

## Prayers for December 2021

**We come to you in brokenness to find wholeness.**

**In sickness to find healing, In weakness to find courage  
In penitence to find a new beginning, In despair to find hope  
In uncertainty to find a next step, In loneliness to find companionship  
In longing to find our life's work**

**In ADVENT to find CHRISTMAS.  
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

- 1. At the start of this month, we continue to pray for and with the Mothers' Union, 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and Abuse. Today we pray for Elder Abuse. We pray for the elderly men and women who suffer abuse, that they will seek and find help. Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. We pray for all who live in Conghurst Lane, Risden, Foxhole Lane. In our Deanery, we pray for the parish of Headcorn and The Suttons, and the Vicar, Revd Fiona Haskett.*
- 2. As we wait for and journey towards Christmas, may we find joy in hearing God speak to us in the scriptures and in Church so that we are spurred into action. Lord, grant us the grace to hear and do your will. Amen. We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.*
- 3. Coercive control, is the most pervasive form of domestic abuse. We thank God for legislation on this issue, and we pray for effective resourcing and implementation to enable victims and families to regain their lives. '...as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people'. Galatians 6:10 We pray for the people living in Delmondon Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parishes of Etchingam and Hurst Green.*
- 4. Breaking the cycle of trafficking. We pray for families living in desperate situations, who are coaxed into trafficking children to orphanages or to other countries for work, believing they can have a better life. We pray for the ministry in and from the St Laurence Parish Office. We pray for all living in Red Oak and Hensil Lane.*
- 5. Healthy relationships matter. We pray that we may faithfully teach God's Word and that it may not be used as a tool to damage and abuse. Bless all the doctors, nurses and staff who work at Benenden Hospital and the Hawkhurst Cottage Hospital. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.*
- 6. Love Matters. Our love for God motivates and challenges us to keep this command: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and Love your neighbour as yourself' Luke 10:27. We pray for all shops and businesses in the High Street, and in our village. We pray for all living on Horns Corner and Horns Hill.*
- 7. Women in conflict zones. We pray for the MU Literacy and Financial Projects in communities and refugee camps, where women are fleeing war and conflict. We*

pray for all living on Moor Hill, Talbot Road and The Hawthorns; Stream Lane and Hastings Road. Bless and guide the Queen and all members of the Royal family.

8. *The impact of child marriage. Each year, 12 million girls marry before the age of 18. 'For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.' Psalm 72:12. We pray for a change in religious and cultural norms and that governments will outlaw this appalling practice. We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.*
9. *Transforming power. God's power is transformative. Lord, in our lives there are times to accept what life brings and trust in your guidance and love. May power be used for the good of all, and may those who abuse power, remember that, in the end, all power comes from God. We pray for the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst and with St Mary's Frittenden and the Vicar, Revd. Pete Deaves.*
10. **International Human Rights Day.** *'There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.' Galatians 3:28. We pray for the families living in Barretts Road and Heartenoak Road.*
11. *Advent is a unique journey towards the light of Christmas. Jesus, help us to understand that only in your light do we see light. Amen. We pray for all who live in Tongswood Drive and Whites Lane and for the parish of Goudhurst and Kilndown, and the Vicar Revd. Rachel Robertson.*
12. *To love is to bring light into the darkness. Father, as we wait, fill our hearts with hope. May we seek the light and treasure the joy that comes into our lives at this time. Amen. We pray for all who live in Cranbrook Road and Sandrock Cottages. We pray for the parish of Cranbrook and the Vicar Revd Ann Pollington.*
13. *Lord, we turn to you in praise and with gratitude for all the gifts we have received; may we also turn to others and offer our hands to do your work. Amen. Bless and guide those living in Fairview and Northgrove Road. We pray for all who worship in the Parish of Marden and the Vicar, Revd. Nicola Harvey.*
14. *Gracious God, we thank you for the many gifts you have given to us throughout our lives and for the joy we experience in the love of others. Amen. We pray for those living in Gills Green and Wellington Cottages, Tubs Lake and those living in Bedgbury. We pray for all members of the Methodist Fellowship in Hawkhurst.*
15. *Lord Jesus, may I welcome you into my heart, just as the shepherds did with their wonder and excitement. May I grow in tenderness and mercy as I kneel at the manger. Amen. We pray for all who worship and serve in the Roman Catholic Church of St Barnabas and for Father Patrice. Bless those living in Gingerbread Lane and The High Street.*
16. *As I welcome Jesus into the world at Christmas, what am I willing to change about the way I live in order to bring this joy and hope into the lives of others? We pray for those living in Gunther Court, Hartnokes and Basden Cottages, and also for the parishes of Ticehurst and Flimwell and the Vicar Rev Ashley Evans.*

17. **O Wisdom**, *Word and breath of God most high, ever at play in his presence; by you he created the world. Come and teach us what is pleasing to him.* We pray for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk. We pray for all who worship in the Baptist Church in our village, and for the Minister Revd. Ben Gotts and his family.
18. **O Adonai**, *Mighty One of Israel and strong deliverer; you appeared to Moses in a flame of fire; you gave him the law on Sinai. Come and redeem us with an outstretched arm.* We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park and Highgate Hill, and Herschel Place
19. **O Righteous Branch from Jesse's root**, *the Spirit rests on you. You are a sign to the peoples; the nations seek you. Come and rule over us; come and do not delay.* We pray for all the schools in our village, for the Headteachers, Staff and pupils and in particular for the Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School. We pray for all those living in Murton-Neale Close and Camerons. We also pray for all living in Oakfield and Theobalds.
20. **O Bearer of David's key**, *heir of his princely power: you open and no one closes, you close and no one opens. Come break the doors of bronze and free the prisoners of death.* We pray for all living on Slip-mill Lane, Slipmill Road and Sobers Lane. Pray for the parishes of Ewhurst and Bodiam and the Rector Canon Christopher Irvine.
21. **O Bright Star of the morning**, *splendour of the everlasting light: you are the sun of righteousness. Come and rise on the darkness in our hearts with healing in your wings.* We pray for all living in the area of Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
22. **O Israel's Anointed**, *and king over all the earth: you are the cornerstone, making both one. Come and deliver man, whom you formed from the dust.* We pray for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk.
23. **O Emmanuel**, *God with us, the king who shall reign in righteousness: you are the hope of the nations and their deliverer. Come and save us, O Lord our God.* We pray for all living in Queens Close and Hammonds.
24. *The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, alleluia, alleluia.* We bring to you in our prayers today, all living in Western Road and School Terrace, Rye Road and Highfield Close. We pray for the parish of Staplehurst, and the Vicar Revd Silke Tezlaff.
25. **At the heart of Christmas.** *Jesus, born among us, may your life-changing love be at the heart of our lives this Christmas and always. Amen.* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.
26. **St Stephen - Deacon and Martyr.** *We pray for those who are persecuted for their faith in Christ, and we also remember all who are lonely and sad at this time.* We keep in prayer those living in, Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.

27. *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. John 1:14* We pray for all living in Attwater Lane and Potters Lane. We pray for Revd. David Commander, Rector of the Benefice of Benenden and Sandhurst, and Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners.
28. ***The Holy Innocents:*** *In your love and mercy, protect unborn babies and children from cruelty, abuse and persecution, and bless them and their parents, and all who care for them.* We pray today for all living in Herschel Place, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and all new homes in our village.
29. *Lord, we thank you for the year that has passed, and we ask for your guidance and blessing in the coming year.* We keep in prayer the residents of Water Lane and Gun Green.
30. ***Holy Family.*** *Heavenly Father, you gave us a wonderful example of family life in the home of Jesus, Mary and Joseph at Nazareth.* We pray for Justin Welby, our Archbishop, Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, the Bishop of Dover and Stephen, Archdeacon and acting Diocesan Secretary, Andrew, Archdeacon of Maidstone. We pray for the work and ministry of the Anglican Consultative Council.
31. *May our God of hope and light transform our hearts this Christmastide, filling the New Year with potential and blessings to the brim. Amen.* We pray for our Vicar and Area Dean of the Weald Deanery, Fr Rodney Dreyer and his family. We also pray for our Churchwardens, and all the members of our PCC. We remember all the members of our fellowship who live outside the parish.

***Let us continue to prayer “Thy Kingdom Come” until it does.  
Come Holy Spirit: gift us with yourself***