

**Wey Valley Circuit Prayer Diary**  
**December 2023**  
*The Advent Hope*



Nativity Scene at Chester Cathedral

**This month's prayers are based on the theme of The Advent Hope - the coming of Immanuel – God with us – Jesus the Son of God. The prayers for the Sundays in Advent and Christmas Day are from:**

*Candles and Conifers, Wild Goose Publications, 2005. Bible references NRSVA*

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup>** World Aids Day – Pray for all those who live with Aids and its consequences and all those who support them.

**Trinity Messy Fun Church – Christingle Service** - Pray for all the Christingle, Carol, and Nativity Services throughout the Circuit – as they occur, that God will bless this Ministry to all those present and involved.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Circuit 24-hour Prayer Vigil (from 8.00 am) to Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> (at time of Morning Worship)** - for details see Page 22 of The Wey Forward. Pray for a Spirit led participation.  
**Carols for All at West Horsley - 7.00pm – 9.00pm Christingle Party - Godalming UC 6.30pm**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> Advent Sunday:** *A candle burns, the sign of our hope. God of hope come to us again this Advent. May your hope live within us, burning as a light in our lives. (David Hamflett – Candles and Conifers)*  
Pray for the Worship and Mission at Addlestone, Byfleet and Woking Trinity and for all who participate.

**Advent Gift Service – Godalming UC – 10.30 am**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>** *'I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. (Psalm 122:1, 6)* As we look forward to the coming of the Prince of Peace, in the words of John Wesley, *'Pray without ceasing, pray:'* For the situation in Israel/Palestine for the Love and Peace of Jesus, the 'Prince of Peace' to reign.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>** Jesus said, *'We must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'* (*Matthew 24:44*). Pray that Jesus, with the Holy Spirit will prepare you to meet him this Christmas.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> St Nicholas** - Bishop of Myra, (c300 AD) He was known for his generosity and kindness. Pray for those in need this Christmas and the work of Food and Clothing Banks who continue the giving of basic necessities to those in need.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>** Paul wrote, *'Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep, for Salvation is nearer to us now, put on the Lord Jesus Christ.'* (From Romans 13:11-14) Lord Jesus be with me today and show me where I need to shine the Advent light of your love.

Pray for the ministry of the **Advent Reflections - St Mary's Guildford - 12.15pm**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>** Pray for the Ministry of **Advent Prayers with Rev Sam. 5.30pm – 6.00pm on Zoom – contact Trinity Admin for details.**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>** We look for peace and we cry for justice – Jesus, Prince of Peace, make me a peacemaker in my thoughts, words and actions.

Pray for the ministry of the **Messy Church – Godalming UC – 3.00pm – 5.00pm** and **Godalming Band Christmas Concert - 7.00pm.** (Further information see page 10 The Way Forward Issue 30)

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Advent 2:** *A candle burns the sign of your Word. God of the Prophets, come to us again. (Ibid.)* Pray for Ministry and Worship at Cranleigh, West Horsley and Weybridge and for all who participate.

**Nativity Service** (from Luke 1-39,45) at Woking Trinity 10.30 am.

#### **The Annunciation**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup>** Isaiah Prophesied – *'The Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall call him Immanuel – God is with us. (Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:23b)* Give thanks to our Abba Father for God's promises to us and teach us to trust them.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>** *'A child has been born for us, a son is given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'* (Isaiah 9:6)

Pray for the presence of the Wonderful Counsellor in your daily life and when you seek advice, listen for the reply.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>** *'His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and righteousness from this time onwards and for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.'* (Isaiah 9:7) Praise God!

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>** The Angel said to Mary, *'You have found favour with God and will conceive and bear a son and will name him Jesus. (Luke 1:30-31)* and to Joseph, *'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:20b,21)*

Pray for the faith and commitment of Mary and Joseph, as you seek to serve our Lord. –

Pray for the Ministry of the **Advent Reflections** at St Mary's Guildford 12.15pm

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup>** Pray for the Ministry of **Advent Prayers with Rev Sam. 5.30pm – 6.00pm on Zoom – contact Trinity Admin for details.**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> The wider Family:** *'In those days Mary set out and went with haste to visit her relative Elizabeth. On hearing the news Elizabeth said, "Blessed are you who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her. Pray for your family and close friends for a 'Blessed Advent.'*  
**Carol Services – Cranleigh – 2.30pm, Trinity Woking – 5.30pm for 6.00pm..**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Advent 3:** *A candle burns, the sign of our faith. God of the Baptising One come to us again this Advent. May we have a faith that renews our lives. May we live in light of your promises. (Ibid.)* Pray for the Worship and Mission at Merrow, Godalming UC and Walton-on-Thames - and all who participate.

**Carol Services – West Horsley - 10.00am, Addlestone – 10.30am - Weybridge - 10.30 am – Merrow 11.00am – Byfleet 2.30pm – Godalming UC 6.00pm - Knaphill- 6.00pm – Walton-on-Thames – 6.30pm.**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup>** Zechariah prophesied when his and Elizabeth's son was born, *'And you child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins.*

Lord, enable me to continue this task and share that message of salvation in both words and actions.

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>** God has called us to bring Good News to the poor, to live with integrity, to heal the broken hearted, to bring justice to the hungry, to hold on to what is good and to avoid every form of evil. Pray that God will wrap you in integrity, clothe you in salvation and give you joy. (Ibid.)

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>** Give thanks that God is with you and within you, that God is your strength and God is your Saviour and your Peace. (Ibid)

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>** In response we must pray faithfully, share our possessions -both material and spiritual, act justly and that we live in love.(Ibid). Pray for God's presence and power to enable us to respond.

**Carols at Lunchtime - St Mary's Guildford - 12.15pm**

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>** Pray for the Ministry of **Advent Prayers with Rev Sam. 5.30pm – 6.00pm on Zoom – contact Trinity Admin for details.**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>** This weekend, particularly, God wants us to be happy. May you enjoy God's love gladly and with great hope. We know that God wants us to be holy. May you drink of God's love deeply and with great joy. (Ibid.) May God bless you as we celebrate the weekend of Christ's Birth – Happy Christmas to you all as we sing with the angels – 'Glory to the newborn King!' (*Charles Wesley*)

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> Advent 4: Christmas Eve –** *A candle burns, the sign of your love. God of Mary, come to us again this Advent. May the light of your love, for Jesus, be born anew in us. (Ibid.)*

Pray for the Worship and Mission at Guildford St Mary's, Knaphill, Stoughton, Sheerwater and all the other churches across Circuit - and all who participate in celebrating with the Angels and Shepherds that *'Christ was born in Bethlehem!'*

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day:** *'Come and join the celebration, it's a very special day; come and share our jubilation, there's a new King born today'.(Valerie Collison – StF 196) ,*

*A candle burns, the sign of your presence, Immanuel, God amongst us, born as one of us, may we live in the light of your presence, the Light who gives life to all. (Ibid.)*

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup>** St Stephen – Thank God for the courage and example of Stephen who gave his life in service to others and was stoned to death for his faith. Pray for all those persecuted for their faith today.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>** St John the Evangelist – give thanks for the faith in his service and the Gospel and Epistles named after him. *‘Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God’. (1 John 4:7)*  
Pray for those you love and for the Saviour’s help for those you struggle to love.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Holy Innocents** – Take time to think of all the innocent victims in the violence of the past year. Pray as you are led .....

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup>** Ponder on the implication of these words: *‘Songs that paint a cosy Christmas miss the truth of God above! See how God, rejected, homeless, came a child with wide eyed love. Love transforms and brings release! Love brings justice, joy and peace’! (Peter Relf StF 220:4)*

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>** *‘Here’s good news: our God is with us, friend for life, in joy and need! In rejection pain and trouble Jesus is our Friend in deed. Baby child and dying Friend, living Lord. Love without end’. (Ibid. StF 220:5)*

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup>** Give thanks for the loyal service provided, over this year past, by our Ministers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Pastoral Visitors, Stewards, Administrators, Readers, Musicians, Flower Arrangers, Refreshment Providers, all Congregations, and any others who have enabled Worship and Mission to take place in the Circuit.

I pray, that these prayers of celebration at the birth of Jesus, will support and encourage you as we move forward into a New Year. God, Abba Father, Jesus the Son – our Saviour and Redeemer and the power and presence of the Holy Spirit bless you all.

Graham Warr