### **Prayers of Intercession**

God of our Advent journey

We pray for a spirit of wisdom and understanding for world leaders and their advisors,

For those whose nations are disfigured by violence and war... for those in Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Israel and Palestine.

We pray for those negotiating peace initiatives and those who seek power at any cost.

We pray for the leaders trying to rebuild trust and infrastructures after years of civil war and brutality.

We pray especially for those conflicts where peace seems so far off and hatreds so raw.

We pray for those leaders who are subject to unfair pressure from those who are more powerful.

For those seeking to balance support for incoming refugees with the needs of their own vulnerable

For those tackling corruption, poverty and civil unrest,

And for those who are the cause of all those things.

Come Lord Jesus show us all the way of truth, justice and peace.

We pray for nations overwhelmed by flooding and deadly weather conditions.

Especially we pray for the people of Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

And for all who are struggling to deal with the devastation left in the wake of cyclones and storms.

We continue to pray too for the victims of the terrible fire in Hong Kong, for those still missing and for their families and friends.

We pray for all places of tragedy especially those which disappear quickly from the news but where suffering is ongoing and terrible.

Come Lord Jesus and show us all the way of restoration, healing and peace.

We pray for the natural world, so polluted, so exploited, so fragile and yet so beautiful.

For the oceans and forests, for the rivers and fields.

For all animals exposed to cruelty and abuse.

For those whose living is being eroded by climate change and the greed of others.

We pray for harmony between ourselves and nature, that there would be no hurt or harm, but care and conservation.

Come Lord Jesus and show us all the way of compassion, respect and peace.

We pray for the leaders of our churches and our local communities,

For a spirit of knowledge and a heart to serve those entrusted to their care.

Especially those who live alone, those whose circumstances are desperate and those searching for meaning and hope.

Come Lord Jesus and show us all the way of hospitality, friendship and peace.

We pray for those we know whose Advent journey is slow and painful.

For those weighed down by anxiety, by grief, by ill health.

Come Lord Jesus and show us all the way of courage, hope and peace.

And we pray for one another,

That we would use our voices positively,

Our time creatively,

And our resources generously,

This Advent and always,

In Jesus' name, Amen

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**Sunday 7 December 2025** 

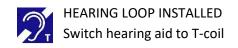
Weekly Notices and Prayers (110)

Bible reading for the week

Mark 11: 1-8

The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, a voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'"

If you have any items that you would like to be added, or suggestions for inclusion, please advise Mike Sims.



# Sunday 7 December 2025

#### Advent 2

# **Services and Meetings this week**

<u>Saturday – 7.00 to 8.30pm</u> – "<u>Pizza for thought</u>" - This is a special event which will be a follow-up to the Gospel Choir concert on 25 October. Rev Agnes and Pastor Mike are planning this at the moment. The evening is going to involve pizza, followed by a Panel discussion (including Rev Agnes, Rev Norman, Pastor Mike) where they will answer any questions of faith from anyone present, who wants to submit one. This is an evangelistic evening that we want as many people as possible to attend.

<u>Sunday – 9.30am</u> – Our service will be led by Rev Agnes Sam and Holy Communion will be celebrated during this service.

<u>– 9.30am</u> – <u>JAM - Church 4 Children Club</u>. This meeting is open to all children 5 – 12 years old. Jesus And Me - church for children and young families. Exploring the bible through games, craft, puppets, wacky science, play dough, toys and stories. Drinks and snacks available.

<u>Monday – 2 to 3.30pm</u> - <u>Cake and Kindness</u>. Pop in for a free cup of tea/coffee and a piece of homemade cake. It is open to all!

<u>- 4.00 to 5.00pm</u> – <u>Monday Club</u>. Ages 4-12. Runs every Monday in term time. Crafts, Lego, snacks, games, and it's free! A responsible adult will need to stay at all times.

<u>– 7.00 to 7.15pm</u> – Rochford Prayer via <u>Zoom</u>. Meeting ID 768 0376 1257 Passcode: 8yTeDH.

<u>Tuesday – 7.30pm</u> – Bible Study. You are welcome to join us on <u>Zoom</u>. Meeting ID: 948 2779 0660. Passcode: 425539. We will be continuing our Advent study together. The reading is ???. The theme is "give hope" and will be led by Rev Teresa Rutterford.

<u>Wednesday – 10am</u> – Carol Singing at <u>Broadoaks</u>. We are looking forward to singing carols at various residential homes again this year.

<u>Thursday – 7.30pm</u> - Table Tennis. Please let <u>Colin and Margaret</u> know if you're planning to come as there are occasions when they do not meet, so it's worth checking first.

<u>Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am</u> – Happy Cup Breakfast Club. Runs every Friday in term time and is for parents/carers with children aged 0 to 5 years. £2 per family.

<u>Saturday – 5.00pm</u> – <u>Christmas Memorial Service</u>. An opportunity to take time out to remember those who we miss the most at Christmas. This will take the form of a short service of reflection to honour those who have meant so much to us. Tea and coffee will be served at the end of the service.

### **Forward Notices**

<u>Next Sunday – 9.30am</u> – Our service will be led by Deacon Maureen Spinks.

<u>15 December - 1.00 - 3.00pm</u> - Cake & Kindness Christmas Lunch - This will be a special meeting to celebrate Christmas with your friends at this group. There will be soup and sandwiches, plus dessert provided. There will also be a raffle. Please bring donations to the raffle on the day. There will be no charge for this event, but donations will be gratefully received.

<u>20 December – 3.30 – 5.30pm</u> – Christingle Party – We will be holding this service, followed by a party for the children, at the church. All are very welcome to attend. If you are not sure what a Christingle is, you can find further information <u>here</u>.

<u>21 December – 4.00pm</u> – <u>Carol Service</u> – This service will be a local arrangement led by the Worship Leaders. All are welcome to join us for our service of traditional Christmas carols and readings. There will be festive nibbles and other refreshments following this service that everyone is welcome to stay for.

<u>25 December – 10.30am</u> – Christmas morning worship - Please join us for a very informal and joyful Christmas morning service which will be led by Rev Agnes. This service is quite short and should finish soon after 11am. You are welcome to bring along a Christmas present to show during the service! Our friends from Hockley Methodist Church will be joining us for this service.

# **Other Information**

**Church income** was £81.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

**Community Outreach Pastor update** – We had a lovely time at Lego club. This week Judy came and helped us make some cake decorations, which was lovely. We also made some craft and had some good conversations with the families that came along.

I attended the Revive community supermarket one year Anniversary. The supermarket is open to all on a Tuesday morning at St Marks Hall, from 10.00 - 12.00.

I led an assembly at Rochford Primary school this week, where we thought about

what it means to be made in the image of God. Next week I am leading an assembly at Holt Farm Infant's school.

Do join us for our Pizza for thought night this coming Saturday the 6th of December. It will be a chance to eat some free Pizza while asking questions about life, the universe and the Christian faith! Thanks, Mike Webb

**Carol singing -** We are looking forward to singing carols at various residential homes again this year. Dates have been confirmed as follows:

Coachman Court 16th Dec 7.30pm Stambridge Meadows 17th Dec 11am Brook House 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 11am.

**Collect** - Almighty God, give us the grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility: that on the last day, when he shall come to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**Our Elderly Friends -** Please remember – Shirley, Sylvia, Pat, Gwen and Maureen.

# **Other Events**

<u>6 December – 8.30am</u> - Circuit <u>Zoom</u> Prayer meeting.

<u>11 December – 7.00pm</u> - Modern Christmas Songs of Worship at <u>Belfairs Methodist</u> <u>Church</u>. Led by the Circuit worship band and others from across the Circuit. All are welcome to join us, refreshments to follow.

<u>13 December – 10.30 – 3.00pm</u> – Christmas Festival – <u>United Methodist Church, Great Wakering</u>. Visit our wonderful Christmas displays. Raffle & Tombola.

Tea/coffees/cakes/lunches. Greetings cards. Special attraction – Great Wakering Academy choir singing from 11.30am.

#### **Donations**

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from <a href="here">here</a>. If you want to buy something new, please remember to do so through Easyfundraising.

To create a **Standing Order** for Rochford Methodist Church you will need the following details: A/c Name Rochford Methodist Church; A/c No 90766712; Sort Code 20 79 73. If you are a taxpayer, please could you contact Bruce Glendenning so that a simple form can be easily filled in. We can then reclaim tax back on the donations.

You can also donate to the Church by PayPal Giving Fund

### Unsubscribe

If you no longer wish to receive these Notices, please let <u>Mike Sims</u> know, and your name will be removed from the mailing list.

