

SAT 25 JAN Conversion of Paul, Jer 1:4-10, Acts 9:1-22, Psalm 67 We pray that we would have wisdom to know how to lovingly witness to people we meet so that lives can be transformed like that of Saul.

SUN 26 JAN Neh 8:1-3 & 5-6 & 8-10, 1 Cor 12:12-31, Luke 4:14-21, Psalm 19 "The heavens declare the glory of God." Let us worship and magnify his holy name today.

MON 27 JAN Hosea 2:18-3:end, 1 Cor 9:15-end, Psalm 108 As the UK is turning away from its Christian roots giving Islam an opportunity to take root, we particularly pray for Christians to be prepared to engage truthfully and lovingly with Islam and Muslims that we know.

TUES 28 JAN Hosea 4:1-16, 1 Cor 10:1-13, Psalm 36 We give thanks for Christian schools and pray for Christian educators and decision makers who can bring transformation to the education system. We pray for encouragement and support for all Christian teachers that we know.

WED 29 JAN Hosea 5:1-7, 1 Cor 10:14-11:1, Psalm 46 We thank God that he is the creator and sustainer of life. We pray that our society would be one where the most vulnerable people are valued and cared for.

THURS 30 JAN Hosea 5:8-6:6, 1 Cor 11:2-16, Psalm 47 We give thanks for students and young adults who are using their gifts and skills to proclaim Christ in the world around them.

FRI 31 JAN Hosea 6:7-7:2, 1 Cor 11:17-end, Psalm 65 We pray for the Church of England following the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. May this opportunity, for a new season of repentance and renewal in the church, be grasped wholeheartedly.

SAT 1 FEB Hosea 8, 1 Cor 12:1-11, Psalm 68 We pray for all coffee mornings and community gatherings across the benefice that friendships and relationships would continue to develop and be supportive.

SUN 2 FEB Mal 3:1-5, Heb 2:14-end, Luke 2:22-40, Psalm 24 We give thanks for our church wardens, visiting clergy and lay ministers who have helped to maintain our service rota during the past year. We bless them all as they continue to serve us.

MON 3 FEB Mal 1:1 & 6-end, John 13:1-11, Psalm 1 We pray for all our parish councils. We give thanks for those who volunteer to serve in this way and pray that they will be good stewards of resources.

TUES 4 FEB Mal 2:1-16, John 13:12-20, Psalm 5 We pray for wisdom for our PCCs as they meet this year, especially in all business related to appointing a new rector.

WED 5 FEB Mal 2:17-3:12, John 13:21-30, Psalm 119:1-32 Help us, Lord to keep your statutes and seek you with all our heart. Thank you that you are slow to anger and quick to forgive when we fail.

PRAYER AND BIBLE READING DIARY **19TH DECEMBER 2024 TO 5TH FEBRUARY 2025**

THURS 19 DEC Isa 51:9-16, 2 Thess 2, Psalm 146 We give thanks for our bell ringers who contribute to our worship across the benefice.

FRI 20 DEC Isa 51;17-end, 2 Thess 3, Psalm 46 We pray for children, students and staff as the holidays begin. We ask for time for relaxation and restoration.

SAT 21 DEC Isa 52:1-12, Jude, Psalm 121 Jesus came to reconcile us to God. We give thanks for who all who are gifted in mediation and resolving conflict, so that people, communities and countries can flourish.

SUN 22 DEC 4th Sunday of Advent Micah 5:2-5a, Heb 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45, Psalm 80:1-8 We give thanks for our carol services and "carols round the pond" at Cliddesden this evening, and for all the opportunities to speak about the extraordinarily good news of the gospel.

MON 23 DEC Isa 52:13-53:end, 2 Peter 1:1-15, Psalm 130 We ask for safe travelling for all who are visiting friends and family during this Christmas season. May our family get together be blessed and joyful.

TUES 24 DEC Christmas Eve Isa 52:7-10, Heb 1:1-4, John 1:1-14, Psalm 98 We pray for those who find Christmas a difficult time of year. May they find comfort, encouragement and company over the holiday season.

WED 25 DEC Christmas Day Isa 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14, Psalm 96 Yes, Lord, we greet you, born this happy morning! O come let us adore him and give him all the glory.

THURS 26 DEC St Stephen's Day Acts 7:15-end, Matt 10:17-22, Psalm 119:161-168 Today, we remember all Christians around the world who are persecuted because of their faith. May they experience the joy and wonder of Jesus' birth despite their difficult circumstances.

FRI 27 DEC John, Apostle and Evangelist Ex 33:7-11a, John 21:19b-end, Psalm 117 We pray for all who are isolated or homeless. Thank you for the work of organisations bringing relief and help to those in distress: The Salvation Army, Crisis at Christmas, Centrepoint etc.

SAT 28 DEC The Holy Innocents Jer 31:15-17, Matt 2:13-18, Psalm 124 Today we read that Joseph had to take his family to Egypt to escape Herod's fury. We pray for all who are refugees today, that they might find safety and security.

SUN 29 DEC 1 Sam 2:18-20 & 26, Col 3:12-17, Luke 2:41-end, Psalm 148 we pray for Ian Thacker who has ministered to us for most of this year. We ask for refreshment for him and for wisdom in his service during this coming year.

MON 30 DEC Isa 59:1-15a, John 1:19-28, Psalm 113 Let us reflect on God's work in our lives during the past year and give thanks for his never-failing love.

TUES 31 DEC Isa 59:15b-end, John 1:29-34, Psalm 102 We ask for guidance in the coming year to know the Lord's will and direction in our lives.

WED 1 JAN Naming and circumcision of Jesus. Num 6:22-end, Luke 2:15-21, Psalm 8 We pray for all babies in this new year that they might have long and fruitful lives and will grow to love the Lord Jesus.

THURS 2 JAN Isa 60:1-12, John 1:35-42, Psalm 18:1-30 We give thanks for all who have contributed to the ministry of our churches during the interregnum. We pray for God's chosen person to respond to the advert for a new rector for this benefice.

FRI 3 JAN Isa 60:13-end, John 1:43-end, Psalm 127 We pray for Christians in Syria that they would have freedom to worship under the new regime. We ask for a stable and just government.

SAT 4 JAN Isa 61, John 2:1-12, Psalm 89:1-37 We pray for continued healing for King Charles and the Princess of Wales. We pray for wisdom and guidance for all members of the royal family as they carry out their duties.

SUN 5 JAN Epiphany Isa 60:1-6, Eph 3:1-12, Matt 2:1-12, Psalm 72 The wise men were committed to following the star wherever it led. May we persevere to follow the Lord's leading, even when the way seems difficult and exhausting, because we know he is the only one who is altogether good, bringing hope and restoration.

MON 6 JAN Isa 62, John 2:13-end, Psalm 48 We pray for the schools in our benefice that they would be safe and secure places for children to learn and develop their gifts, and that children would quickly settle back into the school routine after the holidays.

TUES 7 JAN Isa 63:7-end, 1 John 3, Psalm 99 We pray for our bishops, Philip, David and Rhiannon. We give thanks for the ministry of Bishop David in this diocese and this benefice and bless his remaining time with us that he would know how much his ministry has been appreciated.

WED 8 JAN Isa 64, 1 John 4:7-end, Psalm 46 We pray for those we know who are ill or suffering in some way. May they know that "God is their strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

THURS 9 JAN Isa 65:1-16, 1 John 5:1-12, Psalm 148 Let us praise and thank the Lord for the beauty of his creation which we can see around us.

FRI 10 JAN Isa 65:17-end, 1 John 5:13-end, Psalm 149 We pray for all who meet at the Farleigh Parish Playgroup that lasting, supportive relationships would be established.

SAT 11 JAN Isa 66:1-11, 2 John, Psalm 150 As we begin this new year, we pray for our country. We ask for Christian leaders to enact positive change to reverse trends towards secularism and atheism, transforming the society in which we live and demonstrating the love of Jesus.

SUN 12 JAN Isa 43:1-7, Acts 8:14-17, Luke 3:15-17 & 21-22, Psalm 29 We pray that in whatever role we have been called to play in society, we would be encouraged to know that we are making a valuable contribution.

MON 13 JAN Amos 1, 1 Cor 1:1-17, Psalm 2 We pray for the continuing debates around the Assisted Suicide Bill that the proposed safeguards would be rigorously considered.

TUES 14 JAN Amos 2, 1 Cor 1:18-end, Psalm 9 We pray for continued freedom for people to receive help and prayer for issues about sexuality and gender confusion.

WED 15 JAN Amos 3, 1 Cor 2, Psalm 20, We pray that the values of free speech and belief would be upheld and protected in our country.

THURS 16 JAN Amos 4, 1 Cor 3, Psalm 21 We thank God for his gift of marriage and family and that his vision for family and children is central to society's flourishing.

FRI 17 JAN Amos 5:1-17, 1 Cor 4, Psalm 67 We pray for marriages across our benefice, that our relationships with our partners would be loving, forgiving, merciful and strong.

SAT 18 JAN Amos 5:18-end, 1 Cor 5, Psalm 33 We pray for those who face hardship and opposition for their faith in this country. We pray that Christians would be free to live and speak for Jesus.

SUN 19 JAN Isa 62:1-5, 1 Cor 12:1-11, John 2:1-11, Psalm 36 We begin this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and we pray for all Christian denominations to come together to pray and shine the light of Christ in this country. We give thanks for all Christians who pray together in this benefice.

MON 20 JAN Amos 6, 1 Cor 6:1-11, Psalm 146 President elect Trump will be sworn in at his inauguration today and we pray that this event would be without incident. May his influence in America and around the world be for the good of all.

TUES 21 JAN Amos 7, 1 Cor 6:12-end, Psalm 132 We pray for our Christian leaders that they would be able to resist the temptation to succumb to cultural pressures which are not consistent with the gospel.

WED 22 JAN Amos 8, 1 Cor 7:1-24, Psalm 81 We pray for the prayer groups that meet across the benefice that they would grow in numbers and fervency. Let us be confident that when we meet together to seek his face, the Lord can work with transforming power in our lives and the life of our churches.

THURS 23 JAN Amos 9, 1 Cor 7:25-end, Psalm 76 We pray for wisdom and integrity for Christian parliamentarians, members of devolved assemblies, and councillors across the UK. We pray for the Prime Minister and members of government to govern wisely and justly. We particularly pray for our local MPs and for our county and borough councillors to serve with equity and wisdom in spending limited resources.

FRI 24 JAN Hosea 1:1-2:1, 1 Cor 8, Psalm 27 We pray for those working in the medical profession and give thanks for their skill and expertise. We give thanks for all who work in the NHS and for their dedication to others. We pray for our local hospitals and GP surgeries.