



*Following Christ
Spreading the Word
Serving the Community*

*****Date for your Diaries – Saturday 7th January 2023, 7am til 7pm, Day of Prayer*****

Prayer Diary – December 2022/January 2023

Please bring before God each day the needs of individuals and of the wider world and pray especially for the ministry and mission of Kinross Parish Church.

Local Church and Community

Worship – ministers, those leading worship in prayer, music, children's ministry, flowers, welcome and refreshment teams. May God be honoured among us.

Discipleship – personal prayer and Bible study; housegroups; Growing Young process; the Discipleship corner in the church. May we all grow in our faith.

Pastoral – the sick and bereaved; elders and visitors; groups within the church (Craft Group, Guild, All Friends Together, Table Talk etc). May we nurture one another.

Outreach – litter-picking and allotment; monthly presence at the Farmers' Market; Food Tidings; support for Ukraine (including the weekly hub meetings for Ukrainian refugees locally), MAF, Christian Aid, Tearfund. May we point our community and our world to Jesus.

Admin and Communication – office team, website, Facebook, magazine, publicity. May the word be spread.

Finance and Property – those who give and those who steward those gifts; those who maintain the church and church centre and all who come and go in them, including lets to non-church groups.

Kythe – the staff and volunteers, trustees and management and that every young person in our community may know that they are loved by God.

Kinross Centre – the staff and volunteers and executive committee and that all service users may know that they are loved by God.

Broke not Broken – the staff and volunteers and all in our community who are facing serious financial and mental health challenges at the moment.

Wider Church, Nation and World

Churches in the Kinross-shire Networks and across the Presbytery of Perth – pray for all those involved in shaping what congregational life, and the administration and resources of it, will look like in the coming years.

The Church of Scotland and other denominations – pray for Rt Rev Iain Greenshields, Moderator, and for all who stand up for Jesus in all areas of our national life.

Our partner church in Debrecen, Hungary – pray that we will be able to renew our summer exchange next year, building on past links.

The Hungarian-speaking church in Csongor, Ukraine as they provide accommodation and support for refugees.

The Persecuted Church – remember before God our sisters and brothers in Christ who face injustice and danger simply for standing up for Jesus.

Our Partnership with Mission Aviation Fellowship – pray for Ruth and Duncan Jack as they get to grips with their role with MAF in Uganda. Pray that there will be a good response to the special offering for MAF during September.

The King and the Parliaments in Westminster and Holyrood – remember all who carry responsibilities of leadership in our national life, that they may live and act with integrity and for the good of all. In particular pray for the new prime minister.

Situations of Conflict – name before God the many situations in our world where there is war: Ukraine, Afghanistan, Syria, Yemen, Myanmar etc – pray for peace and for the advance of God's Kingdom.

Fairtrade – give thanks for our own Fairtrade team and pray for those across the world who work for justice and equity.

Weekly Focus

1st to 3rd December – Advent Theme: Hope

Ask God to fill you with overflowing hope this Advent as you trust in the Lord.

Pray for Table Talk which meets on Zoom on 1st Dec.

Pray that many will find a welcome in the church through Cosy Spaces and that relationships may grow and develop through this initiative.

Remember the House Groups as they continue Advent studies.

4th to 10th December – Advent Theme: Peace

Lift before God the many conflict zones of our world and individuals who struggle to find peace in their hearts because of their circumstances. Pray for the healing of deep emotional hurts in the lives of many in our nation in these days.

Pray for all who are involved with Stepping Stones as Christmas draws near.

Pray for the work of Broke not Broken in our community especially at this season.

11th to 17th December – Advent Theme: Joy

Pray that the song of the angels may be heard in earth's darkest places

Pray for Let's Sing that music can touch those with dementia and their carers alike.

Seek God's guiding for the Kirk Session Council as they meet on the 13th.

Ask God's blessing on Laura Jane Smith and Kris Wilson as they are married on the 14th.

Pray for assemblies taking place this week in Nursery, Primary and High Schools.

18th to 24th December – Advent Theme: Love

Pray that the height and depth and length and breadth of the love of God may be made known this Christmas.

Pray for the service of Quiet Remembering on Monday 19th December, as people remember and give thanks for loved ones whom they are missing.

Pray for the Christmas Eve Crib Service and Watchnight Service, on 24th December, that those who attend may discover the power of the Christmas Gospel.

Give thanks for the work of Christians Against Poverty and pray that our Christmas offering this year for CAP may help them to bring transformation to many lives.

25th December to 7th January – Immanuel: God with us

“Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift.” 2 Corinthians 9:15

Make time each day to pause consciously in the presence of God and give thanks for the gift of Jesus. Pray for the courage to make Christ known this coming year to those around you who have never experienced the blessing of God's nearness.

Pray for the Ministers, for rest, as they come to the end of a particularly busy time.

Plan to be at the Concert of Prayer taking place on 7th January, from 7am to 7pm, as we seek God's blessing for our church, community, nation and world.

Pray that, as the new structures of the Presbytery begin to become clearer and take their shape, that they may advance God's Kingdom in the years ahead.

8th to 14th January – Children and Families

Pray for the Sweeney and Johnston families as Rowan is baptised this Sunday.

Pray that the Growing Young initiative of renewal will become even more embedded in the church ethos as we move forward together.

Pray for all involved in Stepping Stones as it becomes a weekly event.

Seek God's blessing on the work of Kythe across Kinross-shire and beyond.

Ask God to teach us more about Himself and His purpose for the world through our Sunday morning studies in Isaiah.

Pray for the first (online) meeting of the new Presbytery of Perth on 10th January.

15th to 21st January – Older People

Remember before God those who are struggling with advancing years and pray for those involved in supporting them in church and community.

Give thanks for the ministry of Kinross Centre every week day.

Pray for those who struggle with the pace of change in every area of life that they may know the constancy of Jesus who is the same yesterday, today and for ever.

Pray for Church groups as they pick up again after the festive season.

22nd to 31st January – Kirk Session Working Groups

Lift before God each of the working groups of the Kirk Session: Admin & Comms, Discipleship, Families & Youth, Finance, Outreach, Pastoral, Property, Worship and pray that the areas of ministry and mission they oversee may grow and develop over the coming year. Pray for good leadership and for members of the congregation to become more involved in areas of work.

As the financial accounts and the annual report for 2022 are completed this month pray that the material needs of the year ahead may be covered by the generosity of all God's people.

Pray for the Parish day-by-day

1. Station Rd, Kirklands Ct, Swansacre, Lomond Mews, Queen's Cres, Douglas Crescent, Primary School
2. High St (Bank of Scotland to Church Centre), Police Houses, St. Ronan's Dr, Chambers Ct, Talla Pk
3. Bell Gardens, Muirhead Crescent, Simpson Wynd

4. Avenue Rd, Kinross House Estate, Coventry Pl, Mill St, Burns Begg St, Kirkgate, Old Causeway, Causeway Ct, Millbridge
5. Sandport, Sandport Gait, Nan Walker Wynd, Sandport Close, Pier Rd
6. Parliament Square, Brewery Lane, School Wynd, Piper Row, Whyte Ct, Smith St, Myre Terrace, Curate Wynd
7. High St (Church Centre to Todd & Duncan), Queich Pl, Old Cleish Rd, Bridgend
8. Bowton Rd, Montgomery Rd, Ross St
9. Montgomery St, Montgomery Way, Montgomery Ct
10. Levenbridge Pl, Devonvale Pl, Hopefield Pl, Junction Rd, Clashburn Rd, Clashburn Close, Clashburn Way, Sainsburys, Park & Ride, Recycling Centre.
11. Ochil View, Churchill Rd, Emslie Dr, Macdonald Avenue, Alexander Drive
12. Green Rd, Green Pk, Green Wood
13. Muirs (Green Hotel to Springfield Rd), Sir Alan Smith Gardens, The Sycamores, Muirpark Rd, Muirfield Grove, Muir Grove
14. Muirs (Springfield Rd to Gallowhill Rd), Whinfield Dr, Whinfield Gardens, Broom Rd, Broom Ct, Sunnypark
15. Muirs (Gallowhill Rd to Leisure Centre), Burnbank Meadows, Lethangie Rd, Bishop View, High School, Health Centre, Kythe Hub..
16. Lathro Pk (1-59 & 2-28), Gallowhill Wynd, Highfield Circle
17. Lathro Pk (79-135 & 30-64), Courcelles Ct, Lathro Ct, Lathro Lane
18. Acremoar Drive, Latch Dubh Lane
19. Dalwhamie Street, Drumeuther Way
20. Gallowhill Rd, Gallowhill Gardens, Mavisbank, Lomond Pl, Argyll Ct
21. Argyll Rd
22. Renton Dr, Morlich Pl, George Dr, Thompson Pl, Torridon Pl, Sandwood Pl, Rannoch Pl
23. Sutherland Dr, St. Mary's Pl, Tummel Pl, Morar Pl, Katrine Pl
24. Maree Pl, Seaforth Dr, Leven Pl, Cameron Avenue, Springfield Rd
25. Wilson Ct, Springfield Pk, McWilliam Pl
26. Beveridge Pl, McBain Pl, Gordon Pl
27. West (A91/A977) – Balado, Burnbrae, Kellieside, Tillyochie
28. South (B996) - Cleish Road, Classloch, Hatchbank
29. Orwell and Portmoak
30. Cleish and Fossoway
31. Presbytery of Perth

Time for Prayer Together

Sunday evenings at 6pm (except 25th Dec. and 1st January) – Time for Prayer together
on Zoom

Silent Meditation on 5th Dec. 2022 and 10th Jan. 2023

Compline at 9pm on 15th Dec. and 19th January



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Additional Prayers – December 2022

"Jesus spoke to the Pharisees again. "I am the light of the world," he said. "Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness.""

John 8:12

Loving heavenly father,
In church in December, we light the Advent candles and plan our alternative to society's secular festival. Help us to discover afresh the Word of Life, full of grace and truth, yet lying in a manger. Though the words are familiar, bring new meaning as we read them, and speak to us as we ponder them. As we count our blessings and mourn our losses, in this season of preparation and waiting, help us to be patient and keep looking to you. Draw close to those who are grieving and may feel lost. The baby in the manger had devoted parents who loved Him, but we are all too conscious that this is not something felt by all children. Lord, let all children feel Your Love this Christmas season. Amen

Lord Jesus,

Master of both the light and the darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.

To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"

Amen.

Henri J.M. Nouwen

"The people will wander through the land, discouraged and hungry. In their hunger and their anger they will curse their king and their God. They may look up to the sky or stare at the ground, but they will see nothing but trouble: and darkness, terrifying darkness into which they are being -driven."

Isaiah 8: 21-22

God,

As we continue to open our church as a cosy space in Kinross, help us also to open our church to the refreshing flow of Your Spirit. Give us the vision to search a stranger's face and see there the face of the Saviour and give us sensitivity to come alongside those who are struggling. As we offer our quarterly offering to Christians against Poverty, help them to reach out to those who need them and to give them precious hope – that they can and **will** get through this tough time. As people reach out to this and other charities, give strength and peace to those who work or volunteer there as they take the first steps with those in desperate need. With all of their efforts, bring progress and lasting change. Amen

Father,

As the Church of Scotland, and our own church, moves forward into a new year, guide our steps and steer us in the direction You want us to go. Give us a new vision and new hope. May love motivate the way we care and show Your Love.

Here in Kinross, let us never forget the supremacy of love.

Come ever nearer, to rejuvenate our faith, fortify our social conscience, and to open our eyes of wonder. When the Saviour comes, let Him steal into our hearts - and find them ready. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen

Lord Jesus,

As we think about that first Christmas, our minds naturally wander to the place of Your birth, in the Middle East. We think of the nations that make up that region and their uneasy coexistence. We pray for an end to religious and political extremism, to civil war and feuding, to fear and suspicion, to resorting to the bullet and bomb rather than constructive dialogue. We pray for all of the leaders in the area, and those in the wider world with influence upon it. Help them to see beyond narrow and factional interests, beyond long-held prejudice and arguments and to truly seek a path towards respect, reconciliation and justice for all. We ask that You bring hope and lasting peace. Amen

(Nick Fawcett)

"The people will wander through the land, discouraged and hungry. In their hunger and their anger they will curse their king and their God. They may look up to the sky or stare at the ground, but they will see nothing but trouble :and darkness, terrifying darkness into which they are being -driven."

Isaiah 8: 21-22

**"A child is born to us!
A son is given to us!
And he will be our ruler.
He will be called, "Wonderful^b Counselor,"
"Mighty God," "Eternal Father,"
"Prince of Peace.""
Isaiah 9: 6**

Christmas Day Prayer

Lord,

As we try to light our way through the darkness, with matches and candles, so this Christmas, may your great light overtake us, and catch us up into your radiance. Deny us our darkness and shadows and grant us Your light and glory.

Come with peace to a world in pieces, torn by greed, fear and prejudice – those same things that took you from a cradle to a cross. Come with peace that always flows from your wholeness to our brokenness. Fill our world with the joyful hope that there is always a better way. This Christmas may the peace of the young Prince of Peace embrace the world.

On this day of days, we celebrate your coming. Open our ears to the angels' sons and our hearts to their message. May our generosity reflect yours and our delight know no bounds. For, in our joy, we share the joy of heaven, now come down to earth.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill to those on whom his favour rests. Amen

(John Pritchard)

