



Weekly Intercessions



in the Scottish Episcopal Church
in the Charges of St Margaret, Renfrew & St John, Johnstone
Week beginning Sunday 23 January 2022

Epiphany 3

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.

Zoom Morning Prayer is on the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83241840407?pwd=YnBqWkxEeW5NMlBuTDRmbDc0cFZhUT09>

Tel: 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407 Passcode: 076546
and *6 to unmute on the 'phone

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 (January) – Homelessness

You may wish to try the following:

- pray for homeless people
- give money to charities working with the homeless
- give meal tokens to homeless people
- give a chocolate bar or a cup of coffee to a homeless person you meet on the street
- Buy the Big Issue regularly (more than half of the cost goes directly to the vendor) and get to know each of the different vendors on your way round Town
- give your time to talk to people and try to establish a rapport
- make those who are homeless feel wanted, loved and included
- see what your Church can do for Scotland's homeless by applying for an information pack for the annual 'Homelessness Sunday'; Church Action on Poverty Week is at the end of January to the beginning of February

- volunteer for the Bethany Care Van which operates 365 days per year
- become a Friend of the SCHA and receive a monthly newsletter giving you regular updates on the Scottish Churches' collective endeavour to help the homeless on our streets
- buy a Caring Christmas Tree from Bethany Christian Trust
- save money as well as supporting a variety of homelessness charities through the ethical banking firm 'Triodos', a plethora of different saving policies allows you to save money and contribute differing proportions of the interest made to support various homeless charities

From Scotland to the World

Lord, be with the homeless on the streets of Scotland.

And lest we forget the extent of your love,

We ask that you might be not only with all the

people sleeping rough on Scottish streets,

but also with those sleeping in the dusty highways

and shanty towns of your creation.

In the loneliness of a thousand cardboard boxes,

And in the squalid darkness of a thousand doorways,

Homeless Saviour, be with your homeless

children wherever they may be.

AMEN

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

Sunday 23 January 2022 intentions – Epiphany 3

In the Anglican Communion pray for

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hu

In the SEC we pray for

- 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

We pray for our UK response to the current pandemic situation as the situation will begin to change this week. We pray for those people with responsibility for making difficult decisions: may they be wise and fair in their work for all.

We pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world. We pray for those named on our pewsheet – for health, healing, and wholeness in their lives - body, mind and spirit.

We pray for the Scottish Episcopal Church as we plan for engaging with the *10 Points of Guidance on the Climate Crisis*: we pray too for our Charges, and this week we pray for St Margaret's Vestry as it meets.

We give thanks for the freedom we have to gather for worship here in the UK. May we cherish our freedoms and liberties.

In our communities

We pray for all those involved in the increased vaccination against COVID across the entire world: may their work bring hope and freedom to the world.

We pray one another as we look to the year ahead. We pray for the outreach in the lives of our Charges.

We pray for the growth of our churches' lives in 2022 and we pray for grace to welcome new people with joy into our Charges.

We pray for people whose lives are in chaos at this time and people seeking a clear vision for the way forward.

Monday 24 January intentions - commemoration - Francis de Sales, Bishop, 1622

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kafanchan – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Abuja 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 each other that we may recognise the gifts that we have to share with the life of Christ's church

We pray for St Johns as the preparations begin for the building works to start at the end of February – for the builder Garry Flemming and the architect Rebecca Cadie.

We pray for our members who are at home and ill at this time.

In our communities

We pray for families worried about their income this year.

We pray for people who are preparing for retirement this week.

We pray for the work of the Colleges and Universities near us and the students and staff coping with mixed-modes of learning.

We pray for an end to homelessness: for aid groups dealing with immediate need and leaders making decisions for the future.

As we commemorate Francis de Sales today we pray for all spiritual leaders in our communities and in the Church,

Tuesday 25 January intentions - *Festival - The Conversion of Paul – Beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity WOPCU*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kagera – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

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 the Compassion children sponsored by St Margarets and we pray for Jane Turner in her role of Project link, and Doreen as she collects the monthly funding.

We pray for people living alone.

We pray for our Charge engagement with the "10 Points of Guidance" on the Climate Crisis as we consider how we can implement them in 2022 in our domestic settings.

We pray for Care Home's staff and managers as they struggle with the challenges of staffing the care homes at this time.

In our communities

We pray for all people who are facing the end of their jobs this week and as they begin looking for new employment.

We pray for our Ecumenical Partners in Johnstone and Renfrew at the start of this WOPCU.

We pray for people facing the consequences of natural disaster over the week gone by: for people who are now homeless, those who have lost their possessions and who mourn for loved ones and friends.

We pray for people who support the grieving this week.

Wednesday 26 January intentions – *festival - Timothy and Titus, Bishops - WOPCU*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kajiado – The Anglican Church of Kenya

In the SEC

- 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

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In our local Charges

We pray for spiritual renewal in our Charges, and a desire for our individual and corporate spiritual growth and we give thanks for the example of Ss Timothy and Titus whom we celebrate today.

We pray for St Margaret's Vestry as they meet this evening.

We pray for our Vestry Lay Reps: Wilma and Vanessa.

In our communities

We pray for people in Scotland living homelessly, we pray for the national efforts to bring an end to homelessness.

We pray for refugees and asylum seekers who are living in Scotland and those who are beginning to make a new life here.

We pray for people moving into residential care this week – that they may feel safe and content in their new homes

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 27 January intentions - commemoration - John Chrysostom, Bishop and Teacher of the Faith, 407

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kajo-Keji – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Cantral Equatoria 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 our Ecumenical Brothers and Sisters in this WOPCU as we tackle the Climate Crisis.

We pray for the communities who live in areas threatened by rising sea levels or in fear of forest fires.

We pray for wildlife groups dealing the distress caused by the climate changes to animals across the world.

We pray for Churches that we may work with hope for the changes needed by the "10 Points of Guidance on Climate Crisis"

We pray for each other: that we may grow in faith and grace.

In our communities

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

We pray for all Counsellors working in work place settings and helping people to cope with the stresses they currently face.

We pray for people living with long term health conditions and physical pain and the support groups which offer support and encouragement.



Friday 28 January intentions – *commemoration - Thomas Aquinas, Teacher of the Faith, 1274*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kamango – Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Cong

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 Christian denominations in this WOPCU – that we may learn to work together in the spread of the Gospel.

We pray for one another that we have grace in our dealings with folk from other denominations.

We pray for people who are earnestly praying for Christ to be present to them in their lives at this time.

We give thanks for the lives and examples of the saints who have gone before us: may we use our lives to the praise and glory of God and to the care and comfort of one another.

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 Bartholemehews Gourock.

In our communities

We pray for a greater sense of community in Renfrew and Johnstone.

We pray for all the support projects helping people to have a better sense of daily living.

We pray for more men to come and join the lives of our Charges.

We pray for countries filled with strife and warring – that our leaders and aid agencies may do all they can to bring harmony and peace: at this time we remember the tensions in the Russian states.

Saturday 29 January 2022 intentions – *WOPCU*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kampala – The Church of the Province of Uganda

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 a sense of friendship in our Churches and a growth in our opportunity for fellowship and friendship as the restrictions change and we can start to meet for refreshments again.

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

We pray for our Charge preparations for the Lent course being run by Tish in our Charges.

We pray for our Ecumenical partners as we have come to the end of the 2022 WOPCU.

We pray for the year ahead in our Charges that we may be able to engage with the communities we serve in mission and outreach.

In our communities

We pray for the local civic leaders, and those responsible for helping young people learn to become good members of society.

We pray for everyone seeking spiritual meaning in their lives at this time: especially those exploring vocation.

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

We pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to inspire us into faithful and sacrificial living as we look to 2022 and the challenges ahead of us.

We pray for financial giving in our Charges to enable us to reach out in mission.

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!



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