

If you would like something included in the next prayer letter
please contact a member of the clergy:

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Reading the Bible or leading the prayers in worship

If you would like to consider being one of the people who read the Bible or lead our prayers within worship at St Michael's, please talk to David, Karen or Martin as above.

Don't worry, we'd train you and let you have a go 'in private' first, but it'd be absolutely wonderful to expand our team of people who are involved in this.

Opportunities at St Michael's to join with others in prayer

- Contemplative prayer
Every Friday morning at 9.10am, in the Savage Chapel
also this month at various venues (see notice sheet): Tuesday 5th December, Sunday 10th December
- Fortnightly prayer meeting
alternate Wednesdays, 10:30am
This month: Wednesday 20th December
- Monthly service of prayer for healing
first Friday, 12:30pm in Savage Chapel
This month: Friday 1st December (next month January 5th)
- House & fellowship groups, for prayer and more!
Please see weekly service sheet for details



LET US PRAY

St Michael & All Angels, Macclesfield

December 2017

The constant refrain of Christmas, in carols and readings, is that God is with us. In whatever situations you find yourself this Christmas, God is with you - you need only turn to him and ask to know his presence.

Archbishop Justin Welby



In prayer we seek to discern God's will for us individually and collectively and to align ourselves with his purpose for us in all aspects of our lives. To that end we bring our concerns, petitions and aspirations before him in prayer and thank him for all the blessings we enjoy, as well as asking his forgiveness for the times we have failed him in things we have done, or not done.

This leaflet has been produced to assist us with our daily prayers; we hope you find it useful. Feel free to use as many, or as few, of the suggestions as you feel is right for you, and of course, add your own.

For Advent and Christmas:

“And now we give you thanks, because in his coming as man the day of our deliverance has dawned; and through him you will make all things new, as he comes in power and love to rule the world. (ASB 1980)

Thank God that we have so many opportunities to welcome people into our church building at this time of year - maybe the only time of the year that they enter a church. Pray that we seek opportunities to be welcoming and ‘entertaining angels’ – so that their experience can draw them closer to an encounter with the loving peace of Jesus.

Ask God to bless all the school children who will come in for their Carol Services throughout December: King’s, Bollinbrook, Park Royal, Tytherington.

Pray for all those responsible for planning and leading our church services and activities at this time of the year, and pray for ourselves, that we may still our hearts in the business and prepare ourselves to receive Christ afresh .

Thank you that this is such a special time of year when we can celebrate with family and friends, but Lord, help us to always have you as our focus for whatever we do and say.

Our Town Centre Community:

Praise God that we are all free to celebrate Christmas. Pray that those enjoying evenings and nightlife in the town will celebrate in safety. Thank God for the Street Angels and for the work of our local Police Officers and PCSOs, for their support and encouragement.

For those at risk on our streets, who sleep in alleyways and doorways. For the WHAM (Winter Hope Accommodation in Macclesfield) Nightshelter run by town centre churches at weekends from 15th December onwards. Praise God for the many volunteers willing to show the love of Jesus in this practical way, and ask God for wisdom, care, and listening ears. Pray for the guests, that they may enjoy warm, safe, and peaceful nights over the weekends, and safety on the nights when the shelter is not available.

For the Town Carol Service on December 21st, for all those who will read, sing, play and for Pip Mosscrop as he speaks. Pray that those who attend will be touched by the message of Christ coming among us.

Pray for the work of the charities represented at the Charities Bazaar and thank God for the work done by their many volunteers.

Our world: Rohingya refugees from Myanmar – prayers from Tearfund

Tearfund has funded medical centres in the Kutupalong camp; Tearfund’s partner COAST has provided shelter and clean drinking water for thousands. Praise God for every person that Tearfund have been able to help. Pray that the ongoing needs of the refugees can be met and that there are enough supplies for everyone.

Pray for the aid workers in the camps, that they have the energy, expertise and equipment needed to help. Pray also that they are able to respond to increasing needs.

Pray that a solution can be found to the ongoing issues so that the refugees can go home.

Our Team Ministry:

Give thanks for the appointment of Rev Andy Williams as Team Vicar in the Team Ministry. Pray for him and his wife Louise as they prepare to say farewell to the parish of St Luke’s, Brinnington, and move to Macclesfield. Pray for the church at Brinnington as they prepare for a vacancy and the appointment of a new vicar.

“Walk” around the Parish

Pray for the residents of Beech Lane, Beech Farm Drive, Badger Road, Tytherington Park Road, Manor Crescent, Brocklehurst Way, Arbour Close, Arbour Crescent, Fitz Crescent, Fitz Close, Beech Hall Drive.

Father God, you know the hopes and fears of people in this area even though we may not. Bring them your blessing.

Our Church Family: pray for

All those facing their first Christmas without someone they loved who has died.

Isobella Rose Ault and her parents Victoria and Ashley; Amelia Rose Jackson and her mother Sammy, both children to be baptised on 3rd December.

The family and friends of Judith Ainsworth, whose funeral was held in church recently; and of Julie Wells and Gladys Woolley whose funeral services were conducted at the crematorium. Also, the family and friends of Sue Lawton whose funeral will be held on 6th December, especially her sons Quincy and Zeb and sister Denise.

For Madeleine Johnson, and Richard as he supports her. For Steve Wells and Anne.