



# Weekly Intercessions



in the Scottish Episcopal Church  
in the Charges of St Margaret, Renfrew & St John, Johnstone  
Week beginning Sunday 26 December

## Christmas 1

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/](http://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.

**There is no zoom Morning Prayer  
until 7 January 2022**

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](http://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.

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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)

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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)*

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*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 26 December intentions -1st Sunday of  
Christmas, Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr**

**In the Anglican Communion pray for**

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

**In the SEC we pray for**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad.
- Mothers' Union (Jill Cameron).
- St Cuthbert's, Cambuslang; St Mark's, East Kilbride (Paul Fletcher).
- In the SEI: Bishop Anne, Convenor of Institute Council and Institute Council members

We pray for our national leaders in this Christmas octave = that they may use their power and influence to be agents for peace and reconciliation.

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* as we look to 2022

We give thanks for the opportunity to share and eat together at our Christmas meals for St Johns and St Margarets

### **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 through the Christmas season.

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 neighbours.

### **Monday 27 December intentions - festival - **John, Apostle and Evangelist****

### **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Northern Indiana – The Episcopal Church (V (5) Province)

### **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: The Lutheran Church in Great Britain.
- St Mary the Virgin, Hamilton; St Andrew's, Uddingston (Matthew Little).
- Episcopalians in isolated parts of the country.

- In the SEI: The Associate Tutors

## **In our local Charges**

We pray for all the Charges whose Patron is St Johns the Evangelist esp St John's Johnstone.

We pray for each other in our discipleship – that we may grow in confidence in our faith during the year ahead and know more deeply the “Word made flesh” which St John proclaims Jesus as for us all.

## **In our communities**

We pray for all theologians in our communities. Those who bare witness to faith in Christ Jesus in our midst.

We pray for all the support groups and agencies helping to support people through the festive season

## **Tuesday 28 December intentions - *festival* - **The Holy Innocents****

## **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Indianapolis – The Episcopal Church (V (5) Province)

## **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Interfaith Relations (Maggie McTernan).
- Christ Church, Lanark (Drew Sheridan, Robert Burgon, Richard Evans).
- St Paul and St John the Evangelist, Monklands (Kirstin Freeman).
- In the SEI: Members of the Management Committee

## **In our local Charges**

We pray for all children in our Charges.

We pray for Social Workers who are dealing with difficult child abuse cases at this time.

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 ecumenical partners in Renfrew and Johnstone.

### **In our communities**

We pray for all staff in our schools and nurseries that they may have a restful Christmas holiday.

We especially pray for Childrens Homes – esp the one in Johnstone.

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 telephone helpline services offering support over the Christmas season

### **Wednesday 29 December intentions – *St Stephen (trans)***

#### **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Iowa – The Episcopal Church (VI (6) Province)

#### **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: General Synod Office (John Stuart, Secretary General).
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Provincial Standing Committee & Provincial Boards.
- Chaplaincy in Hospitals, Education and Commerce.
- Anglican Chaplaincy, University of Glasgow (Kelvin Holdsworth, Oliver Brewer-Lennon).
- In the SEI: Revd Dr John McNeil Scott and the staff of the Scottish URC College

#### **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 who are examples to us of faithful living as St Stephen was.

We pray for our Diocesan Vocations advisors in their work of helping people on the path of discernment – we pray for those in our diocese who are exploring their vocation at this time.

### **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 30 December intentions** - commemoration - Josephine Butler, 1906

### **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Iran – The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

### **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- The Methodist Church in Scotland (Mark Slaney).
- The United Reformed Church (Paul Whittle).
- EMU Partnership Agreement.
- In the SEI: Mixed Mode Supervisors and Placement Supervisors

### **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 especially as we reflect on the year gone by and look to 2022.

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 take a wee break after the Christmas Services and events.

## **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 31 December intentions** – *commemoration - John Wycliffe, Priest, 1384*

## **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Irele - Eseodo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province)

## **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- The Anglican Communion.
- The Primates' Meeting.
- The Anglican Consultative Council (Alistair Dinnie, Jenny Wright).
- In the SEI: SEI Staff

## **In our local Charges**

We pray for each other as we reflect on the year gone by today and pray for a healthy and good 2022.

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 look to our mission and ministry in 2022.

## **In our communities**

We pray for staff at the shops where sales are taking place – that they may be respected and kept safe in their work.

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 families and young people who are part of the lives of our Charges.

## **Saturday 1 January 2022 intentions – *festival* - **The Naming of Jesus****

### **In the Anglican Communion we pray for**

The Diocese of Isi mbano – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Owerri Province)

### **In the SEC**

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Those in training for ordained and lay ministries.
- Bishop Gregor Duncan, Bishop Idris Jones, Bishop Gordon Mursell, all retired clergy and those in Post-Retiral Ministry.
- The Church of Scotland.
- The Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.
- In the SEI: Niccolò Aliano, Diocese of Edinburgh, Mixed Mode Ordinand

### **In our local Charges**

We pray for one another at the start of this new year as we engage with aspects of Climate Crisis in our own homes and lives.

We pray for St John's support of the ToyBox Birth Certificate giving collection over the festive period until Candlemas.

We pray for all who have hangovers!

### **In our communities**

We pray for world leaders in the work they have to change the course of the Climate Crisis during the coming year and the rest of the 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 inspire us into faithful and sacrificial living.

**From Alton Abbey Hampshire** – Benedictine Foundation

## **Prayers of Union**

For those in pain or sorrow:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
For those in doubt or fear:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
For all bishops, priests and deacons:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
For all monks and nuns:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
For all members of our Confraternity:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
For the unity of all Christians:	<b>Mother of Jesus, pray.</b>
May all who honour you,	<b>Know the power of your prayer.</b>
Saint Benedict, Father of monks,	<b>Pray for us and all children.</b>

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!



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