Wey Valley Circuit Prayer Diary January 2026

Part 1, 1st - 18th January 2026

This month's prayer themes are based on the New Year – The Naming of Jesus, Epiphany, The Covenant, The Baptism of Jesus, Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity, Conversion of St. Paul, Holocaust Memorial Day.

Bible references are from the NRSVA unless otherwise stated. Hymns are from Singing the Faith – StF, Hymns and Psalms – HP, The Methodist Hymn Book – MHB, Song Book of the Salvation Army SBSA.

Prayers from Methodist Prayer Handbook, MPH, Methodist Worship, Book MWB. Other sources are as noted.



The arrival of the Magi, cast in bronze Chester Cathedral

'Ahead of them, went the star, until it stopped over the place where the child was – they were overwhelmed with joy – and presented gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. (from Matthew 2)

Thursday 1st January: Jesus is named: After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; And he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before Jesus was conceived. (Luke:2:21). God of Beauty and light, with the appearing of your Son, you have brought us into your new creation. Renew in me your image and likeness that my life may reflect your glory; through Jesus Christ my Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (MWB: p528 24*)

Friday 2nd Jesus is Presented in the Temple - Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God. There was also a Prophet Anna, she was of great age, and at that moment began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. (from Luke 2:22-38)

> Reflect and pray on these words — Loving Lord Jesus you left your throne and your kingly crown when you came to earth for me- but in Bethlehem Town no room was found, for your Holy Nativity. Today! Come to my heart and side Lord Jesus! There is room there for you. Amen. (From H&P 154:1 Emily Elizabeth Steele Elliot)

Saturday 3rd Pray for the Ministry and Mission of <u>Street Angels</u> in Guildford, Woking, and elsewhere that the Hope, Light, Love and Power of the Spirit will shine through them to connect, comfort, support and bless those they serve at this time. Amen.

Sunday 4th Epiphany and Covenant Sunday

Pray for the Worship, Ministry, Mission **and Covenant** at St Mary's Guildford 10.30 am, Stoughton 10.30am, Walton-on-Thames 10.00am, Woking Trinity 10.30am, and all who participate.

Monday 5th

Pray: At the start of this New Year Lord, I thank you for your presence, love and strength over the past year. And pray for the gift of wisdom that I might better serve you and others with the choices I make. Amen

Tuesday 6th The Epiphany of the Lord O Christ the bright and morning Star whose radiance does not fade, whose glory filled the universe before the planets played: come, heal my heart of blinding doubt till my faith shall end in sight. (StF 231)



"Drei Koenigs" or '3 Kings' cake (sweet bread) made by Dan (2022)

Wednesday 7th Today, take time to reflect and pray in John Wesley's words – "prayer is where the action is," and in St Teresa of Avila's words – "prayer is an act of love, and words are not needed."

Thursday 8th Waken me, O Lord today – open my eyes to your glory, my ears to your story, my heart to the Spirit's fire, my will to your desire. Amen. (David Adam)

Friday 9th Circuit Prayer Session 7.00pm on Zoom (look out for the Zoom link in your email)

Saturday 10th Waken me, O Lord today – to your risen power, to your presence every hour, to your everlasting love, to your coming from above; to your peace today, to your meeting me on the way, to your speaking through a friend, to your guidance at the end. Amen (Ibid)

Sunday 11th Pray for the Worship, Ministry, Mission **and Covenant** at Byfleet 10.30am, Cranleigh 10.30am Merrow 10.30am

The Baptism of Jesus – When Jesus came to Jordan to be baptised by John, he did not come for pardon but as Abba Father's Son. Come Holy Spirit aid me to keep the Covenant I make, this very day, invade me and every bondage break. Come, give my life direction, the gift I covet most; to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost. (From Stf 233)

Monday 12th Today O Lord, hold my hand! So weak I am and helpless, I dare not take one step without your aid; hold my hand! For then, O loving Saviour, no dread of ill shall make my soul afraid, Lord, hold my hand! And closer, closer draw me to your dear self, my hope, my joy, my all. (*Fanny Crosby, SBSA 726*)

Tuesday 13th Lord hold my hand! Lest I should wander, and missing you, my trembling feet should fall. Lord hold my hand, the way is dark before me without the sunlight of your face divine; but when by faith I catch its radiant glory, what heights of joy, what rapturous songs are mine. *(ibid)*

Wednesday 14th

➤ **Reflect upon** – You are God's child – unique, valued, one of a kind. You are special to God. God created you and loves you. God wants to bless you abundantly. What marvellous love our Abba Father has extended to us! We're called children of God! That's who we really are. (1 John 3:1)

Thursday 15th "Give thanks that you are a masterpiece of God's creation". (*Pope Francis*)



Graffiti, Penge, South London (Photo: Dan Warr)

Friday 16th Pray for the Ministry and Mission of Chaplaincy across the Circuit - in Schools, the University, Colleges, Hospitals, Care Homes, HMP Send; work with Families and other groups in the community who are struggling; that the Holy Spirit will strengthen and support them in this important role. Amen.

Saturday 17th Give thanks and pray for the Ministry and Mission of all Ministers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Pastoral Visitors, Lay workers - with the elderly, vulnerable adults, children's groups - Stewards, Administrators, Musicians, Readers, Flower Arrangers, Refreshment Providers, and all other Volunteers.

Part 2, starting on Sunday 18th January, will be circulated in the next week or so.

God bless you all, Graham 31.12.25

Photo Credits: Graham Warr

Formatting and additional images: Dan Warr Schori