

# Cycle of Prayer - December 2022

With a focus on parishes and schools in Coventry East Deanery

**Thu 1** We pray for the Diocesan Board of Education, and for all schools and places of learning throughout the diocese; that they may celebrate the true meaning of Advent and Christmas together.  
We pray for the Bishop's Core Staff Team which meets today.  
\*Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916

**Fri 2** We pray for chaplains at University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust: Simon Betteridge, Ellie Clack, Sharon Crofts, Liz Jones, Edward Le Brun Powell, Rosie Morris.

**Sat 3** St Mary Magdalene with the Church of the Risen Christ, Wyken. Clergy: Phil Atkinson, Liz Harris, Paul Pavlou, Sam Millard. Reader: Margaret Robinson. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.  
\*Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552

**Sun 4** Binley Woods LEP. Clergy: Rachel Jeffreys. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.  
\*John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher of the Faith, c.749  
\*Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637

Second Sunday  
of Advent

**Mon 5** Binley. Clergy: Jon Taylor, James Bremner, Richard Bromley. Reader: Greg Sampson. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them. St Bartholomew's CofE Academy. Head: Mina Sharma. We pray for God's blessing on the pupils, staff, teachers and governors of this school community.

**Tue 6** Potters Green. Clergy: Interregnum. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.  
\*Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326

**Wed 7** St Alban, Stoke Heath. Clergy: Zoe Pimentel, Barney Pimentel, Jacque Ayton. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them. We pray for the Diocesan Finance Group which meets this morning.  
\*Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397

**Thu 8** Through the busyness of Christmas we pray for all Clergy, Readers and Licensed Lay Workers throughout the diocese.  
\*The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Fri 9** All Saints, Coventry. Clergy: Interregnum. Reader: Mick Harling. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them. All Saints CofE Primary School. Head: Cara Page. Blue Coat CofE VA School & Music College. Head: Victoria Shelley. We pray for God's blessing on the pupils, staff, teachers and governors of these school communities.

**Sat 10** Walsgrave-on-Sowe. Clergy: Tom Cook. Readers: Tony Thistlewood, Lorraine Baker, Stephen Baker. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them. Walsgrave CofE Academy. Head: Damien Sowerby. We pray for God's blessing on the pupils, staff, teachers and governors of this school community.

**Sun 11** St Mark, Coventry. Clergy: Phil Atkinson, Andy Clasper, Rachel King, Nathan Leigh, Matt Spina. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.

Third Sunday of  
Advent

**Mon 12** We pray for all those who come to church as a 'once a year' experience, that they may have a real encounter with God and be moved to reconsider questions of life and faith. We also pray for congregations, that people may make the transition from being attenders to engaging in authentic community.

**Tue 13** St Chad, Wood End. Clergy: Brian Nash. Reader: Jacob Matumamboh. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.  
\*Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304  
\*Samuel Johnson, Moralist, 1784

**Wed 14** We pray for families for whom this Christmas season is a painful time; for parents who have lost sons or daughters; couples who are no longer together; children who are unhappy, confused or in trouble; and those who are alone.  
\*John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher of the Faith, 1591

**Thu 15** As we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus in a stable surrounded by animals and worshipped by shepherds, we pray for all who are looking after livestock this winter. We pray that there will be enough fodder for the winter, and resources to cope with the weather. We also pray for farmers and others working long hours in the cold weather as they care for God's creation.

**Fri 16** Willenhall. Clergy: Pam Howell. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them. Stretton CofE Academy. Head: Mrs Watson. We pray for God's blessing on the pupils, staff, teachers and governors of this school community.

**Sat 17** We pray for the chaplain at Coventry and Warwickshire Partnership Trust: Simon Mould. We also pray for the chaplain at Coventry University: Anne Richards  
\*O Sapientia  
\*Eglantine Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save The Children', 1928

**Sun 18**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Today is International Migrants Day. Throughout history, migration has been a courageous expression of the will to overcome adversity and to live a better life. The day is an opportunity to recognise the contributions made by millions of migrants to the economies of their countries and to promote respect for their basic human rights. We pray for all migrants today.

**Mon 19**  
Stoke St Michael. Clergy: Claire McArthur, Daniel Bennett. Readers: Ann Brown, Chris Dronfield, Sue Morris, Janet Pocklington, Suzanne Sapiano. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.

**Tue 20**  
Today is International Human Solidarity Day. It is a day to celebrate our unity in diversity, to raise public awareness of the importance of solidarity, to remind governments to respect their commitments to international agreements, and a day of action to encourage new initiatives for poverty eradication. We pray that this day is successful in its aims.

**Wed 21**  
Saint Catherine, Stoke Aldermoor and New Century Park. Clergy: Buff Forbes Stone, Julie Watkins-Wollner. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.

**Thu 22**  
We pray for those who are grieving. We remember those who feel alone and pray for God's comfort and blessing. Pray that God will give us the compassion to comfort and care for those who are in need.

**Fri 23**  
Church of The Holy Cross, Caludon. Clergy: Phil Atkinson, Liz Harris, Paul Pavlou. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.

**Sat 24**  
Christmas Eve  
We pray for the people preparing food in homeless shelters and hostels around the country. May their efforts to feed, clothe and give shelter bring God's blessing to many during this season.  
We give thanks for the humble birth of Jesus Christ. God, help us to love and serve in humility.

**Sun 25**  
Christmas Day  
Joy to the World, the Lord is come! As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we pray that many would hear and know the Lord Jesus for themselves this Christmas. Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God. Amen.

**Mon 26**  
Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr  
St Peter's, Hillfields. Clergy: Phil Atkinson, Ros Williams. Reader: John McCoach. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.

**Tue 27**  
John, Apostle and Evangelist  
Today we pray for Together for Change, a joint venture between the Diocese of Coventry and the Church Urban Fund. We pray for the charity's work in setting up social enterprises and local projects that will support sustainable community transformation and tackle poverty in Coventry and Warwickshire.

**Wed 28**  
The Holy Innocents  
We pray for the Area Dean of Coventry East, Buff Forbes Stone. We pray for clergy in Coventry East Deanery who have permission to officiate: Lesley Johnson, Paul Lowe, Frances Tyler, Laurence Wickens.

**Thu 29**  
Whitley. Clergy: Anne Richards. We pray for God's blessing on the parish, the church and all who serve them.  
\*Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170

**Fri 30**  
We thank God for our brothers and sisters who serve and worship in other Christian denominations. We ask God for new opportunities to work together ecumenically to help transform our local communities.

**Sat 31**  
As 2022 passes and a new year begins, we pray for those who are needing to find hope, purpose and faith in the coming year.  
\*John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384