

St. Michael and All Angels, Colehill
MONTHLY PRAYER DIARY FOR JANUARY 2025

Wednesday 1st – Saturday 4th

As we begin a New Year, we remember that you make all things new. We thank you that this year is an opportunity for change and for growth. This year, help us to trust in you and the plans you have for us, and help us to remember that you are faithful in every season.

- Wed.1st** **On New Year's Day**, as we reflect on the joys and the trials of last year, we thank you that you were with us through every high and low. May we hold onto hope this year, knowing that you will continue to guide us, comfort us, and strengthen us.
- Thu.2nd** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday.** Suzanne is presiding, Alan Fryer is preaching and Hilary M is leading the 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.
- Fri.3rd** We pray for **Cherubs**, our mums and carers toddlers' group and for all who contribute to its management and activity.
- Sat.4th** Give thanks for **Alan, our church treasurer and his team.** Give thank also for our **Fund Raising Committee** who do so much to help to keep our church finances in healthy order.

Sunday 5th – Saturday 11th

As a new school term begins, we pray for pupils in schools across the Salisbury Diocese. We pray that this year they would have fresh enthusiasm and excitement for the year ahead. We give thanks for the links between our churches and schools and pray that this year there would be opportunities to share the good news with young people. We remember all our local schools as they return after the Christmas break, especially our church School, St. Michael's Middle – for its Headteacher Darren Ayling, children, staff and its Academy Committee.

- Sun.5th** 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.6th** On **Epiphany**, we remember the Wise Men who followed the star to meet their new king, to bow before him and worship him, presenting him with gifts. May we share their hearts of adoration, giving thanks for how we were led to meet him. May we present our lives as offerings to the King.

- Tue.7th** Lord, we pray for **our country**. We uphold before you Kier Starmer, our Prime Minister and his cabinet and ask for honesty and integrity in the decisions they make. We pray also for our MP, Vikki Slade.
- Wed.8th** Pray for a cause **dear to your heart**.
- Thu.9th** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday**. Suzanne is presiding, Jenny is giving the talk John is leading the Intercessions on behalf of us all and Barbie is reading. 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.
- Fri.10th** **Colehill First School and Hayeswood First School** – Executive Headteacher Sharon Staddon, children, staff, Academy committee & trustees.
- Sat.11th** On **Anti Trafficking Day**, we remember that you are a God of Justice, who hates to see oppression and injustice. We weep with those who weep, as we remember those who face oppression, exploitation and violence. Help us to be a part of the anti-trafficking movement, and we pray that we ‘act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly’ to stand with those who face suffering.
(Micah 6:8).

Sunday 12th – Saturday 18th

As we begin a new week, we pray for fresh opportunities to share your love with those around us. Help us to be a source of encouragement and hope and to radiate your light. Whatever this week may look like, give us strength to respond with kindness, and be a living testimony to your unconditional love

- Sun.12th** We pray for the **Diocesan Sudan Medical link**. Lord, we pray and give thanks for all involved with this who, amongst other things, work with leaders of the Episcopal Churches of South Sudan & Sudan to provide funding for health services to dioceses ravaged by years of civil war. In both countries people may have to travel a long way to reach scarce health facilities.
- Mon.13th** We pray for your blessing upon the **Society of St Francis at Hilfield**, for all those who worship and live there, and those who visit for respite and reflection. We thank you for the faithfulness of these places of prayer in our diocese. We name before you in prayer chaplains John Hennings and Jonathan Herbert
- Tue.14th** 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.

- Wed.15th** Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday. Suzanne is presiding and preaching, Richard is reading and Eileen is leading the Intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and our organist. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you.
- Thu.16th** Lord God, we uphold before you 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.
- Fri.17th** Loving Father, we uphold before you all our **local Medical Practices**. Bless doctors, nurses, receptionists and other ancillary staff as they continue your healing work on earth.
- Sat.18th** God of healing and compassion, we thank you for the **National Health Service**, and for the dedication of all who work in it. Give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who care for the sick, and your wisdom to those engaged in medical research.

Sunday 19th – Saturday 25th

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we reflect on this year's theme, which is the question posed by Jesus to Martha, 'do you believe this?' (John 11:26) Lord, lead us to reflect on our own belief, and stir our hearts to share you with those around us.

- Sun.19th** On **World Religion Day**, we give thanks for respectful and productive relationships with other faith groups, whilst still professing our faith in Christ who is the way the truth and the life. We pray for all those who are persecuted because of their faith, and for an end to violence caused by religious conflict.
- Mon.20th** On **Blue Monday**, we pray for those who are struggling with their Mental Health. Lord, we thank you that you that you are near to those who are struggling.
- Tue.21st** Lord, we give you thanks for those **unsung heroes** in our church family at St. Michael's who do so much in contributing to our common life together. Without any fanfare of trumpets, they quietly and unassumingly get on with their jobs, often unseen by others. Lord, bless each one of them.
- Wed.22nd** On the **International Day of Education**, we pray for all teachers and school staff in the Salisbury Diocese. We give thanks for their commitment to the growth and development of children and young people. Lord, please sustain them in their vocation and remind them of the difference they are making to the lives of children and young people.

- Thu.23rd** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday.** Suzanne is presiding and preaching, Mary is reading and Jane is leading the Intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and our organist. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them, that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you.
- Fri.24th** **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 the situation in Gaza, Lebanon, Ukraine Sudan and South Sudan and other areas of conflict in the world.
- Sat.25th** On the **Feast Day of the Conversion of Paul**, we remember that an encounter with you transformed a persecutor of your people into your chosen instrument, who carried the gospel to many nations. Lord, thank you that you turn lives around, teach us through the words and actions of your apostle Paul.
- Saturday 26th – Friday 31st**
- Sun.26th** Remember the **Diocese of Yambio in South Sudan** and for its Bishop, Samuel Peni, and for those in our link deanery Karika. Twelve 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.
- Mon.27th** On **Holocaust Memorial Day**, we lament the deaths of the six million Jews killed during the Holocaust. Lord, we know that you are a God of justice and of forgiveness. Help us to stand with those who are suffering today. We long for the day you will put an end to evil.
- Tue.28th** Father, we give you thanks for our families and pray that we all may grow together in awareness of your love for us. We thank you for the work of the **Mothers' Union** and for its promotion and support for family life world-wide. We uphold before you our branch of the **Mothers' Union in Colehill** and give you thanks for the love, friendship and fellowship its members share with one another.
- Wed.29th** Pray for **someone or something** that may be on your mind at this present time.
- Thu.30th** **Pray for those who are preparing to lead our worship on Sunday.** Martin is presiding and preaching, Bridgette is reading and Liz is leading the Intercessions on behalf of us all. Pray too for Jo, our Choir Leader, our choir and our organist. Holy Spirit, guide and inspire them, that through our worship those present may be brought ever closer to you.
- Fri.31st** **Queen Elizabeth's School** – Headteacher, Tom Neill, students, staff, Academy Committee and trustees.