

Wey Valley Circuit Prayer Diary January 2025



The Sunrise – a new day – a new year.

The Rainbow – God’s Covenant sign

Lord of all being throned afar your glory flames from sun and star; centre and soul of every sphere, yet to each loving heart how near.

Our midnight is your smile withdrawn, Our noontide is your gracious dawn, our rainbow arch your mercy’s sign; All, save the clouds of sin are yours.

Grant us your truth to make us free, and kindling hearts that burn for you. Till all your living altars claim one holy light, one heavenly flame. (Oliver Wendell Holmes HP 11)

This month’s prayers are based on the themes of our Covenant, Epiphany, Christian Unity, the human cost of war – Holocaust, Fighting and Violence in the world today.

Bible references are from the NRSVA unless otherwise stated. Hymns are from Singing the Faith – StF, Hymns and Psalms – HP, The Methodist Hymn Book MHB. Other resources are as noted.

In this New Year, we share the prayer that Aaron prayed for the Israelites around 3 thousand years ago –

‘God bless you and keep you, God smile on you and gift you, God look you full in the face and make you prosper’. (Numbers 6: 24-26 The Message)

Wednesday 1st New Years Day - Pray for a New Year full of Worship, Praise, Prayer, Empowerment and Spiritual Growth. As Jesus said to the disciples – ‘Go out and preach the Gospel in words and deeds – remember I will be with you every day, and the Holy Spirit – the Spirit of Truth, will be with you always’ (from *Matthew 28:18-20, John 14:15-17*)

Thursday 2nd Naming of Jesus – In accordance with Jewish traditions and practices Jesus was named as a human being (*Luke 2:21*) We know too, that Isaiah prophesied the heavenly names of Jesus – Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace: (*Isaiah 9:6*) Give thanks to our Abba Father for the reality of God become human.

Friday 3rd Circuit Mission Prayer Hour 5pm – 6pm - via Zoom – ‘Sweet Hour of Prayer’

Guided prayer, devotions and intercessions – all are welcome to join in –

Meeting ID: 963 8516 3972 Passcode 011092

Pray, without ceasing, pray, the Lord Jesus gives the word; God’s summons cheerfully obey and call upon the Lord; to God your every want in instant prayer display; pray always; pray, and never faint; pray, without ceasing, pray! (StF 528 Charles Wesley)

Saturday 4th The Covenant Prayerfully reflect on these words – *The emphasis of the Covenant Service is on God’s readiness to enfold us in generous love, not depending on our deserving. Our response is also in love, springs with penitent joy from thankful recognition of God’s grace.* (The Methodist *Worship Book* p281)

Sunday 5th Covenant Sunday Prayerfully reflect on how these words affect you personally, and pray for *all* the Churches in the Circuit.

Lord Jesus, I am no longer my own but yours. Your will, not mine, be done in all things, wherever you may place me, in all that I do and in all that I may endure; when there is work for me and when there is none; when I am troubled and when I am at peace.

Your will be done when I am valued and when I am disregarded; when I find fulfilment and when it is lacking; when I have all things, and when I have nothing.

I willingly offer all I have and am to serve you, as and where you choose.

Glorious and blessed God, - Abba Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours.

May it be so forever. Let this, my covenant now made on earth be fulfilled in heaven Amen.

(The Methodist Service Book p288-289)

Additionally, the Cantonese Speaking Congregation Worship 1.30pm and Foundry Worship 6.00pm, both Woking Trinity.

Monday 6th Epiphany = *'the manifestation of a divine reality (Collins English Dictionary)*

God became human for all humankind. Prayerfully reflect on - *'Lord, you left your throne and kingly crown when you came to earth for me; you came, O Lord, with the living word, that should set your people free'. But with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn, they bore you to Calvary!*

What can I give you, in return? Only to give my heart? (Inspired by 154 H&P and 204 StF)

Tuesday 7th Pray - Holy Jesus, every day keep me in the narrow way; and when earthly things are past, bring my ransomed soul at last, where it needs no star to guide, where no clouds your glory hide. *(William Chatterton Dix StF 224:4)*

Wednesday 8th Reflect on: Child of the stable's secret birth, Abba Father's gift to a wayward earth. Mine the prize for the road he trod for I am risen with Christ and at peace with God. (Timothy Dudley Smith HP 124)

Thursday 9th Reflect on - Jesus, the Saviour his gospel to tell, joyfully came; came with the helpless and hopeless to dwell, sharing their sorrow and shame, seeking the lost, saving, redeeming at measureless cost. *(Robert Walmsley StF443)*

Friday 10th Pray – Come to my heart, O wonderful love, come and abide, lifting my life till it rises above envy and falsehood and pride; seeking to be lowly and humble, a learner from you. *(Robert Walmsley StF443)*

Saturday 11th Pray for the Ministry and Mission of Chaplaincy across the Circuit – in schools, Colleges, the University, Hospitals, Care Homes, HMP Send and any other locations where they support those in need. Pray for the Holy Spirit to work through them, to nourish and support their mission.

Sunday 12th Baptism of Jesus read Matthew 3: 13-17

Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Cranleigh 10.30am, Knaphill 10.00am, Merrow 10.30am, Weybridge 10.30 am and all who participate.

Reflect and pray as led by the Holy Spirit – *'Come Holy Spirit, aid me, to keep the vows I've made; today invade me and every bondage break. Come, give my life direction, the gift I covet most; to share the resurrection that leads to Pentecost'. (Fred Pratt Green 233 StF)*

Monday 13th Some useful prayer resolutions for the New Year and every day:

Take time to be holy, speak oft with your Lord; Abide in him always, and feed on God's word.

Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak, forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.

Tuesday 14th *Take time to be holy, the world rushes on; spend much time in secret with Jesus alone. By looking to Jesus, like him you will be, Your contacts in your conduct his likeness shall see.*

Wednesday 15th *Take time to be holy, let Christ be your guide, in joy or in sorrow still follow your Lord And, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.*

Thursday 16th *Take time to be holy, be calm in your soul, each thought and each motive beneath Christ's control. Then led by the Spirit to fountains of love, you will be able to share out that love'. (William Dunn Longstaff 458 The Salvation Army Song Book – amended)*

Friday 17th Pray for the Ministry and Mission of Street Angels in Guildford, Woking and any others that you know of, for God to bless them and be with them as they serve, and keep them safe.

Saturday 18th [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025](#)

Lord Jesus help me to support and work with other Christians to serve you as we 'go into the world, to preach the Gospel.' (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

Sunday 19th Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Godalming Churches Together New Year Service at Godalming United Church 10.30 am, at Stoughton 10.30 am, Walton-on-Thames 10am and Woking Trinity – English speaking congregation 10.30am, Cantonese speaking congregation 1.30pm, Foundry Worship 6.30pm and all who participate in our worship.

Monday 20th **Reflect and pray as led on the following verses** (*Delores Dufner StF 689*) – 'Summoned by the God who made us rich in our diversity, gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity.

Tuesday 21st Bring the hopes of every nation; bring the art of every race. Weave a song of peace and justice; let it sound through time and space. (*ibid*)

Wednesday 22nd Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in splendid, varied ways, sing a new church into being - one in faith and love and praise'. (*ibid*)

Thursday 23rd Pray for the Ministry and Mission of Coffee and Cake 10.30am – 12.00 noon at St Mary's Guildford

Friday 24th Pray for the Ministers, Local Preachers, Worship Leaders, Stewards, Administrators, Readers, Musicians, Flower Arrangers, Refreshment Providers, and all our Congregation who enable Worship and Mission to take place in our churches.

Saturday 25th **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends** – Pray: Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Jesu's love; the fellowship of Christian minds is like to that above. Before Abba Father's throne we pour our fervent prayers: our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares. (*HP 754 John Fawcett, 1782*)

Conversion of St Paul – Give thanks for the work, writings, faith and sacrifice of St Paul.

Sunday 26th Pray for the Worship, Ministry and Mission at Byfleet 10.30 am Guildford St Mary's 8.00am and 10.30 am, Sheerwater St Michael's 10.30am, West Horsley 10.30 am

Monday 27th [Holocaust Memorial Day](#)– Take two minutes of silence to reflect on the human cost of violence, war and prejudice.

Prayerfully reflect on the following verses from Mary Haugen StF 409:

Let us build a world where love can dwell and all can safely live, a world where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive – full of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; where the love of Christ shall end divisions.

Tuesday 28th *Let us build a world where prophets speak and words are strong and true, where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew. Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace; here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.*

Wednesday 29th *Let us build a world where love is found in water, wine and wheat: a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet. Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.*

Thursday 30th *Let us build a world where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger.*

Friday 31st *Let us build a world where all are named, their songs and visions heard and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word. Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, Where all are welcome!*

May God bless you all as we move towards Lent.

Graham Warr

Member at Trinity Woking

Local Preacher Wey Valley Circuit