



PRAYER DIARY

PERTH NORTH CHURCH

1 December 2017– 12 February 2018

- Dec** Loving Lord, we pray for all who live with HIV and AIDS. Bless those
Fri 1 who care, inspire those who research, and help us to work against stigma and prejudice
- Sat 2** Pray for the millions of women who suffer in silence having endured sexual violence at the hands of family members or strangers or during wars.
- Sun 3** **But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.**
Mark 13: 24-26
- Mon 4** Lord Guide us through this season of Advent, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing, through the cleansing depths of repentance and the heaven-rending words of the Spirit. Amen
- Tue 5** O God of Abraham and Sarai, we thank you for your faithfulness throughout all time. As we begin our advent journey may the light of your love surround your church across the world as we watch and wait for your kingdom.
- Wed 6** Lord, you are making a new thing. It is hard for us to change our ways of thinking, doing and being your Church. Help us to grasp your vision and persevere in hope.
- Thu 7** As we start to think of Christmas celebrations, pray that we would always remember the Christmas message, and not get caught up in the commercialisation of the secular world.
- Fri 8** Pray for the Pastoral Care team in the church, that they would always find patience and compassion to carry out their work effectively.
- Sat 9** Pray for Street Pastors who tonight will be listening, caring and helping people in cities and towns throughout the country.

- Sun 10 **A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. *Isaiah 40:3***
- Mon 11 God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation. Make us ready for the message that prepares the way, that with uprightness of heart and holy joy we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen.
- Tue 12 Pray that, as the Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill proceeds through Parliament, the Government will be persuaded to increase support for victims of trafficking, and give opportunities for them to recover and rebuild their lives.
- Wed 13 Give thanks for the Christmas Tree Festival; for the organisers, for the helpers, and for those who came to enjoy the wonderful array of trees.
- Thu 14 God of every new beginning, we thank you for the new ministry of Kenny Stott at Perth North Church. Bless him, his family and the congregation as we strive to do your will.
- Fri 15 Pray for all those who will be at the carol services in the North Church today, that the true spirit of Christmas would be shared amongst them.
- Sat 16 Lord Jesus, your mother Mary carried you with tender determination on the dangerous road to Bethlehem. May the same flame of love fill your global church to bring courage and hope to all who carry and nurture children today.
- Sun 17 **Whoever welcomes you welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. *Matt 10: 40***
- Mon 18 Lord, our Emmanuel, we celebrate Your coming as a human being: to live and die, to rescue us from the consequences of our sin. We rejoice with the angels and all the company of heaven, worshipping and praising your Holy name! Amen
- Tue 19 Pray for those for whom Christmas is a lonely and unhappy time. Pray that support services would be available to help them through the next difficult week. Give thanks for the work of The Samaritans.

- Wed 20 Pray about the spirit of consumerism and excess that can so easily eclipse the true message of Christmas for so many. In this busy season may we all quietly reflect on the message of salvation and peace.
- Thu 21 Pray for the people who will receive Christmas shoe boxes in the coming days. Give thanks for the work of Blythswood both at home and abroad.
- Fri 22 In the midst of the tinsel and lights and shopping, let's remember what the season is really about. Pray for a spirit of all things Christmas for ourselves and our loved ones.
- Sat 23 Pray for those who do not attend church regularly, but like to go to a Christmas service. May the Holy spirit speak to them through Bible readings and carols.
- Sun 24 He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has kept the promise he made to our ancestors, and has come to the help of his servant Israel. *Luke 1:53,54***
- Mon 25 **Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared singing praises to God: "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased." *Luke 2:13***
- Tue 26 Pray for all those who are working while we enjoy the festivities. Give thanks for their dedication and willingness to be available when needed.
- Wed 27 As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, pray for the babies born into poverty and injustice. Give thanks for baby clinics which are a lifeline for the youngest members of society.
- Thu 28 May our eyes to Christ's presence be opened in the shadows of our world, so that we, like him, may become beacons of justice, and defenders of all for whom there is no room.
- Fri 29 God, please help us lay down markers of faith, not monuments; light lamps of faith, not fear; show fruits of faith that will kindle the taste buds of children and grandchildren. Amen
- Sat 30 Give thanks for our families, friends and loved ones, and all who celebrate this time of year with us. Pray too for those who have no family, no home. For those who are grieving, feel excluded, or find this a difficult time with no cause for celebration.

Sun 31 **Don't sit there watching the wind. Do your own work. Don't stare at the clouds. Get on with your life...you'll never understand the mystery at work in all that God does.** *Ecclesiastes 11:4–5*

Jan 2018 Lord of all time and space, we commit this New Year to you and offer our lives afresh to serve you. Lead us into a deeper relationship with you and help us to worship and pray in ways that please and honour You.

Tue 2 Lord at the beginning of this year help us to remember that you will journey with us in all we do. Thank you for others whom you send to travel with us. Bless us all with your wisdom and love.

Wed 3 Pray for Christians other religious minorities in Pakistan. Pray that people of different faiths might live in friendship.

Thu 4 Pray for couples whose marriages appear hopelessly broken as a result of unfaithfulness, neglect, addiction, harsh behaviour or coldness. May they come to a place of reconciliation and be helped to make a new start.

Fri 5 Lord, your love and faithfulness reach out to everyone. As those who have known your salvation, set us free to live in justice and equity, and so to reveal your righteousness to the world.

Sat 6 Prayer is a gift to all of us and a privilege. The gift is offered to all and it is crucial that we all become the wielders of the great power in prayer to experience outstanding miracles and unprecedented breakthroughs. Give thanks for the gift of prayer. Give thanks for the opportunity of communal prayer at this morning's prayer breakfast.

Sun 7 God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. *Psalm 46*

Mon 8 Lord Jesus, as a child you were a refugee in Egypt, have compassion on all who are refugees today. Guide world leaders to act with integrity and justice and your church to proclaim your mercy today.

Tue 9 Pray for an end to the trafficking of women for the purposes of sexual exploitation. Pray that women who have been trafficked might find comfort in God.

- Wed 10 Pray for the millions of families in Britain who are 'one missed pay cheque' away from losing their home and for the 250,000 people who are sleeping rough, in hostels or other temporary accommodation. Give thanks for the hundreds of church night shelter projects operating throughout the winter.
- Thu 11 Pray for those waiting for a transplant. May they have patience and courage as they tolerate the frustration of waiting. Give thanks for donors and families who agree to organ donation.
- Fri 12 Give thanks for this day, for good health, family and friends. Give thanks for the beauty of our surroundings in all their winter starkness.
- Sat 13 Pray for all those who work in the night-time economy, often sacrificing time with partners and families. Pray that they would be safe as they keep the public safe.
- Sun 14 **May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing so that you may abound in hope by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Rom 15: 13**
- Mon 15 Pray that we might be faithful to our calling to respond to the transforming Gospel of God's love in Christ and to witness to it through our life and work.
- Tue 16 Remember children who are bullied at school or in other settings. Pray that they will find the help they need and that anti-bullying tactics will succeed in educating and encouraging young people, teachers and others about this problem.
- Wed 17 Give thanks for the gift of music. Pray for those who give their time and talents to enrich our worship by providing music for us.
- Thu 18 Pray for the debates and decisions around Britain's exit from the European Union, that the outcome would be fair and beneficial to all. Grant great wisdom to politicians, civil servants and to all who are involved in these negotiations.
- Fri 19 Give thanks for the work of the Boys' Brigade. Pray for the Officers, volunteers and the boys, and pray that there would always be volunteers for the continued work of BB in the North Church.

- Sat 20 Help me to be alert and focused as a Christian. Give me the thoughtfulness to be ready to share the good news of Jesus with the people I live alongside or the strangers I might meet, so that they might unexpectedly glimpse the glory of God.
- Sun 21 **So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord.** *1 Thessalonians 1:6*
- Mon 22 Father God, as we receive the Holy Spirit, help us to be obedient to you and serve as faithful Christians.
- Tue 23 Pray for children who are beset with problems and sadness because of difficult circumstances in the home, at school and in their communities. Pray especially for those who find themselves in trouble because of unwise choices or having been abused or led astray by others.
- Wed 24 We pray with and for our sisters and brothers in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. Strengthen their resolve in the face of seemingly endless violence. Guide the leaders to know God's will.
- Thu 25 Lord, we thank you for the various activities that are carried on at the North Church. We pray that we would contribute to their success.
- Fri 26 O God, who made your home among us in Jesus of Nazareth, we pray for those who have been forced from their homes and now live as migrants and refugees. Bless them, and all who work to bring them relief, comfort and a new home.
- Sat 27 Loving God, we pray for all affected by the terrors of fire; those who have lost loved ones, homes, possessions, or hope. Reveal your love to them and bless the work of those who reach out to them in your name and with your compassion.
- Sun 28 **By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.** *Luke 1 78-79*
- Mon 29 Father, please shine Your light of hope into the lives of people with mental health problems who are in a dark place. Help them to recover from their illness and equip the medical and counselling professionals helping them. Amen.

- Tue 30 Pray for all who suffer discrimination because of their race, sexual orientation or religion. Pray that those who are intolerant might open their hearts to those who are different.
- Wed 31 O God, as the reality of what we have done to the earth and seas dawns on us, grant us the grace to do what is necessary to co-operate with your redeeming care of the cosmos. Give us the generosity and the courage to do without those things that destroy earth, air, water and all that sustains us.
- Feb**
- Thu 1 Give thanks the team producing North News and for the visitors who deliver in the various districts. Give thanks for the work of Alex and Doreen Boyd in all the organisation behind the scenes.
- Fri 2 Pray for those living with cancer, for their families and friends. Give thanks for advances in medical research which will help in the treatment of cancer.
- Sat 3 Pray for children at risk of being groomed: for those tricked into believing they are in a safe and loving relationship, but are then heartlessly exploited and abused. Pray that the police will detect these crimes, bring perpetrators to justice and protect victims.
- Sun 4 **For God ... has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure.** *2 CORINTHIANS 4:6,7*
- Mon 5 Lord of the Church, inspire Your people to reach out to others, especially those in need with practical help, prayer support, welcome and hospitality, using the gifts that You have graciously given to us. Amen.
- Tue 6 God of peace, we hold before you all who are fleeing from war. Give courage to the frightened, hope to the peacemakers and strength to those who reach out in welcome with help. Turn the hearts of those who make war, to peace
- Wed 7 Almighty God, we pray that You will lead members of parliament into all wisdom and integrity as they shape, debate and vote on important legislation coming before them. Help them to work together constructively to bring effective just laws into being. Amen.
- Give thanks for the work being carried in Tulloch out by Grant and the

- Thu 8 Tulloch Net team. Pray that this work would continue to be blessed.
- Fri 9 Pray for the Minister and the Kirk Session as they make decisions about the future of our church, our worship and our role in the town and in the parish.
- Sat 10 Give thanks for the co-operation between churches which enables Starter Packs to be able to help people in need. Pray that we would help to supply suitable money and goods so that everyone asking for help can receive it.
- Sun 11 **Continue to show deep love for each other, for love covers a multitude of sins. Cheerfully share your home with those who need a meal or a place to stay. God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.**

1 Peter 4:8-10

Prayer points for inclusion in the Prayer Diary can be handed to the Church Office or sent to ncprayerdiary@gmail.com

