

December 1st

**Psalms:** 80 (MP), 74 (EP)

**Mo Barber:** So many of us are struggling with this second lockdown. No visits, no conversations and so much loneliness. At least I manage to get out with my little dog which is great! Let us all pray for those less fortunate who may be housebound for many reasons. Help them to find a light at the end of this very long tunnel and come to know that there is always someone who loves us unconditionally. Thank you Jesus for holding out your loving arms to us all. Amen

**Location/Organisation:** Staff, pupils and Governors at Banwell School

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 43: 1—13; Revelation 20

December 2nd

**Psalms:** 7 (MP), 77 (EP)

**Government:** Lord, we know our forefathers from previous centuries would look with envy and wonder at the services that our national and local governments provide for us today. Help us to be truly grateful for all that is available for us, and gladly obey the instructions in your word to pray for those who rule over us, and also pray for the prosperity of the towns and cities where we live. May we take none of our blessings for granted.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes in The Causeway.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 43: 14—end; Revelation 21: 1—8

December 3rd

**Psalms:** 42 (MP), 40 (EP)

**Liz & Tony Chappell:** My prayer comes from the great Advent hymn of Charles Wesley.

' Come thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set thy people free,  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in the. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Staff, pupils and Governors at St Anne's School.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 44: 1—8; Revelation 21: 9—21

December 4th

**Psalms:** 25 (MP), 17 (EP)

**Our Schools:** With Tier 3 now in operation, the ongoing challenges brought on by the pandemic and the ongoing management of the schools, please remember our schools in prayer on an ongoing basis.

Lord, you put 24 hours in a day, and gave me a body which gets tired and can only do so much. Show me which tasks you want me to do, help me to live prayerfully as I do them. Sharpen my senses, that I may truly see what I am looking at, taste what I am eating listen to what I am hearing face what I am suffering celebrate the ways I am loved and offer to you whatever I am doing, so that the water of the present moment may be turned into wine.

**Location/Organisation:** All who read in church services.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 44: 9—22; Revelation 21: 22—22: 5



December 5th

**Psalms:** 9 (MP), 27 (EP)

**Flares:** Dear Lord, Help us to take care of those around us during this time and however hard it may be, help us to remain positive and hopeful as we move towards this very unusual Christmas. Give us the strength to keep moving forward. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** For the local traveller families.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 44: 24—45: 13; Revelation 22: 6—end



Sunday December 6th

2nd Sunday of Advent

**St Nicholas:** Today we remember St Nicholas. He is the patron saint of sailors so today we remember all those whose lives depend on the sea, especially the families of those fishermen lost recently. Loving God, we thank you for the example of St Nicholas who fed the hungry, brought hope to the imprisoned, gave comfort to the lost, and taught the truth to all. May we strive to imitate him by putting you first in all we do. Give us the courage, love and strength of St Nicholas, so that, like him, we may serve you through loving our brothers and sisters. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Staff, pupils and Governors at St Andrew's

**Lectionary Readings:** 2 Peter 3: 8—15a; Mark 1: 1—8

December 7th

**Psalms:** 44 (MP), 144 (EP)

**From Methodist Prayer handbook—**Lord of the vulnerable, it seems not a week goes by without another horrifying news story about people who have been exploited or who have died in their pursuit of safety. Help us to remember that Jesus was a refugee too, having to leave his homeland and flee to Egypt with his mother, Mary, and father Joseph. Make us aware Lord in the needs of others. Help us to understand the fear and anxiety, difficulties and uncertainties, that all refugees and migrants suffer. May we never forget that we all belong to the same human family and give us compassion and courage to help in anyway we can. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Those living in Chestnut Close.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 45: 14—end; 1 Thessalonians 1

December 8th

**Psalms:** 56 (MP), 11 (EP)

**Barry & Joan Hogarth:** Dear Lord we give thanks for everyone who gives so generously to the Food Bank. There are many families in our village who would struggle to manage without help from the Food Bank. We also give thanks to the volunteers who give of their time to prepare the food boxes and distribute them to the needy.

**Location/Organisation:** The Sunday School leaders.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 46; 1 Thessalonians 2: 1—12

December 9th

**Psalms:** 62 (MP), 10 (EP)

**Bongi:** Lord, we thank you so much for Bongi and the light she allows you to shine through her. Thank you for her faith, her passion for helping her community and her complete trust in you for her future. We pray as she settles back into her village life that she will know your guiding hand and protection. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Those in Orchard Close.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 47; 1 Thessalonians 2: 13—end

December 10th

**Psalms:** 54 (MP), 73 (EP)

**Derek & Zoe Parrett:** We thank you Lord that truth prevailed in the USA which ends with Joe Biden becoming president. We thank you for the new hope of 3 different COVID vaccines, and we pray for everyone's safety from COVID this Christmas. Amen

**Location/Organisation:** For safety of those using A370.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 48: 1—11; 1 Thessalonians 3

December 11th

**Psalms:** 86 (MP), 90 (EP)



**NHS:** Today we pray with gratitude for the selfless service of those in the NHS. We value them and pray that God would strengthen and protect them and prosper the work of their hands.

**Location/Organisation:** For those who drive & look after "Bluey"

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 48: 12—end; 1 Thessalonians 4: 1—12

December 12th

**Psalms:** 145 (MP), 94 (EP)

**Kathleen Chaplin:** Lord, we pray that your presence and solace will be real to everyone who may be feeling detached from you at this time and that you may not be present in their daily lives or that they find it difficult to turn their thoughts towards you. We ask that you will give us all the way to turn our thoughts to you and to feel you holding us up, and to know you have never left us, but were gently waiting for us to hear your small clear voice of calm. Lord, grant us the knowledge to find time to contact all our friends and try to talk to them regularly. We ask this in your name. Amen

**Location/Organisation:** For local pre-school groups

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 49: 1—13; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13—end

Sunday December 13th

3rd Sunday of Advent

**Our Bellringers:** Today we pray for our bellringers. This is their prayer of commitment. Grant O Lord that those who hear the bells in their daily lives may be reminded of your living presence in the world.

We pray especially for those who because of sickness, or other reasons, cannot join us in worship. Strengthen and support them according to their needs and may your grace rest upon them; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Those on the intercessory prayer rota.

**Lectionary Readings:** 1 Thessalonians 5: 16—24; John 1: 6—8, 19—28

December 14th

**Psalms:** 40 (MP), 45 (EP)

**A prayer from Banwell:** Please pray for all in abusive relationships, that they may find the strength and courage they need to cope in these very challenging times. Please also pray for the homeless that they may get the support they need. And remember to thank God when He answers prayers.

**Location/Organisation:** The homes in Paul's Causeway.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 49: 14—25; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1—11

December 15th

**Psalms:** 70 (MP), 50 (EP)

**The Elms:** We are all so conscious of the plight of many residents of care homes across the country. The wonderful staff who work so hard to look after them, emotionally as well as their nursing needs. Those residents who still have enough faculties left to be aware of their isolation and loneliness at this time must be heart breaking - no family or friends to visit and then 'no touching'. We remember fondly all those we came to know from our visits and hope that someday we can come and sing and pray with them again. God bless them all.

**Location/Organisation:** All who help with the Children and youth

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 50; 1 Thessalonians 5: 12—end



December 16th

**Psalms:** 75 (MP), 82 (EP)

**Bishop Ruth:** Father, we thank you for all who have responsibility to watch over our souls. Please bless Bishop Ruth and help her shoulder all the responsibilities she has to carry, especially with the extra work due to Bishop Peter's illness. Please fill her with your spirit, give her all the wisdom she needs, and help her to always know she is greatly loved by you and by us all.

**Location/Organisation:** For God's anointing on all the services at Puxton Church

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 51: 1—8; 2 Thessalonians 1

December 17th

**Psalms:** 70 (MP), 50 (EP)

**Caz Carter:** As we look at celebrating a very different Christmas we pray for all those children who have nowhere to call home especially at the moment with unemployment and financial hardships dominating the news. Pray that the kindness that was shared during the summer will continue and they will be able to glimpse joy and love at this time.

**Location/Organisation:** People living in Walnut Tree Court.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 51: 9—16; 2 Thessalonians 2

December 18th

**Psalms:** 98 (MP), 49 (EP)

**Our Schools:** As the school term comes to an end, please pray for all the children and families connected with our primary schools. Lord we lift before you the children whose schools will not have been able to lead them along the usual Christmas route of Nativity shows, carols, church services and parties. Help those around them be able to feed some of the story to them that they may get a glimpse of the true meaning of Christmas and the message of love and hope. We ask that they may know love and that families will know peace, accepting that this year Christmas must be different, as this challenging year draws to a close. Suffer the children to come unto Him and let him wrap his loving arms around them. We ask this in Your name.

**Location/Organisation:** Our church admin team.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 51: 17—end; 2 Thessalonians 3

December 19th

**Psalms:** 146 (MP), 57 (EP)

**Mary Krawczenko:** Dear Lord, we pray today for everyone who is lonely, anxious or worried about the future at this time of advent, let us all pray for better times to come. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Local children's centres

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 52: 1—12; Jude

Sunday December 20th

4th Sunday of Advent

**Kay and Paul Friend:** Thank you Lord for all the hard work and dedication that resulted in the vaccines. This gives hope to people at the end of a long, hard year. We thank you also for the hope that is found in Jesus. Please help us all in Advent to look forward in faith.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes in Bridge Farm Square.

**Lectionary Readings:** Romans 16: 25—end; Luke 1: 26—38



December 21st

**Psalms:** 121 (MP), 84 (EP)

**Foodbank:** Give thanks for all the generous contributions that keep coming to the Foodbank, and for the school. Pray for all those too involved in the distribution of food packages, and that this will continue into 2021. Pray that all families will have enough to meet their needs, that no one will go short and God grants his blessings on those families who struggle, particularly at this time. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes & businesses on Station Rd

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 52: 13—end of 53; 2 Peter 1: 1 -15



December 22nd

**Psalms:** 124 (MP), 48 (EP)

**Christingle:** This year, our Christingle services will be different. Please pray for all those who would have attended these services. For many years churches all over the world have made Christingles to remind them that Christ is the light who came into the world at Christmas. The Christingle orange represents the world, the red ribbon of the Christingle represents the blood of Jesus which was shed for us so that our sins may be forgiven. The fruits and sweets on the four skewers represent God's gifts to us, the fruits of the earth and the four seasons. The lighted candle, pushed into the centre of the orange, represents Christ, the light of the world.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes in St Andrew's Close

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 54; 2 Peter 1: 16 -2: 3

December 23rd

**Psalms:** 130 (MP), 89: 1—37 (EP)

**For those who are grieving:** Today we pray for those who have lost loved ones this year and are facing the first Christmas without them. Father, you know our hearts and share our sorrows. We are hurt by our parting from those whom we loved: when we are angry at the loss we have sustained, when we long for words of comfort, yet find them hard to hear, turn our grief to truer living, our affliction to firmer hope in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** For the village library.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 55; 2 Peter 2: 4- end

December 24th

Christmas Eve

**Pastor Nihad:** Today we pray for Pastor Nihad and Immanuel Church in Bethlehem. They also run a café and bookshop. Many people are seeking the truth these days more than before. People are hopeless, lost, and don't know what to do. It is a place where a person can find a book and a nice peaceful atmosphere to read. A place where you can ask, chat with our ministers there; find answers, find Jesus. A place to counsel, pray and help those who enter seeking the truth. They are located on one of the main streets in Bethlehem, Please keep the ministry of the book & coffee shop in your prayers that God will guide all those seekers to find Jesus in this place. Please, keep us in prayers.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes on Weston Rd, Old Weston Rd & Dolemoor Lane.

**Lectionary Readings:** Acts 13: 16—26; Luke 1: 67—79





December 25th

Christmas Day

**Rev Matt Thomson:** As we celebrate today the birth of our Lord Jesus, we pray also dear Jesus that you will give birth to a new world out of the birth pains of all that so many people around the world have been going through. A new world which gives far higher value to the foreigner, the widow and the orphan; a world where the blind will see, the deaf will hear, and the lame leap for joy; a world where the glory of the Lord is as vast and overflowing in abundance as when the waters cover the sea, so fulfilling your promises of old, just as did your first physical birth two thousand years ago. Amen

**Location/Organisation:** For Vine Counselling Service

**Lectionary Readings:** Hebrews 1: 1—4, John 1: 1—14

December 26th

**Psalms:** 13 (MP), 86 (EP)

Christ, for whom there was no room in the inn, give courage to all who are homeless;  
Christ, who fled into Egypt, give comfort to all refugees;  
Christ, who fasted in the desert, give relief to all who are starving;  
Christ, who hung in agony on the cross,  
give strength to all who suffer. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** For the residents of Puxton and Hewish.

**Lectionary Readings:** Acts 7: 51—end; Matthew 10: 17—22

Sunday December 27th

1st Sunday of Christmas

**Pastoral Carers:** Thank you Lord for those who show your love to others. Give them strength and stamina at this time. There are so many people who need help, please give our pastoral carers words of wisdom to share with those in need, and then peace from all they hear and experience. Amen

**Location/Organisation:** For agencies helping people with drug and alcohol problems.

**Lectionary Readings:** Galatians 4: 4—7; Luke 2: 15—21

December 28th

**Psalms:** 36 (MP), 128 (EP)

**A prayer for family life:** God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** For the Visiting team.

**Lectionary Readings:** 1 Corinthians 1: 26—29; Matthew 2: 13—18

December 29th

**Psalms:** 21 (MP), 97 (EP)

**For Refugees:** Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry. Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** For Puxton Church

**Lectionary Readings:** 1 John 1; John 21: 19b—end

December 30th

**Psalms:** 113 (MP), 65 (EP)

**Somewhere To Go:** Father, we pray for all the staff and volunteers who give of their time and energy to make Somewhere To Go the wonderful haven that it is. May they always have all the support and resources that they need to provide such a valuable service. We especially pray also for all the clients who come through their doors, that they may always find a welcome, an acceptance, and all the wise advice and encouragement they need to get their lives back on track, enabling them to live life to the full once again.

**Location/Organisation:** Homes in Glen Yeo Terrace.

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 59: 1—15a; John 1: 19—28

December 31st

**Psalms:** 102 (MP), 90 (EP)



**Howard Worsley:** My New Years Prayer is that God will grant us all hope as we face 2021 and that looking ahead, we as a nation will not simply crave things to return to how they were. May we all learn empathy for those who are isolated and may the Church in the land learn to find new ways of being. May 2021 be a year in which we learn to live before the face of God. Amen.

**Location/Organisation:** The New Year

**Lectionary Readings:** Isaiah 59: 15b—end; John 1: 29—34