

Wey Valley Circuit Prayer Diary
November 2023
'Let your little light shine!'



*A single candle glowing
in a dark corner at
Carlisle Cathedral*



*Summer sunrise over the Bay
of Biscay, off Ushant*



*A winter moon in the dark sky
over Adelboden CH.*

This month's prayers are based on the theme of Light and Darkness, as we progress through November towards Advent - the coming of Jesus, the Light of the world, into the world.

Wednesday 1st All Saints Day – Give joyful thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light, for he has rescued you from the power of darkness and transferred you into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom you have redemption and forgiveness of sins. (*Colossians 1:12-14*)

Light

Thursday 2nd (*a candle could be lit*) Light a candle within your heart and pray for saints and sinners, Light that candle with hope, and pray for light, hope, and peace at this time of darkness, violence, and war.

Friday 3rd (*a candle could be lit*) Light a candle within your heart for all creation, Light that candle with joy and thanksgiving for the wonder of God's creation and for light in the darkness of global warming. Pray for positive progress by governments across the world.

Saturday 4th (*a candle could be lit*) Light a candle within your heart and pray for those suffering in the darkness of difficult circumstances, Light that candle with love and compassion for
(Based on a poem by Ruth Burgess, from *Candles and Conifers*, Wild Goose Publications, 2015)

Sunday 5th Pray for the Worship and Mission at Addlestone, Byfleet and Woking Trinity and for all who participate.

'Like fireworks in the night the Holy Spirit came; the disciples' fear took flight when touched by fronds of flame: and suddenly the world was young as hope embraced a Saviour's claim'. (Ian Fraser)

Darkness

Monday 6th The darkness is not dark to you, O Lord. The night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. Search me O God, and know my heart, test me, and know my thoughts, see if there is any darkness in me and lead me in your everlasting way. (from Psalm 139: 12, 23-24)

Tuesday 7th *'When the tempest is loud, Shepherd hear my prayer! Mid the darkness and cloud, Shepherd hear my prayer! Let me hear your voice afar, coming with the morning star; true your mercies are! Hear, O hear my prayer! Hear, O hear my prayer!'* (from a song by Albert Orsborn - former General, Salvation Army). Share your 'darkness and clouds' with the Lord.

Wednesday 8th An Evening Prayer: ‘Softly the shadows fall over land and sea; voices of evening call, speaking to me, busy my hands this day, little time to think or pray. Day with its toil is done, labour is o’er. Now at the close of day I come to you. Lord, it’s your tender touch I now implore. Now in the evening as dark shadows fall, grant me your peace, as on you I call’. (*Ivy Mawby, amended*)

Thursday 9th God said, ‘I will seek out my sheep, I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and darkness’. (*Ezekiel 34:12b*)
Pray for the Ministry of the Coffee Morning in aid of ‘Turning Point Trust’ (Kibera) at Merrow 10.30am – 12 noon.

Friday 10th Lord Jesus, as I struggle with the darkness of evil – let your light shine and enlighten my soul.

Saturday 11th Armistice Day – ‘They shall not grow old as we, that are left, grow, age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them’. (*Laurence Binyon*). Pray for peace in the conflicts around the world.

Sunday 12th Remembrance Sunday
Pray for Remembrance Sunday Services across the world and take time to remember those you have lost.....
Pray for Ministry and Worship at Cranleigh, West Horsley and Weybridge and for all who participate.

Light in the Psalms

Monday 13th ‘The Lord is my light and my salvation; who or what shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid. Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path’. (*27:1,11*)

Tuesday 14th ‘Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks to his holy name!’ (*97:11-12*)

Wednesday 15th ‘Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, you are clothed with honour and majesty, wrapped in light as with a garment. I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise to my God while I have being. Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!’ (*104:1,2,33,35b*)

Thursday 16th ‘Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. The unfolding of your words give light, it imparts understanding, I long for your commandments. Shine your face upon me and teach me your statutes.’ (*119:105, 130, 135*)

Friday 17th ‘Happy are the people who know the Festal shout, who walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance’. (*89:15*) Praise our Abba Father for the light given to us through Jesus.

Saturday 18th
Pray for the Ministry and success of ‘Clothes 4U’ at Knaphill 1.30pm – 4.00pm

Sunday 19th Pray for the Worship and Mission at Merrow, Godalming UC and Walton-on-Thames - and all who participate.

'Light of the World'

Monday 20th Jesus said, *'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'* (John 8:12)

Pray for those who are seeking that light, that they may find it.

Tuesday 21st *'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp hides it but puts it on a lampstand to give light to the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to Abba Father in heaven.'* (Matthew 5:14-16) Pray for opportunities to show that light.

Wednesday 22nd *'Light of the world, open my eyes to what I need to see, open my ears to what I need to hear, open my mind to what I need to know. open my heart to what I need to bear in love'*

Thursday 23rd *'Open my hands to what I need to give'* (Ruth Burgess)

Pray for the Ministry of 'Coffee and Cake' at St Mary's, Guildford 10.30am -12 noon.

Friday 24th Lord Jesus, 'Light of the World', thank you for today, help me to bring to it something good, to make something good of it, and to take something good from it.

Saturday 25th *'Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you.'* (StF 611v1)

Pray for the Ministry of the Coffee Morning at Knaphill, 10.00am – 12.00 noon.

Sunday 26th Sunday before Advent, Christ the King, Women against Violence day.

Pray for the Worship and Mission at Guildford St Mary's, Knaphill, Stoughton, and Sheerwater - and all who participate.

In Times of Darkness

Monday 27th *'Lord, I believe in the sun even when it is not shining, I believe in your love where feeling is not. I believe in you even if you appear silent.'* (Inscription on the walls of a cellar in Koln/Cologne Germany, where Jews hid from the Nazis.) Pray for those living in fear and despair.

Tuesday 28th *'In the face of evil and wrongdoing I am surely not happy, nor will I let myself grow too sad. Instead, I will choose to stand up for what is right and will face the future with calm, courage, cheerfulness, and love.'* (From a prayer in 'A Child's First Book of Prayers – Lois Rock and Alison Jay, Lion)

'We have a Gospel to proclaim – Good News for all'

Wednesday 29th Pray for our Ministers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Pastoral Visitors, Stewards, Administrators, Readers, Musicians, Group Leaders, Flower Arrangers, Refreshment Providers, Congregations, and any others who enable Worship and Mission to take place in the Circuit.

Thursday 30th St Andrew - give thanks for the Mission and work of St Andrew.

Pray for the Advent Reflections – (followed by a bread and soup lunch) 12.15pm for 12.30pm at St Mary's, Guildford.

I pray, that in these prayers you will find support and encouragement in both times of Light and Darkness. God bless you all.

Graham