

DPrayers for December 2025

*Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear Your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things look forward to Your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of Your presence.
We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light.
To You we say, 'Come Lord Jesus!'*

Amen

[Joel Mason]

1. *The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armour of light. [Rom 13:12].* 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 during their interregnum.
2. *Lord Jesus Christ, prepare my heart to welcome you now, and so may I be ready to welcome you when you come again, Amen.* We remember in prayer today those who live in Cowden Lane and Horns Road.
3. *Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552. O my Lord Jesus! Teach me to be generous; teach me to serve You as you deserve; to give, and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to ask for rest; to labour, seeking no reward, save that of knowing that I do Thy will. Amen. [Francis Xavier].* We pray for the people living in Delmonden Lane, and North Hill Road, and remember the parish of Holy Trinity, Hurst Green during their interregnum.
4. *John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher of the Faith, c.749. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. [1 John 4:9].* We pray for all living in Red Oak and Hensil Lane.
5. *It has pleased him to make known to us the mystery of his will, set forth in Christ – that, in the fullness of time, he might unite all things, in heaven and on earth, in him. [Eph 1:9-10].* We pray for all who worship and serve in the Roman Catholic Church of St Barnabas and Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi. We pray for families who live on The Moor and in The Chestnuts.
6. *Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326. O good holy Nicholas, you who brought joy to children, put in my heart the spirit of childhood about which the Gospel speaks. Teach me how to sow happiness around me. Amen.* Bless and guide the King and all members of the Royal family. We pray for all living on Horns Corner and Horns Hill.

- 7 **Second Sunday of Advent.** *Living God, though I can do nothing, teach me that you can do everything. Through Christ my Lord. Amen.* We pray for all living on Moor Hill, Talbot Road and The Hawthorns; Stream Lane and Hastings Road.
- 8 *The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.* We pray for the parish of Staplehurst, and their Vicar, Revd. Silke Tezlaff. We remember in our prayers all living in All Saints Road, Smugglers, Smugglers Mews and Dickens Way.
- 9 *Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." [John 14:6-7].* We remember the parishioners of Trinity Church, Sissinghurst with St Mary's Frittenden during their interregnum.
10. *Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. [John 6:35].* We remember today the Food 4 Families food bank in Hawkhurst, for the volunteers and for all those who need its services. We pray for the families living in Barretts Road and Hartenoak Road.
- 11 *You are our help and our salvation; come, Lord, do not delay.* We pray for all who live in Tongswood Drive and Whites Lane.
12. *The appointed time is near, may we reject the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. As we come to you in prayer, may the purity of your light shine into our hearts.* We pray for all who work in and own shops, pubs, restaurants and businesses in the High Street, in our village. We pray for all who live in Cranbrook Road and Sandrock Cottages. We pray for the parish of Cranbrook and their Vicar Revd. Richard King.
- 13 *Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304. When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." [John 8:12].* Bless all the doctors, nurses and staff who work at Benenden Hospital and the Hawkhurst Community Hospital. We pray and give thanks for all who work in the emergency services. 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. **Third Sunday of Trinity.** *Come to us Lord Jesus, we thirst for you and long for your gracious love to be shown to us. Come to us and hear our longings and desires.* We pray today for our vicar Fr. Rodney as he celebrates his last official service as our incumbent. We pray for those living in Gills Green and Wellington Cottages, Tubs Lake and those living in Bedgebury.
15. *In you, O Lord, we put our trust; in your steadfast love hear us.* We pray today for all ordinands and those in training for Licensed Lay Ministry. Bless those living in Gingerbread Lane and The High Street and for the parish of Goudhurst and Kilndown, and their Vicar, Revd. Rachel Robertson.

16. *Make ready our hearts and minds, through prayer, to wait expectantly for the coming of Jesus Christ. May we go out to meet him when he appears.* We pray for those living in Gunther Court, Hartnokes and Basden Cottages, and also for the parishes of Ticehurst and Flimwell and their vicar, the Revd. Canon Dr Jason Radcliff.
17. ***O Sapientia.*** *O Divine Wisdom, come into our hearts and pour on us the spirit of discernment, that this time may be sanctified by the gracious covering of your wings.* 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 their Minister, Revd. Ben Gotts and his family.
18. ***O Adonai.*** *O Adonai, set our hearts ablaze with the fire of your love. May this time of prayer teach us your law.* We pray for all who live in Mercers, Lorenden Park and Highgate Hill.
19. ***O Radix Jesse.*** *O Root of Jesse, we fall silent in prayer, for you are God. Embrace us in your arms.* We pray today for all the schools in our village, in particular for Hawkhurst Church of England Primary School, the Headteacher Jodi Hacker, the staff, governors, volunteers, and parents as they finish for the Christmas break. We pray for all those living in Murton-Neale Close and Camerons. We also pray for all living in Oakfield and Theobalds.
20. ***O Clavis David.*** *O Key of David, open our hearts and banish the deeds of darkness, so that this time of prayer may be blessed by the light of your presence.* We pray for all living on Slipmill Lane, Slipmill Road and Sopers Lane. Pray for the parishes of Ewhurst and Bodiam during their interregnum.
21. **Fourth Sunday of Advent. *O Oriens.*** *O Rising Sun, enlighten us with your presence, warm our hearts with your healing touch so that our prayers may be a fitting sacrifice of thanksgiving and love.* We pray for all living in the area of Queens Road, Park Cottages and Dunlop Court.
22. ***O Rex Gentium.*** *O King of the People, the desire of nations and hope of all people, hear our prayer which we bring before you.* We pray today for those who live in Copthall Avenue, Fieldways and Church Walk.
23. ***O Emmanuel.*** *O Emmanuel, our king and judge, hear the prayers that we bring before you; in your mercy, hear the cries of our hearts.* We pray for all living in Queens Close and Hammonds.
24. **Christmas Eve.** *We wait in prayer with eager longing for your incarnation. Come into the silence of our waiting and listen to our needs, prayers and longings.* We bring to you in our prayers today, all living in Western Road and School Terrace, Rye Road and Highfield Close.
25. **Christmas Day.** *A great and mighty wonder, a full and holy cure! The Virgin bears the Infant with virgin-honour pure. [St Germanus].* We pray for all living in Oaklands Road and Tates. We pray for all living in Winchester Road, Woodbury Road and Vale Road.

26. **Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr.** *Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."* [Acts 7:55-56]. We keep in prayer those living in Ockley Road, Barretts Green and Norris Close.
27. **John, Apostle and Evangelist.** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* [John 1:1-5]. 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 Area Dean of the Weald Deanery and also for Revd. Ylva Blid-Mackenzie, the Assistant Priest and all the parishioners. We keep in prayer the residents of Water Lane and Gun Green.
28. **First Sunday of Christmas. The Holy Innocents.** *"A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."* [Jer 31:15]. We pray for our Vicar, Canon Fr. Rodney Dreyer and for his family as he completes his ministry in our parish and enters retirement.
29. *Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.* [Matt 5:6]. We pray today for all living in Herschel Place, Woodham Close, Birchfield Grove and all new homes in our village. We remember today all those in care in the village. We pray for the staff and residents of Bowles Lodge and Hawkhurst House.
30. *Seek the Lord while he may be found. Call upon him, while he is near.* [Isi 55:6]. We pray for Rt Revd and Rt Hon Dame Sarah Mullally, Archbishop of Canterbury Designate, the Right Reverend Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Bishop of Dover and Iain Blythe the Diocesan Secretary. We pray for the work and ministry of the Anglican Consultative Council.
31. *John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384. Lord, make me mild, peaceable, courteous, and temperate. And make me steadfast and strong. Also, Lord, give Thou to me that I be quiet in words and that I speak what is appropriate.* [John Wyclif]. We pray for our churchwardens, all members of our PCC and also for those members of our fellowship who live outside the parish.

Gracious God,
We come before You seeking renewal in the New Year.
Renew our minds, our hearts and our spirits.
May we be transformed by the power of Your Holy Spirit,
leaving behind the old and embracing the new that You have in store for us.
Amen.