

# **1 - 15 January 2025** 1

# WED 1

Gracious God, we come before you seeking renewal in the new year.

Renew our minds, our hearts, and our spirits. May we be transformed by the power of your Holy Spirit, leaving behind the old and embracing the new that you have in store for us. We lift up to you, our loved ones, our communities, and the world. May your peace reign in our hearts and in the hearts of all people. Bring healing where there is brokenness and reconciliation where there is division.

#### THU 2

Almightly Lord,
We thank you for all those who
contribute to this, our diocesan prayer cycle.
Bless their faithfulness and may their words
continue to inspire and draw others closer
to you.
Amen

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#### FRI3

Heavenly Father,

as Advent concludes, may your peace fill every heart touched by 'Snap and Seek' and 'Calm and Bright.' Inspire all to seek refuge in local churches, reflecting on the joys that bring calm and light.

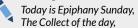
#### SAT 4

World Braille Day

Dear Lord, on World Braille Day, we celebrate the gift of accessibility and understanding. Inspire us to foster inclusion and awareness for the talents of those who live without sight. Amen

# **THANKSGIVING**

# **Sunday 5 January**



The Collect of the day,
Almighty God,

in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love:

help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

## MON 6

Heavenly Father,

We pray for teachers and children returning to school after their break. Grant them renewed energy, hope, and joy in learning. May classrooms be places of growth, kindness, and inspiration, guided by Your love and wisdom.

Amen





#### TUE 7

Today, we pray the CofE Prayer for Peace,
Almighty God,

from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

## WED 8

John Nightingale, invites us to pray,

Gracious God, we thank you that Birmingham diocese's Net Zero Carbon by 2030 Action Plan was approved at Diocesan Synod in November and ask for guidance for churches and schools as they look to play their part in achieving it. Amen

# THU 9

Loving God,

We pray for those struggling with mental health. Bring them hope, peace, and light in Jesus. Remind them you are always near, even in dark times, and that brighter days will come. Amen

## **FRI 10**

Today is National Cut Your Energy Costs Day,

Lord, we are reminded to check homes for leaks, draughts, and other hidden places we may be wasting energy in our properties. We pray that we may spot where improvements can be made, and that this may help to reduce bills. Amen

# **SAT 11**

Canon Claire Laland, Malawi Task Group, invites us to pray for those in Malawi affected by the heavy rains.

Dear Lord, the rains have devastated much infrastructure in Malawi. Many children are affected as a large number of schools have lost their roof and it is difficult to find anywhere to shelter. We also pray for the strength and guidance of those who are working tirelessly to assist those in distress, granting them resilience and compassion in their efforts.

# **THANKSGIVING**



# **Sunday 12 January**

Today is Plough Sunday,

Blessed are you, Lord God, for providing us with fertile land, water, light, and the skills to cultivate it. May the plough be a symbol of your promises, prospering our work and yielding abundant crops to share. Blessed be God, now and forever. Amen

## **MON 13**

Heavenly Father, we pray that you would bless our churches and worship groups in CofEB and help us to build strong and nurturing relationships with one another. Help us to be mindful of the needs of others, to offer support when it is needed, and to create spaces where everyone feels welcome and valued. Amen

#### **TUE 14**

Dear God, we ask you to bless our efforts to establish oversight areas and ministers, guiding them with wisdom and strength to lead sustainably, fostering flourishing ministries and ministers for your glory. Amen

# **WED 15**

Heavenly Father, we thank you for our frontline workers, for their courage, hard work, and care for others. Bless them with strength, peace, and protection as they serve. Surround them with your love and grace each day. Amen





Thoughts	





# **16 - 31 January 2025** 2/2

# **THU 16**

Gracious God, we give the mand chaplains, guide and protect them and magnify your grace in them. Through your chaplains bring hope and joy, and provide them with words of comfort and truth. May they effuse the peace that comes only from you. Amen

#### FRI 17

We are invited to pray for Warley & Edgbaston CFME (Children and Families Mission Enabler),



Dear Lord, guide our parishes, in welcoming new children and families, nurturing their faith, and creating vibrant pathways to worship and discipleship, aligned with your divine purpose. Amen

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#### **SAT 18**





John Nightingale, Footsteps, invites us to pray,

Let us lament the lack of real progress last year at COP16 (Biodiversity) and COP 29 (climate) - where the funding committed to developing countries was well below what they need to decarbonise their economies, and no progress was made on the commitment to transition away from fossil fuels: we also lament the failure of the recent plastics conference to agree on a cap on virgin plastic production. Let us pray for the countries of the world to come forward with ambitious revised carbon cutting commitments ahead of COP30 in Belem. Brazil. and for negotiators to persevere in pushing for meaningful action. Amen

### **THANKSGIVING**

# **Sunday 19 January**

Dear God.

We thank you for the transport systems in Birmingham and our region that connect our city and people. We appreciate the safety and convenience they provide, enabling us to travel with ease, may these systems continue to run smoothly, and have the resourcing they need, fostering unity and accessibility for all. Amen

#### **MON 20**

Today is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, God of justice and peace, we thank you for Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision of unity and equality. Guide us to respect the dignity of all people, embrace equity, and work together for progress, harmony, and lasting peace. Amen

#### **TUE 21**

We do not always have to pray with words. If there is someone you want to pray for. visualize that person in your mind and heart, and offer them to God in this way. Envision people and situations, songs or images as heartfelt prayers.



# **WED 22**



Loving God, envelop those who are housebound in your love and comfort. Grant them peace, joy, and connection, and may they feel vour presence. Amen

# **THU 23**

Lord, we lift up Revd Canon Esther Prior as she prepares for her new role as Bishop of Aston. Grant her strength, wisdom, and peace, and bless her and her family in this new iourney. Amen



### **FRI 24**



Today Parliament is due to debate the Climate and Nature Rill

Lord, we ask that the MPs who have said they will support the bill and debate will enter the House and vote for it. We pray for wisdom and cooperation among nations as we unite to combat climate change. Amen

### **SAT 25**

Dear God, we seek your guidance for those without paid work. Grant them strength, clarity, and opportunities. May they find fulfilling paths that bring joy and purpose, and be surrounded by support in their journey. Amen

## **THANKSGIVING**

# **Sunday 26 January**

International Environmental Education Day,

Loving Creator, we give thanks for the beauty and wonder of your creation. Guide us to learn and teach about its fragility. Inspire us to protect the earth, honour its gifts, and nurture future generations. Amen



## **MON 27**

Today is Holocaust Memorial Day, Loving God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust. In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart. Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.

In the light of God, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.

Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil. Amen

## **TUE 28**

Prayer today is inspired by Psalm 51: 12, 'Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.'

### WED 29

Heavenly Father, thank you for the diverse communities in CofE Birmingham. Help us unite in love, learning from each other and offering grace. We are grateful for the uniqueness you have given us, and may our differences draw us closer to you and one another. Amen

# **THU 30**

Today the Project Management Office (PMO) invites us to pray,

Lord, we ask you to bless the 'Create the Culture Project Report', that this project will support the change journey for oversight areas to help shape a positive cultural environment and support Area Deans in their change agent role. Amen

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Loving God, we thank you for all our dedicated volunteers across CofEB. Bless their compassion and strength as they support and uplift others. May they feel appreciated and loved. Amen



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Almighty God,

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