To stand with the depressed.
May our love mirror your love
For those who live in fear,
Who live under stress and who suffer rejection.
Mothering, fathering God
Grant rest to those who have died
And hope to all who live with HIV
God of life, help us to find the cure now
And help us to build a world in which
No one dies alone and where
Everyone lives accepted
Wanted and loved.
AMEN

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

Sunday 19 December intentions
Advent 4 - O Root of Jesse

**In the Anglican
Communion pray for**

The Church of the Province of
Central Africa

In the SEC we pray for

- Bishop Kevin Pearson,
Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Diocesan Property Committee (Reuben Preston).
- St Aidan's, Clarkston (Nicholas Taylor).
- St Margaret of Scotland, Newlands (Gordon Fyfe, David Jasper,
Charlotte Methuen)

The **Tree of Jesse** is a depiction in art of the ancestors of Jesus Christ, shown in a branching tree which rises from Jesse of Bethlehem, the father of King David. It is the original use of the family tree as a schematic representation of a genealogy.



- In the SEI: Laura Symon, Moray, Ross and Caithness, ordinand

We pray for our national leaders in the working out of the COP26 conclusions and challenges here in the UK and across the world.

We pray for hope, and an end to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world and healing for all who are suffering from Covid-19 at home and in hospital especially as we deal with the omicron variant.

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

We pray for the Diocesan Charges' and our individual engagement with the *10 Points of Guidance on the Climate Crisis*

We pray for St Johns Christmas Meal taking place today – may it be a time of great blessing and fellowship

In our communities

We pray for all those involved in the increased vaccination programme in the UK and against COVID across the entire world, for those who have the responsibility for making this happen here in the UK and overseas.

We pray all working and volunteering with the NHS at this time.

We pray for the fundraising of St Johns as they buy Birth Certificates for the street children of Latin America this Advent-tide.

We pray for our ecumenical partners in mission as we help to make known the Christmas message of Christ this year.

We pray for the work of the St Vincent's hospice and ACCORD hospice, for those who will be sharing a last Christmas with loved ones.

Monday 20 December intentions – O Key of David

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Ikwano – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Aba Province)

David is described in the Hebrew Bible as a king of the United Monarchy of Israel and Judah. In the Books of Samuel, David is a young shepherd who gains fame by slaying the giant Goliath, a champion of the Philistines in southern Canaan. David becomes a favorite of the first king of un



In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

- Porvoo Link: The Lusitanian Church of Portugal.
- Diocesan Centre Staff (Christine Hughes, Iolanthe Stack, Marion Noble).
- St Oswald's, King's Park (Vacant).
- St Ninian's, Pollokshields (Vacant, Eamonn Rodgers, Kenneth Roach).
- In the SEI: Rachael Wright, Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, Mixed Mode ordinand

In our local Charges

We pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit in this Advent season to to draft into our hearts the desire to see our churches grow in impact on the local areas, and for wisdom to see how we can use our buildings to reach out further in mission and ministry.

We pray for our Charge Lay Reps and Alt Lay Reps – that the work they do to represent our Churches at Regional Council and in Synod may be valued by all.

In our communities

We pray for all those agencies getting ready to offer help and support over the Christmas period – especially we pray for the Salvation Army's work in Paisley area.

We pray for all organizations running telephone helplines during December and January to provide support and encouragement to people feeling in need.

We pray for the local Fire Service staff and the Ambulance staff.

Tuesday 21 December intentions - *festival - Thomas, Apostle – O Dayspring*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Ilaje – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province)

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

- Scottish Episcopal Church: Moray, Ross and Caithness (Bishop Mark Strange).
- Good Shepherd & Ascension, Hillington; Holy Trinity & St Barnabas, Paisley (Deborah Davison).
- In the SEI: Revd Canon Graham Taylor, Chaplain to SEI

In our local Charges

We pray for our Charge engagement with the "10 Points of Guidance" on the Climate Crisis as we consider at home the points in our domestic settings over the festive period, in our use of wrapping materials and the ways in which we decorate our homes.

We pray for our Advent Group meeting on Wednesday evenings – may we draw closer to Christ as we dwell with the scriptures in this fourth week of study and reflection.

We pray for the preparations for the Ecumenical Carol Service on 17 Dec at St Margarets.

In our communities

We pray for all Nursery and Pre-school care settings as they make Christmas celebrations for those who attend.

We especially pray for children in new foster care settings for the first time this Christmas.

We pray for people facing addictions: drugs, sex, money, alcohol, prestige, internet.... For the groups running 12 step programmes to help people find new freedom and a management of their struggles and inclinations.

We pray for all agencies helping to support and offer hope to those people feeling suicidal.

Wednesday 22 December intentions – *O King of the Nations*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Ile - Oluji – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province)

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: The Spanish Episcopal Reformed Church.
- Diocesan Protection of Vulnerable Groups Co-ordinator (Anne Jones).
- St John's, Johnstone; St Margaret's, Renfrew (Reuben Preston, Lisa Curtice).
- In the SEI: Revd Canon Ian Barcroft, Provincial Director of Ordinands

In our local Charges

We pray for spiritual renewal in our Charges, and a desire for our individual and corporate spiritual growth.

We pray for all Spiritual Directors and Companions working in the diocese.

We pray for our Diocesan Vocations advisors in their work of helping people on the path of discernment.

We pray for the SEC's online ministry as more of the Charges install online streaming systems and we pray for the cathedral during this period of installation for them at St Marys Cathedral.

In our communities

We pray for people in Scotland living with HIV/AIDS and the services helping people live well – especially the HIV Clinics rolling out the new medicine regimes recently coming online.

We pray for those who work with the homeless, refugees and asylum seekers in our country, especially the various community projects offering help and support in Glasgow.

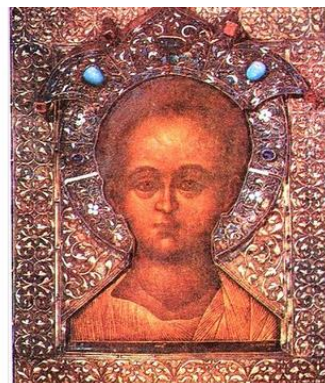
We pray for our Prime Minister – Boris and First Minister – Nicola in their work for the common good. May they and all world leaders be wise in the discharge of their duties for the Nations and we pray for all world leaders.

Thursday 23 December intentions - *O with us is God*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Ilesa – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province)

Immanuel is a Hebrew name that appears in the Book of Isaiah (7:14) as a sign that God will protect the House of David.



In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- St Bartholomew's, Gourock (Vacant).
- St John the Evangelist, Greenock (Wilhelmina Nesbitt).
- In the SEI: Diocesan Advisors

In our local Charges

We pray for the future of the earth as we all work towards the challenges of the COP26 outcomes and adapt the way we live and use energy in our lives and homes.

We pray for the Eco-Congregations movement and our Charges as we consider a relationship with them in 2022.

We pray for our Renfrewshire Region Clergy as they prepare for worship in the coming festive season – may they be blessed in their ministry for the the Charges they serve.

In our communities

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

We pray for people young and old with special needs and those who are their support in live and living.

Friday 24 December intentions – *Christmas Eve*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for



The Diocese of Ilesa South West – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province)

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Denmark.
- Heartland Group: St Mary's, Bridge of Weir; St Fillan's, Kilmacolm; St Mary the Virgin, Port Glasgow (Vacant, Audrey Stewart, Robert Chambers, Gerard McKeown).
- In the SEI: Diocesan Ambassadors

In our local Charges

We pray for all who will be attending the Ecumenical Carol Service this evening at Renfrew – may it be a time of blessing to us all and may we all be safe from the omicron variant as we gather to sing in our masks. We pray for the NHS as it roles out the increased vaccination programme.

We pray for the Charges of our Region: St Margarets Renfrew, St Johns Johnstone, Holy Trinity Paisley, St Marys Port Glasgow, St Fillans Kilmacolm, St Marys Bridge of Weir, St Johns Greenock and St Bartholemhews Gourock as we celebrate the incarnation together.

In our communities

We pray for staff at our supermarkets and shops as they help us to buy the provisions we need to share a joyfilled Christmas in our homes this year.

We pray for all the young people in Renfrew and Johnstone and those agencies beginning to plan for holiday clubs in 2022.

We pray for the young people who are part of the lives of our Charges.



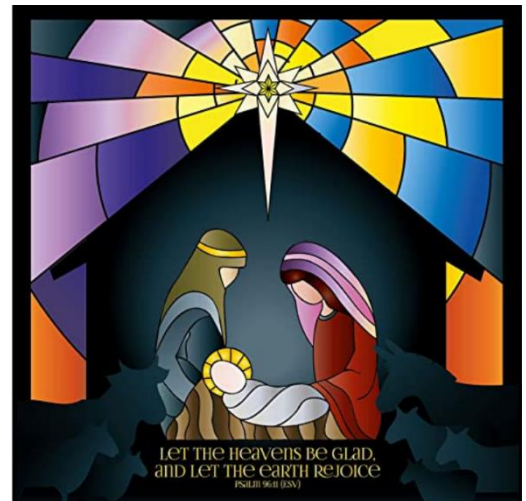
Saturday 25 December intentions – festival - **Christmas Day**

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of North East India – The (united) Church of North India

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: St Andrew's, Dunkeld and Dunblane (Bishop Ian Paton).
- Canon Missioner (Audrey Stewart); Digital Missioner (Petko Marinov).
- Holy Trinity, Motherwell; St Andrew's, Wishaw (Richard Kilgour, Charles Sargent).
- In the SEI: Families of candidates
-



In our local Charges

We pray for one another as we engage with aspects of Climate Crisis in our own homes and lives and as we gather with loved ones in person and virtually to share in the Christmas spirit of Love Joy and Peace. We pray for St John's support of the ToyBox Birth Certificate giving collection over the festive period.

We pray for St Margarets as they collect for Alberlour as Bishop Kevin calls up to support this local charity in their care for children and young people and the Erskine Care home.

We pray for all who have attended the Christmas worship on Christmas Eve and one Christmas Day.

In our communities

We pray for world leaders in the work they have to change the course of the Climate Crisis during the coming decade.

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

We pray for each other and give thanks for the lives of our Charges.

We pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to reach out in new ways to the world in the communities we serve in offering something of the unconditional love which Christ offers to us all.

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.**



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!



www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk