



Prayer Diary

December 2020

St. Peter's & St. Mark's Intercessions for December 2020

- Tues 1st We meet to pray **at church family night** tonight. Why not join us if you are able? Please pray that we would be increasingly dependent on our good God for everything, and that we would pray without ceasing.
Pray for the **countries which are currently most affected** by the Coronavirus pandemic: For God's grace and mercy; and for many to be drawn to him during this time.
- Wed 2nd Give thanks for the **West Hull Churches** with whom we work closely – All Saints North Ferriby, St Barnabas Swanland, St Andrew's Kirk Ella, St Luke's Willerby, St Nicholas Hull, St Martin's Hull, and Living Hope Church. Pray that the Lord would use our partnership in the gospel to grow his Kingdom.
The West Hull prayer meeting gathers this morning (presently via Zoom), and each Wednesday during term time.
- Thur 3rd Give thanks for all those who are delivering **newsletters** and tracts to the 6,000 households in the community. Pray that many people would read them, and God would use them to draw people to himself and into the life of the church.
Give thanks for the **musicians** God has given to us at the Anlaby Churches. Pray for God's sustaining of them at this time, and that they would be able to use their gifts for God's glory now and in the future.
- Fri 4th **Ablaze** meets tonight, and every Friday during term time: Please give thanks for the young people who attend, and pray that they would grow to maturity in Christ (Colossians 1:28). Pray that they would have courage to invite their friends and numbers would grow. Pray also for God's protection of the gathering, and for "people of peace" in the community who might encourage others to come.
- Sat 5th Give thanks for **WOW (Women of the Word)**, for those who attend, and for the way God is working amongst them at present. Pray for the ladies of the church, that they would continue to grow in faith at this time, and that God would lead them in the good works he has prepared for them.
- Sun 6th "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life" (John 6:63). Pray that as we hear God's Word today we would **encounter Jesus Christ** by his Spirit and be renewed to rejoice in him and live for him in the week ahead.
Give thanks for the new people who have joined our church family recently. Pray that God would continue to bring into our family one new family, couple or individual each month.
Give thanks for our **children's church leaders** who faithfully teach the children each Sunday. Pray for encouragement, wisdom and refreshment for them.
- Mon 7th Give thanks for our **Church Wardens, Chris and Jenny**, and pray for God's strength and guidance in their work and responsibilities, including during this time of uncertainty.
Give thanks also for our **pastoral team**, led by Tony King and Sandra Carmichael. Pray that

together we would effectively care for all in the church family at this time. Pray in particular that everyone in the church family would know God's care for them through the support of church family this Christmas.

Pray also that the Lord would give us the leaders we need as we look to the future.

- Tues 8th **Tuesday Life groups** meet today. Pray for good rhythms of growth in faith, fellowship, hospitality and outreach to continue to be established. Why not join a Life group if you haven't already?
- Wed 9th Give thanks for the **Church of England Evangelical Council**, helping the Church of England to stand on the truth of God's word at this time. Give thanks for those leaders who took part in "The Beautiful Story" video, and who are facing opposition from some who have departed from the historic faith of the Church. Pray that they would continue to stand firm on the truth of God's word.
- Thur 10th Give thanks for the **young adults** at the Anlaby Churches. Pray for the group for young adults – that they would be encouraged in their faith and grow in friendship and number.
Give thanks for the ministry of the Anlaby Communities Trust, the social action arm of the Anlaby Churches. Pray in particular for the basketball project, and the provision of a **basketball coach** to take the good news of Jesus into new parts of West Hull.
- Fri 11th Steve Wilcox and James Munro are involved in an online Christingle service with the early years of **Anlaby school** today. Pray for all our school services over the Christmas period, that the children and young people would want to know more about the Lord Jesus who is the hope of the world.
The **Ablaze** youth group meets tonight.
- Sat 12th Pray for our **online presence** as a church – website, Facebook, and Youtube channel, as well as livestreaming of services. Give thanks for all who make this presence possible. Pray that God would draw many people to himself through these platforms, especially over the Christmas period.
Pray that as a church family we would continue to pray for our neighbours and friends, and invite some to join us online or in person at the Christmas events.
- Sun 13th Today we come to the end of our series considering the book of 1 Timothy. Give thanks for the ways in which God has ministered to us by his Spirit through this book. Pray that increasingly we would live out our calling as "God's household, the assembly of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth" (1 Timothy 3:15).
- Mon 14th Pray for our **local schools** – Rokeby Park, Acre Heads, Anlaby, Springhead, Hull Collegiate and Thomas More. Pray for wisdom and energy for the staff. Pray also for many opportunities for staff and children to hear the glorious good news of Jesus Christ who changes everything for the better.
Steve Wilcox and James Munro will be taking part today and tomorrow in online Christmas services for **Acre Heads school**.
- Tues 15th A **Daytime carol service** is due to take place at St Peter's church at 2pm today. Pray that those who attend would be filled with the joy of the shepherds and angels.
Pray that the number of new cases of Coronavirus, and deaths resulting from Coronavirus, would decline in the UK and in the local area.
Give thanks that churches can meet physically, while taking appropriate measures to control the spread of Coronavirus. Pray for **wisdom for the church leadership of the Anlaby Churches** as they continue to work out how and when we should meet physically, on Sundays and midweek.

Wed 16th “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2). Pray for **our government** - for wisdom in all decisions that have to be made at this time.

Thur 17th Pray for those in our church family and in the community who are **vulnerable or at high-risk** in the face of the Coronavirus. Give thanks that vaccines are drawing closer to being available. Pray for God's protection in the meantime. Pray also that he would help his people to trust him (Philippians 4:6-7).
Give thanks for all who are **seeking to help vulnerable people** at this time. Pray for the Foodbanks in Hull and the East Riding.
Pray for the many **older people** in the community, including in care homes. Many older people are lonely and vulnerable – particularly at this time. Pray that many more older people would find rest and hope in Jesus Christ (Matthew 11:28-30).

Fri 18th Pray for our focus this year, to “**Be transformed into the likeness of Christ as a church family and as individuals, by God's grace and through prayer**”. Pray that this would be true of each of us individually, and as a church, as we focus our attention on Jesus Christ and become more like him by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Pray for a particular aspect of your own character that you are asking God to transform to be more like the Lord Jesus.

Sat 19th Pray for Christians in **Northern Nigeria**, who are facing what has been described as genocide perpetrated by Islamic Fulani herdsmen and the Boko Haram group. Pray that they would know God to be their Rock and Refuge. Pray also that through their witness many of their oppressors would come to put their faith in Jesus. Pray that the Nigerian government would perform its role of protecting its citizens.

Sun 20th “Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs” (Psalm 100:1-2). Pray that each of us would encounter the living God in worship today, and find our joy in him.
Our **Carols by Candlelight** (online) service is due to go online at 6:30pm today. Give thanks for everyone who has worked so hard to make it possible, and pray that many would put their faith in Christ as their hope this Christmas time.

Mon 21st “When the Holy Spirit comes he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement...” (John 16:8). “All who were appointed for eternal life believed” (Acts 13:48). Pray that **all in the Anlaby Communities would be led to reflect on eternal realities** during this time of uncertainty, and that the Lord would bring many people to himself.

Tues 22nd Pray for those in the church family who are **struggling** at the moment – with ill health, relationship problems, bereavement, depression, stress, discontentment, or financial or work difficulties. Pray that God would be their shepherd in the darkness (Psalm 23).
Pray for those on the **parish sick list**, that God would strengthen them in their faith and would bring healing.

Wed 23rd Give thanks for **Nicholas and Amanda Haydock, and for Adam Young**, who have plans to serve God overseas in the next few months. Pray that travel would be possible, for funding, for safety, and for visas so they can serve the Lord in the areas he is calling them to. Pray also for the **Clark family**, a Crosslinks mission partner ministering in Belgium, who we have started to support as a church.

Thur 24th **Christmas eve.** Take some time to recall the events leading up to the birth of the Lord Jesus. Give thanks that “the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” (John 1:14).
Our **Crib Service** is due to take place today – 2pm at St Mark's and 3:30pm online. Pray that many people are able to engage and to come to know Jesus better as a result.

Fri 25th **Christmas day.** “I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11). Take some time to praise Jesus, God's King born in a lowly place. Our **Christmas Day Family Celebration** is due to take place today, at St Peter's.

Sat 26th Give thanks for our **buildings**, and for all those who work hard to maintain them, including cleaning them week by week. Pray for God's joy and sustaining of them in their labours. As we prepare to embark on the development of the St Peter's building, pray that our Father would provide the finances needed for the completion of this much needed work.

Sun 27th **United service at St Mark's at 4pm today.** We come to God today in **great need of his grace**. Pray that he would use the Word, prayer and our heartfelt praise to build us up and equip us for his service in the week ahead. Please also continue to pray for God's protection over his people. Pray that each of us would encounter the living God and be changed to be more like him - whether physically at one of our services or at home.

Mon 28th Pray for those for whom the **Christmas period is a difficult time**, particularly this year. Pray that they would find the Lord to be their shepherd at this time.

Tues 29th Give thanks for our **midweek groups**, including Noah's Ark, Stars, Light Lunches, the midweek communion, and the Saturday Coffee Morning. Pray for wisdom for the leaders to know whether and when to restart meeting, and how to keep in touch with members in the meantime.

Wed 30th Please pray for the **men of the Anlaby Churches**, as they seek God as to the future of the Men's ministry. Pray that during this time of crisis **Christian men** would be increasingly encouraged in their faith and friendships. Pray also that God would lead us to the men in the community that he is drawing to himself (Acts 13:48).

Thur 31st “The LORD is in his holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before him.” (Habakkuk 2:20). What a year we've had! Spend some time thanking God for his protection, and that he's still on his throne. Bring your concerns and needs before your heavenly Father as you prepare for the coming year.

“Will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off?” (Luke 18:7).