

Prayers of Intercession

God of all our hopes and fears

As we hear of those experiencing storms buffeting coasts and lands, typhoons and flooding, earthquakes and hurricanes, we pray for:

those who feel there is little hope in their lives and whose hearts feel broken and empty;

those overwhelmed by their inner storms and those buffeted by the incessant demands of daily life;

those burdened by too much responsibility and those afraid of how tired they are.

We pray too for those coping with the aftermath of Storm Bram especially those whose homes and premises have been flooded and for all those in the emergency services, constantly facing difficult and dangerous situations.

Come Lord Jesus fill them with courage, resilience and joy, that sorrow and sighing may flee away.

We pray for those who live in places of conflict and violence:

We remember especially the people of Thailand and Cambodia;

the people of Ukraine surrounded by so much uncertainty;

and the European leaders seeking unity and initiatives to end the suffering of so many.

We pray for the people of Sudan amidst so much brutality;

for the people of Gaza and all those in refugee camps around the world desperate for the waters of aid to stream into the deserts of their misery.

Come Lord Jesus fill them with strength, reconciliation and joy, that sorrow and sighing may flee away.

We pray for young people coming to the end of another university, college or school term:

For those trying to cope with the pressure of assignments and work;

For those struggling emotionally and mentally with environments they find difficult;

For those endangered by social media;

For those being bullied or exploited;

and for those who go home to places of tension or sadness or hardship.

We pray for teachers and all who share the responsibility of guiding and equipping children and students with knowledge and confidence.

Come Lord Jesus fill them with wisdom, fulfillment and joy, that sorrow and sighing may flee away.

We pray for our churches:

For those called to share the Christmas message publicly in pulpits and podcasts;

And those who will share it privately through hospitality, through listening and through example.

We pray our churches will be places of warmth and welcome

for those whose journey through Advent is marred by ill health;

for those struggling on the streets of our towns and cities;

for those who are in debt or plagued by addiction;

or those who are alone or dreading Christmas Day.

Come Lord Jesus fill them with grace, hope and joy, that sorrow and sighing may flee away.

And we pray for one another and for ourselves

That we may be open to the needs of others;

Aware of the needs of our own hearts;

And follow in the footsteps of those who have journeyed to the crib before us

With integrity, humility and joy. In Jesus' name, **Amen.**

Rochford Methodist Church



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Church WiFi password is displayed in the building

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/rochfordmethodist

Sunday 14 December 2025

Weekly Notices and Prayers (v1.0)

Bible reading for the week

John 1:14

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

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



HEARING LOOP INSTALLED

Switch hearing aid to T-coil

Sunday 14 December 2025

Advent 3

Services and Meetings this week

Saturday – 5.00pm – [Christmas Memorial Service](#). 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.

Sunday – 9.30am – Our service will be led by Deacon Maureen Spinks.

Monday – 1.00 - 3.00pm - [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.

– 4.00 to 5.00pm – [Monday Club](#). 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.

– 7.00 to 7.15pm – [Rochford Prayer](#) via [Zoom](#). Meeting ID 768 0376 1257
Passcode: 8yTeDH.

Tuesday – 7.30pm – [Carol Singing](#) at [Coachman Court](#). Please would anyone coming be willing to bring and read a Christmas poem, story etc. Thanks, Margaret.

Wednesday – 11.00am - [Carol Singing](#) at [Stambridge Meadows](#). We are looking forward to singing carols at various residential homes again this year.

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

Friday – 9.30 to 11.30am – [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.

Saturday – 3.30 – 5.30pm – [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 [here](#).

Forward Notices

Next Sunday – 9.30am – Please note that there will be **no morning service next Sunday**. There is a mistake in the preaching plan advising that Rev Agnes is leading this service, but as we have our carol service that same afternoon, we have agreed to cancel the morning worship.

– 4.00pm – [Carol Service](#) – 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.

25 December – 10.30am – [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 £340.00, which comprises collections, Standing Orders paid directly into the Church account, plus other donations received over the last week.

Community Outreach Pastor update I had a lovely trip to Holt Farm infant school this week where I led a Christmas assembly for year 1 and 2. We acted out the nativity and the children's sung little donkey and away in a manger. I am going back in for a thank-you coffee morning with other school visitors.

Thanks to all those who either helped out or came along to the pizza for thought evening. We had a great time, ate some good pizza and asked some really searching questions. Pray for wisdom for the next step.

I also had the chance to meet with Jo, Agnes and Nornan this week as we shared ideas of what we have all been up to.

This Monday is our last Lego Club of the term, thanks to all who gave helped out this term. Thanks, Mike Webb

Christmas Cards 2025 - The Christmas Card box is now available for you to place any Christmas Cards for those who attend church regularly and are able to collect their cards. If you would prefer to send just one card to all your friends at church, please feel free to pin it on the notice board. As usual there will be a charity collection for [Action](#)

[for Children](#). Don't forget to check the box regularly to see if there are any cards for you! Last posting date is 20th December this year. Thanks, Judy

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

Brook House 24th Dec 11am.

Ron Castle's Funeral – A number of church members knew Ron and so we are including the details of his funeral, for those who would like to attend. **Monday 22 December, 11am** at [Pitsea Crematorium](#), South Chapel. The wake will be held at [Ballards Gore Golf Club](#).

Christmas Greetings – If you would like to put a short message in next week's Notices to give a Christmas greeting to all, please send this to [Mike Sims](#) no later than Thursday.

Collect - God for whom we wait and watch, you sent your servant John the Baptist to prepare your people for the coming of the Messiah. Inspire the ministers and stewards of your truth to turn our disobedient hearts to you; that, when Christ shall come again in glory to be our judge, we may stand with confidence before him, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

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

[Donations](#)

If you would like to donate to the work of Rochford Methodist Church, you can do so from [here](#). 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 [Mike Sims](#) know, and your name will be removed from the mailing list.

