

WYLYE AND TILL VALLEY BENEFICE PRAYERS, DECEMBER 2024

Jesus our Prince of Peace, we pray that every time a carol is sung, a Christmas greeting spoken, a nativity play performed, that your name be honoured and glorified and that hard hearts be melted to receive you afresh.

Amen

1	The First Sunday of/in Advent Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the paths of thine Only-begotten Son: that we may worthily serve thee with hearts purified by His coming: Who livest and reignest with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, ever one God, world without end. Amen.
2	We pray for the church and village community of South Newton and their Churchwarden Adrian Softley and the church council.
3	We pray today for all women and men, who are homeless this day. For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations outside high street shops and many other inappropriate places. Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every person experiencing homelessness who we meet. So that we may be empowered through word and deed, and by your grace, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless. Amen.
4	We pray for the church and village community of Stapleford and the local church council.
5	We pray for the children, teachers, staff, parents and governors of Great Wishford and Codford Schools. We pray for the Open the Bible Team who share the Word of God with the school community on a regular basis.
6	St Nicolas of Myra We pray for the church and village community of Little Langford and their Churchwarden Beth Andrews and for the church and village of St Nicholas at Fisherton de la Mere.
7	Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it. Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures. Help us to become instruments of a new creation, founded on the covenant of your love. Amen.
8	Second Sunday of Advent We pray for the church and village community of Stockton and their Churchwarden Claudia James
9	Creator God, you reveal yourself to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, so come amongst us, and help us to discern your Spirit in this place. Let us find joy in the world that you created. Help us to worship you with all our being, and to hear and receive your word and your gifts. Amen
10	We pray for the church and village community of Winterbourne Stoke and their Churchwarden Dee Montagu-Pollock.
11	Give us, O God, the vision which can see Your love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust Your goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness. Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts. And show us what each one of us can do to set forward the coming of the day of universal peace. Amen.
12	We pray for the church and village community of Wyllye and for their Churchwarden Roger Liddiard and the local church council.
13	Creator God, you have generously blessed us with an abundance of gifts in this, your world. Help us to share in that generosity by living in a way that ensures that your gifts will continue to be available for future generations. Amen.
14	John of the Cross: O Blessed Jesus, give me stillness of soul in You. Let Your mighty calmness reign in me. Rule me, O King of Gentleness, King of Peace. Amen.
15	Third Sunday of Advent O Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! When we see the work of your hands – the earth, the heavens, the moon, the stars, the beauty of your creation, we praise and worship you alone, almighty God. We thank you for all your creation and for your people throughout the world in all their differing cultures and environments. Amen.

16	We pray for the church & village community of Great Wishford, the church team and café helpers.
17	Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Amen
18	We pray for the church and village community of Berwick St James. We pray for Bill Hiscocks and James Douse Churchwardens of Berwick St James.
19	O Flower of Jesse's stem, You have been raised up as a sign for all peoples; Kings stand silent in your presence; the nations bow down in worship before you. Come, let nothing keep you from coming to our aid
20	O Key of David, O Royal Power of Israel. Controlling at your will the gate of heaven: Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom. Amen
21	O Radiant Dawn, Splendour of eternal light, Sun of justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Amen.
22	The Fourth Sunday of Advent O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, Come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust. Amen.
23	O Emmanuel, King and Lawgiver. Desire of the nations, Saviour of all people, Come and set us free, Lord, our God! Amen.
24	Christmas Eve Eternal God, in the stillness of this night, you sent your almighty Word, to pierce the darkness with the light of salvation: give to the earth the peace that we long for and fill our hearts with the joy of heaven, through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.
25	Christmas Day Living God, deliver us from a world without justice and a future without mercy; in your mercy, establish justice, and in your justice, remember the mercy revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. We pray especially for the people of the Ukraine, Yemen, South Sudan, the Congo, Gaza and the Holy Land. Amen
26	St Stephen's Day: First Martyr. We pray for our brothers and sisters of the Persecuted Church across the globe and especially for the Church in Northern Nigeria, North Korea, the Holy Land and China.
27	John, Apostle and Evangelist: Great God, author of good news, warm the hearts of all who do the work of an evangelist. Open their mouths to proclaim the message of Christ, and grant that all who hear may turn from the bondage of sin, may seek the forgiveness of the Saviour, and may learn to obey him, whose service is perfect freedom. In whose name we pray. Amen.
28	The Holy Innocents: We pray for the children of our world, that they may grow up knowing love and security, for all children who suffer physical or mental abuse and for all communities in our world who live with the memories of massacre and gross cruelty. As we celebrate the coming of the Christ-child, we rejoice in the fellowship of the Holy Innocents and commit the children of this community, our nation and our world to you, our righteous God. Amen.
29	The First Sunday of Christmas/The Sunday after Christmas Day We pray for Bishop Stephen, Bishop Karen and Bishop Andrew.
30	We pray for all who are in distress of any kind within in our community; may your loving and healing hand be upon them O Lord. We pray for those who have recently died, for those who grieve. Grant to them a share of your peace. Amen.
31	We pray for the church & village community of Steeple Langford, the church team, flower arrangers and bellringers. Amen.

Happy New Year