

Tuesday 24th

Children are encouraged to come in a Nativity themed costume if they would like to, for the **Crib Service** today. Pray that even in the fun everyone will grasp the reality of what the Lord did for us.

Midnight Communion is something of a tradition in this country. Ask the Lord that all who come will understand the true meaning of Christmas and begin their personal journey of faith.

Wednesday 25th

CHRISTMAS DAY Joy to the World! The Lord has come. As we prepare for our family gatherings, our Christmas meal with friends or a quiet time at home, remember those who work throughout the holidays: the police, those in the NHS, the RNLI, Fire service and others. Thank God for them and ask for His blessing.



Thursday 26th

Think today of all those who are **separated** from family and friends and perhaps missing them. Those in the armed forces, those working in hospitals and care homes, those 'on duty', those who are sick in hospital and those in prison. Whatever the reason, a sad heart is often an open heart. Pray that they will be able to hear his voice.

Friday 27th

As we all begin a New Year, pray for the ongoing work of African Enterprise which exists to develop initiatives that will help the people of **Burundi**. The country is in dire need with lack of fuel and so many things no longer functioning.

Saturday 28th

By now there will be many families who realise that they have over-stretched their budgets this Christmas. Pray for **CAP (Christians Against Poverty) and FSW (Family Support Work)** as they offer them not only a sympathetic ear, but practical help which can give them hope for a better future. Also thank the Lord for such committed and caring people who carry out this work.

Sunday 29th

There's an African proverb which says, 'it takes a village to raise a child.' Pray for the people who teach the children in Sunday school week after week. It takes time to prepare the lesson. Thank God for their

faithfulness and ask Him for a special blessing on their ministry and their lives.

Monday 30th

As soon as **January** comes, all of the activities suspended over the Christmas period will begin again. Ask the Lord to prepare the hearts of those who will attend meetings and courses, so that when they hear the gospel they will be ready to follow Jesus.

Tuesday 31st

New Year's Eve. 2024 is almost gone. For some it's been a difficult year, for others a year filled with joy. Spend a little time remembering your life's journey in 2024, giving thanks to God who was always there for you. As we look towards to the dawn of a New Year, ask the Lord for a greater knowledge of Him, thank him for his blessings and commit yourself to him afresh. Proverbs 16v.3

Prayer does not fit us for the greater work; prayer is the greater work.
Oswald Chambers

This is our monthly diary of the ministries and events in the life of St Margaret's with some ideas for prayer. Thank you for praying - we want to make a difference!

It would be helpful if requests for inclusion in the January diary could be sent to Sara in the Church Office by 15th December

DECEMBER 2024



Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. *Romans 12v. 12*

Sunday 1st

There are 4 **services** today: 8am, 10am, 11.30am & 5pm. Ask Our Father God that each person will really connect with God and enjoy His blessing. Pray that those attending the Christmas **Sunday Roast** will not only enjoy a lovely meal, but also the friendship and fellowship of others.

Monday 2nd

Feba UK's focus is on some of the world's hardest-to-reach communities across Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Working alongside local partners, they aim to see lives transformed by the gospel. Ask the Lord that listeners will learn to trust Feba and that through their ministry they will come to follow Jesus Christ.



Tuesday 3rd

Recently **Gift Sunday** helped us to realise all the hard work the Finance team put into keeping a check on our expenses as a church. Thank God for such dedicated people who have only the church's best interests at heart. May the Lord continue to help them in their decision-making.

Wednesday 4th

It's always wonderful to see how skilled people are. **Creating Company** meets today. Ask the Lord to use the skills of these people to His Glory.



Wednesday 4th (continued)

Our **Church Prayer Meeting** is where we meet with Our Heavenly Father to bring him our petitions. Pray that all who meet in person or via Zoom may see His will done on earth as it is in heaven.



Thursday 5th

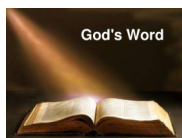
The **Bereavement Journey Course** continues today. At this time of year it can be hugely difficult to 'go with the flow'. Ask the Lord to be particularly close to those who have lost a loved one and pray that everyone attending this course will feel safe enough to share their loss and pain.

Friday 6th

Did you know that when John Wesley was a boy, his mother prayed for her children with her apron over her head. It was the only way she could find time alone with God and look how He answered those prayers. As the people meet in the Vestry Hall to pray for **local schools**, ask that they will be led by the Holy Spirit and that through the young people of today, another great revival will come to this country.

Saturday 7th

The **Sussex Gospel Partnership Course** continues today. In these turbulent times, ask the Lord that attendees will gain a firm understanding of the Bible & its teaching, the confidence and ability to share the gospel with others and a practical understanding of biblical ministry.



Sunday 8th

We have two **Christingle** services today. Ask the Lord that this joyful celebration will bring our families and the wider community together as we share the news of Jesus the Light of the World.

We are all aware of some young people suffering with mental health problems. **The Children's Society** works to provide practical help and support for those who have already had a difficult start in life. Please pray for God's help in this ministry. Our offering today goes to that work.

Monday 9th

Now the new building in **Calvary Church** is complete their **Youth Group** can meet at a more



convenient time after school on Fridays. Thank the Lord for answer to prayer and pray that the group will grow in numbers and friendships and gain a deeper understanding of the gospel.

Tuesday 10th

Our **Christmas choir** has spent Sunday after Sunday practicing their skills. Ask for God's blessing on their singing and that the Christmas message will come over loud and clear. May those who listen receive the best Christmas present in the world – the forgiveness of God and life eternal.



Wednesday 11th

There's a **Christmas CAMEO** today. This may be the first time the little ones have heard the story of Jesus. Pray that all the mothers and their children will enjoy a special moment as they discover the true meaning of Christmas.

Thursday 12th

Daytime Fellowship meets today. Pray that they will feel the Presence of God and enjoy fellowship with him.

For **The Bereavement Group**, as Christmas draws ever closer, ask the Lord to give people the strength they need especially if they are expected to join lively Christmas celebrations.

Friday 13th

Today the dedicated team of **Flower arrangers** will be in church decorating it for Christmas. Ask the Lord to put His touch on what they do so that all who come to the services will see the Good News in every leaf, stem and petal.

Saturday 14th

This morning some meet together in the Vestry Hall for **Mission Prayers**. Thank the Lord for their faithfulness. May they feel His presence. Also: Lift **the Guinness family** to the Lord. Pray that during the school holidays they can find rest and relaxation away from the busy life of ministry to enjoy time with their children as they celebrate of the birth of Jesus. Also: We have prayed a couple of times for little **Lydia**. She will be preparing to start school in January. Ask the Lord for good health and that she will slip into school routine painlessly.

Sunday 15th

Peace on Earth and goodwill towards men. We have a **Family Carol Service** this morning and **Traditional Carol Services** in the afternoon. Pray that the message of Christmas will resonate in people's hearts and ask God to raise up peacemakers. We so need them in our communities, our government, on the world's stage and in our homes.

Monday 16th

The Church is usually open Monday - Friday from 9.30am - 12.30pm. Pray that anyone 'popping-in' will feel a sense of God's presence and would leave glad that they came.

Tuesday 17th

It's always a blessing to share **Holy Communion**; a time when we reflect on the supreme sacrifice Jesus made so willingly for all of us. Pray that the familiar words and prayers will resonate with everyone who comes and that they will drink deeply from the wells of salvation. Isaiah 12v.3

Wednesday 18th

The people who go to **Evergreen** meet today for their Christmas Party. Some will spend Christmas without family, some may even be alone. Ask the Lord that they will feel loved and special and that the celebrations will bring them much joy.

Thursday 19th

Soon the **Bell ringers** will be ringing to herald the start of Christmas. Pray that God uses their skill to remind the people of Angmering that some things never change; things like His love for them and the plans he has for them. Jeremiah 29v. 11



Friday 20th

So much of the news on TV and in newspapers is doom and gloom. Pray for our king, our government, Keir Starmer and his cabinet, and all those in authority in this country. If ever we needed a **revival** it is now. Ask God to speak into their hearts and lives this Christmas.

Saturday 21st

Did you know that 36,000 children in this country have sight issues? Pray for all those, young and old who are suffering sight loss. Name before God someone you know personally, asking for his help and blessing.

Sunday 22nd

Remember the young people of **Rooted** who meet on Sunday evening to read the Bible and pray. Between the ages of 14 to 18 is a crucial time when lasting beliefs are formed. Ask God to send his Holy Spirit to nurture them and form within their hearts a lasting love for Jesus.

Monday 23rd

For some, this Christmas will be the first one without their loved ones. It will be difficult and probably bring tears. Lift anyone you know who has been **bereaved** this year before the Lord and ask Him to be the God of all comfort and grace to them this Christmas.