

St. Michael and All Angels, Colehill
MONTHLY PRAYER DIARY FOR DECEMBER 2024

Sunday 1st - Saturday 7th

- Sun.1st** Reflecting on the words of Isaiah 9:6, we pray: Lord, as **Christmas approaches**, we remember the birth of your Son Jesus, whom you sent to us to be the Saviour of the world. We pray that throughout the busyness of the season, you would help us to fix our eyes and hearts on you, our Wonderful Counsellor, our Might God, our Everlasting Father, our Prince of Peace. Amen
- Mon.2nd** On **National Grief Awareness Week**, we pray that you would comfort and bring peace to those who are struggling with loss. Help us to weep with those who weep and point them towards your unconditional love. 'The LORD is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.' (Psalm 34:18)
- Tue.3rd** On **International Day of Persons with Disabilities**, we pray for all people with any form of disability. We pray that the church would be a place of accessibility and inclusion. Lord, help us grow in understanding and compassion.
- Wed.4th** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday.** Suzanne is presiding and preaching, Rod is reading and Sharen is offering intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and our organist Kerry. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them, that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you.
- Thu.5th** On **International Day of Volunteers**, we thank God for all who volunteer in churches across the Salisbury Diocese. We thank you for their servant hearts, and we pray that we would all be inspired to serve others.
- Fri.6th** On **St Nicholas Day**, we remember your servant Nicholas whose legacy is one of generosity. Lord, help us to give freely, just as we have freely received, and help us to be mindful of those in need that we might love others as you have loved us, Jesus.
- Sat.7th** God of compassion, we pray for **the homeless and all those who sleep outdoors** at night. We give thanks for those who devote their lives to supporting homeless people and who share the vision of a society without homelessness. We pray for the work of Crisis, the Salvation Army, Routes to Roots in Poole and other Charities committed to this cause.

Sunday 8th - Saturday 14th

- Sun.8th** We pray for our **churches across the Salisbury Diocese** that are holding events and services during Christmas. Lord, may your church be a place of support and hope this Christmas. We also pray that those who attend a church service or event for the first time this Christmas would feel welcome, and know your love and peace.
- Mon.9th** Lord God, we pray for the **life of our church and all who contribute to our common life together**. We give special thanks for Suzanne our Vicar, Martin our Assistant Priest and our Ministry Team, Hilary G, Graham, John and Jenny, and for the varied and imaginative liturgy we enjoy in our worship each Sunday.
- Tue.10th** Lord Jesus, we remember **our local community**, remembering with gratitude all who serve on Colehill Parish Council, and those who work in Colehill and provide a service for its inhabitants and further afield.
- Wed.11th** On **International Human Rights Day**, we pray for all those around the world whose human rights are ignored or violated. Help us build a society built on the knowledge that every person is made in God's image.
- Thu.12th** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday**. Suzanne is presiding and Hilary G is giving the talk, Lynn is reading and Liz is offering intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and Kerry our organist. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them, that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you. **We especially remember our Choir and Readers presenting the Christmas Story at the Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday evening**.
- Fri.13th** Lord, we ask for your blessing on our **Church School, St. Michael's Middle**. for Darren Ayling, its Headteacher, children, staff and Academy Committee.
- Sat.14th** Those **living in** Lonnen Road, Little Lonnen, Lonnen Wood Close, Woodview, Rotary Close, Four Wells Road, Sandy Lane & Sandy Close.

Sunday 15th - Saturday 21st

- Sun.15th** As schools break up for the Christmas holidays, **we pray for pupils and staff**, that this break would be a time of rest and restoration. We give thanks for churches across the Salisbury Diocese that will be hosting activities over Christmas and pray that children and young people attending would know more of who you are.

Mon.16th We pray for the **Diocese of Yambio in South Sudan** and for its Bishop, Samuel Peni, and for those in our link deanery Karika. Thirteen years on from independence, South Sudan faces a growing humanitarian crisis with the country's civil war and conflict in neighbouring Sudan. Lord, bring lasting peace in this troubled area and your Spirit's guidance on those who can influence peace. Thank you for the witness of Christians in South Sudan who, in spite of the troubles, show such joy, love and passion and huge faith in you.

Tue.17th **Colehill First School and Hayeswood First School** – Executive Headteacher Sharon Staddon, children, staff, Academy Committee & trustees.

Wed.18th **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday.** Suzanne is presiding and preaching, Sandra is reading and Alan is offering intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and our organist Leonie. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them, that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you.

Thu.19th Caring Father, we give thanks for **Wimborne Food Bank** and especially for its volunteers who give so much of their time. We pray for parents who will struggle to feed their families during this Christmas season.

Fri.20th We pray for **Cherubs**, our mums and carers toddlers' group and for all who contribute to its management and activity.

Sat.21st Father, we give thanks for our **Lay Pastoral Assistants**, Barbara, Liz and Richard in their ministry of care.

Sunday 22nd - Tuesday 31st

Sun.22nd Please uphold in prayer all who are **leading our Christmas Services** over the busy Christmas period.

Mon.23rd We pray for those who find **Christmas a difficult time of year**, and for those who are alone at Christmas. We pray that they would know that they are not alone, that you are with them, and they are unconditionally loved. Bring them comfort during this time.

Tue.24th On **Christmas Eve**, we remember the great love and humility you displayed in coming down to earth in the form of a baby, to make your dwelling among us: 'They will call him Immanuel, which means "God with us"' (Matthew 1:23)

- Wed.25th** On **Christmas Day**, we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ who has rescued and redeemed us. O Come let us adore him, for he alone is worthy! We give thanks for our loved ones, and we pray for rest and reconciliation, comfort and joy.
- Thur.26th** On **St Stephen's Day** we remember the first martyr, who before his death gazed steadfastly into heaven and saw the glory of God, and who prayed for the forgiveness of those who killed him (Acts 7:54-59). Lord, please strengthen us in our suffering and pain, teach us to love our enemies, and help us to faithfully bear witness to your name.
- Fri.27th** On the **Feast Day of St John the Evangelist**, we give thanks for his Gospel, written so that we may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, and by believing have life in his name (John 20:31). We pray that through his writings we would deeply know this truth and share it with others, that they may believe as well.
- Sat.28th** **God of all peace**, speak your peace to our restless souls, bring your peace to our troubled lives and, establish your peace in our broken world. We bring before you especially the situation in Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine and South Sudan.
- Sun.29th** We pray for the work of **our Diocese of Salisbury**, remembering especially our Bishops Stephen, Karen and Andrew. Lord, bless them in their ministry. Guide them in their teaching and in the decisions, they have to make. Come Holy Spirit, grant unto them energy and vision in the responsibilities they undertake.
- Mon.30th** Lord God, we uphold before you, particularly during this Christmas season, all those who are **sick and infirm, the sad, lonely and those who are housebound**, especially those who are mentioned on our Weekly Prayer List. May they experience your presence, and so find strength and grace through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- Tue.31st** On **New Year's Eve**, we remember all that has taken place this year. Amidst the trials and difficulties, we give thanks for every blessing, knowing that God works all things for the good of those who love him. May we enter the New Year with our eyes fixed on Jesus.