



Uxbridge Parish

Prayer Diary – December 2021



1st	On World Aids Day , we pray for all those living with HIV worldwide. May churches be a safe haven for all who are abandoned, discriminated against or rejected on account of illness.
2nd	Father God we continue to pray for those who are homeless and are sleeping on the streets as the weather gets colder. Guide those who are trying to help them, especially those agencies and venues who provide night shelters.
3rd	Today let's remind ourselves about the importance of saying thank you – sometimes in our busy lives we forget to show gratitude for the many ways in which we are helped and encouraged by others.
4th	Heavenly Father, we thank you for the Advent Quiet Morning and for the opportunity this gives us to pause and be with you. Be with us in our stillness and enable us to hear your voice.

<p>5th Sunday</p>	<p>Following the announcement that the next Bishop of Willesden is to be Revd Canon Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, please hold Lusa, his wife Mirjam and their three young children in your prayers, as they leave Leicester, head to London and prepare for his consecration as Bishop towards the end of January.</p>
<p>6th</p>	<p>Pray today for our Government and its advisors managing our response to the pandemic. With a new variant and concerning signs of a re-emergence, pray that it be controlled by early action and we do not return to restrictions and lockdown and the suffering that meant for many.</p>
<p>7th</p>	<p>We pray for those striving to improve their knowledge and understanding of the Bible, as this evening at St Margaret's, Rev Andrew offers an introduction to Luke's Gospel, what makes Luke different and why we need his message today.</p>
<p>8th</p>	<p>Pray for the PCC meeting this evening as we consider our mission and outreach plans, following the PCC Away Morning, and within the context of the Diocese of London's 2030 vision for mission.</p>
<p>9th</p>	<p>We pray today for Hermitage Primary School and St Andrew's School, holding their Nativity Plays in our churches. We thank you for the opportunity these activities give us to share your love with children in our community.</p>
<p>10th</p>	<p>On World Human Rights Day, we give thanks that we live in a country where human rights are observed and we ask that you are with those where they are not. We especially pray for organisations such as Amnesty International who work to end human rights abuses across the world.</p>

<p>11th</p>	<p>Today we pray for all University Students, some of whom have continued to miss out on so much that they would normally expect to enjoy. As their term comes to an end, bless their journeys home.</p>
<p>12th Sunday</p>	<p>Father we thank you for the very special Parish Christingle service at St Andrew's for children and families. May your light penetrate the hearts of all who attend this service.</p> <p>Dear God, we thank you for the opportunities to show that you are a light in the darkness by bringing Carols in the Pub, taking place in The Queen's Head, to our community this evening. We trust that we remain able to gather in person in the pub, despite concerning signs of re-emergence of covid.</p>
<p>13th</p>	<p>We pray for St Andrew's School and their Carol Service, to be held at St Margaret's today.</p> <p>As our youth groups gather for their Christmas dinner at St Andrew's this evening, pray for our Youth Worker, James Wood. Bless his work with young people and thank you for the fellowship which our youth groups enjoy. We pray for all the young people of our parish, that they may find peace and joy in this season.</p>
<p>14th</p>	<p>Lift to God those who live on your street or those you pass as you walk or drive to work, and those who work where you do or in places you visit today. Pray God's blessing and peace into their lives.</p>
<p>15th</p>	<p>We pray for the Lunchtime Carol Service in St Margaret's today and that this traditional seasonal celebration may help us to reach out to more among our community and bring them ever closer to Christ throughout the coming year.</p>

<p>16th</p>	<p>Take time today to contact someone - by phone or text or email or letter whom you haven't connected for a while.</p>
<p>17th</p>	<p>We pray today for all those who are struggling in their relationships with others, especially their partners or family members, at this challenging time. May Christ who came to reconcile us with God also bring reconciliation to our relationships with others.</p>
<p>18th</p>	<p>Today we pray for everyone suffering from cancer. We ask that you give them comfort and that they find solace in you. We thank you that there are many volunteers who work for the charities who support research into this disease.</p> <p>Be with those attending the Uxbridge Choral Society Christmas Concert at St Andrew's this evening.</p>
<p>19th Sunday</p>	<p>We thank you for the opportunity that Carols by Candlelight, taking place this evening at both St Andrew's and St Margaret's, gives us to invite members of our family and others who live and work in Uxbridge to join us in celebrating the light of Christ.</p>
<p>20th</p>	<p>As our Bell-Ringers enjoy their Christmas party at St Andrew's today, God, we thank you for them and all bell-ringers who use their gifts to ring out to announce your services and encourage people to attend churches to hear your word.</p>
<p>21st</p>	<p>Thank you, Lord, for our part in your worldwide church. We give thanks for our Mission Partners and all who share your Good News.</p>
<p>22nd</p>	<p>As we give thanks for all musicians and singers and we pray for those whose livelihoods have been affected by the pandemic.</p>

<p>23rd</p>	<p>As people travel to see family and friends, pray for safety on the roads, rail and air.</p>
<p>24th</p>	<p>Dear God, we pray for all those who will attend our Carols around the Crib service at St Margaret's and Midnight Eucharist at St Andrew's today. May these services be a time of wonder, excitement and celebration as we remember the birth of Jesus Christ.</p>
<p>25th Christmas Day</p>	<p>'I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord'</p> <p>We pray for Christmas Day services and celebrations in churches everywhere, and those being live streamed to people's own homes.</p>
<p>26th Sunday Stephen, deacon, first martyr</p>	<p>Pray for all who feel lonely and lost at Christmas time. We think of all those who would usually join the community lunches that are still unable to take place this year.</p> <p>We remember that Saint Stephen is the patron saint of bricklayers and stonemasons and we pray for those in these and other occupations who work outside at this coldest time of year.</p>
<p>27th John, Apostle and Evangelist</p>	<p>We thank you for sending your Son into this world to renew our hope and answer our prayers. Please give us grace to bear witness to Him before the world as we praise him forever.</p> <p>Today as we celebrate John the Apostle, let us mark the words attributed to him "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."</p>

<p>28th The Holy Innocents</p>	<p>Father, on this day when the church remembers the Holy Innocents, we pray for all victims of torture and cruelty wherever they may be.</p>
<p>29th Thomas Becket, archbishop, martyr</p>	<p>We pray for all who are in debt and ask that you bless the work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP).</p>
<p>30th</p>	<p>Father God, you encourage us to pray for all people. I especially pray for</p> <p><i>(please take some time for those who have asked for our prayers and are listed on the bulletin sheet).</i></p>
<p>31st</p>	<p>Dear God, at the closing of the year, and as we reflect on the sorrows some of us may have experienced, help us also to count our blessings, as you send us out in the coming year that we might live and work to your praise and glory.</p>

During December* we ask for prayers for:

David Goslett, Madeleine Wheeler, Shiva, Mark Skinner and his family, Margaret Stokes, Joy Shiner, Ada Parker, Anne Lambell, David Reynolds, Vera Gorman, Penny Papapetrou, David Bedford, Robert Monday, Rita Kerr and Iris Perry.

Those who have lost loved ones, including the family and friends of Kathleen Skilton, Linda Luck and family, Veronica McDougall and family, John Rout and family, John Hill and family, Martin Kingsley and family, Simon White and family.

**The prayer list is renewed each month.*

If you would like to remain on the prayer list for January, or would like to add someone (after obtaining their permission), please let Jeff in the parish office know before 18 December (tel. 01895 258766 or email: office@uxbridgeparish.org).

We remember in faith and love those who have died recently including Kathleen Skilton, William Bulbeck, Alan McDougall, Merryl Rout, Ruby Doreen Hill, Lynne Ellen Kingsley and Janis Christine White, and we pray for their families. We remember too those whose anniversaries occur this month, including: Keith Hillings, Bethanie Mould, Enid Bowd, Richard Robbins, Anita Humphreys, Pam Dosanjh, Phoebe Simpkins, Fr Michael Hawken, John Wood, Dave Wreford, Ramsey Fairbairn, Fr Arthur Venables, Joan Cumming, Frances Killoh, Tade Aronmolate, Norman Halford, Ruth Simpson, Ivy Page, Jill Banfield, Muriel Knight, Douglas Allwood, Kevin Brereton, Eileen Goslett, Ray Piggott, Chief Francis Akpata, Win Slatter, Fred Moule, Paul Hills, John Coburn, John Rixon, Sylvia Jones, Marjorie Milligan, Dorothy Green, Michael Holt, Cynthia Sellahewa, Chief Okungbowa Akpata, Philip Garrod, Joyce Moore, Jean Mason, Tony Batters, Frederick Bedford and Colin Norman.

