

Readings for January 2021

Sunday 27th December – 1st Sunday of Christmas – I John 1 & John 21: 19b-end

Prayer for the Day – God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love: gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 28th ‘Holy Innocents’ Psalm 36, Genesis 37.13-20, Matthew 18.1-10

Lord, we thank you that, in the birth of your Son, you have made the down payment on your promise that you will always be with us. In all the twists and turns of life—you are there, always there.

Tuesday 29th ‘John, Apostle and Evangelist’ Psalm 21, Exodus 33.12-23, I John 2.1-11

Lord, you have promised in Jesus to share the whole of life with us and we are thankful – so very thankful.

Wednesday 30th Psalm 111, Isaiah 59.1-15a, John 1.19-28

Father, we thank you for help, care, and strength we receive from our families, our friends, and fellow Christians.

Thursday 31st Psalm 102, Isaiah 59.15b-end, John 1.29-34

Lord, when we are low, sad, or afraid, your love, through them, enables us to come through, with hope and joy, and our eyes even more firmly on Jesus.

Friday 1st ‘Naming and Circumcision of Jesus’ Psalm 103, Genesis 17.1-13, Romans 2.17-29

Father, we thank you for each time, when in the midst of our troubles, problems, difficulties, anxieties, or pain, we have been more aware of your love and our need to trust you in everything.

Saturday 2nd Psalm 18.1-30, Isaiah 60.1-12, John 1.35-42

Lord, for each and every opportunity you give us to share the love and knowledge we have of you with those who feel unloved, unwanted and unnecessary. We ask that through your love we may be enabled to make that love real for others too.

Sunday 3rd January 2021 – Epiphany – Ephesians 3: 1-12 & Matthew 2: 1-12

Prayer for the Day

Creator of the heavens, who led the Magi by a star to worship the Christ-child: guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey’s end in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 4th Psalm 89.1-37, Isaiah 60.13-end, John 1.43-end

Father, we thank you for the way you have made us so that we can think, plan, choose and give, and that we can help, care, and share with one another.

Tuesday 5th Psalm 8, Isaiah 61, John 2.1-12

Father, we praise you that you not only made us but that you made us to share in friendship and fellowship with one another.

Wednesday 6th Psalm 8, Isaiah 62, John 2.13-end

Father, we praise you for those who love us and care for us and care about us and for those who are special people in our lives.

Thursday 7th Psalm 99, Isaiah 63.7-end, I John 3

Father, we are sorry that so many people feel alone and unwanted and are treated as if they are simply numbers. We thank you that you have never thought of us like that.

Friday 8th Psalm 46, Isaiah 64, I John 4.7-end

Father, you made us so that we can enjoy being in one another’s company and can share love, happiness, joy, pleasure, kindness and peace.

Saturday 9th Psalm 2, Isaiah 65.1-16, I John 5.1-12

Father, we remember that Jesus was brought as a tiny baby to your temple in Jerusalem. It was his parents’ way of reminding themselves and those around them that our lives are a gift from you and that all life belongs to you.

Sunday 10th January 2021 – Baptism of Christ – Acts 19: 1-7 & Mark 1: 4-11

Prayer for the Day

Heavenly Father, at the Jordan you revealed Jesus as your Son: may we recognize him as our Lord and know ourselves to be your beloved children; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 11th Psalm 2, Amos 1, I Corinthians 1.1-17

Lord, you were at the beginning of all things. From you and by your sovereign power everything we see had its beginning.

Tuesday 12th Psalm 8, Amos 2, I Corinthians 1.18-end

Lord, you were there at our beginning. You knew our names, even before we were born. Every new step we take is already known to you.

Wednesday 13th Psalm 19, Amos 3, I Corinthians 2

Lord, you have watched us as we have grown. From our first day until the end of our days our whole lives are held in your hands.

Thursday 14th Psalm 21, Amos 4, I Corinthians 3

Lord, every new skill we have learnt and all the exciting discoveries we have made, were under your watchful eye.

Friday 15th Psalm 67, Amos 5.1-17, I Corinthians 4

Lord, you are at the start of every journey and we find you waiting at our destination. Your promise is to walk with us and to love us all our days.

Saturday 16th Psalm 29, Amos 5.18-end, I Corinthians 5

Lord, we thank you for every new friend we make and those whose love and care make each day special, and for those who show us the way to become friends of Jesus.

Sunday 17th January 2021 – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany – Revelation 5: 1-10 & John 1: 43-end

Prayer for the Day

Eternal Lord, our beginning and our end: bring us with the whole creation to your glory, hidden through past ages and made known in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 18th Psalm 145, Amos 6, I Corinthians 6.1-11

Father, we thank you for those who stood by us when we were hurting and loved us even when we were in the wrong.

Tuesday 19th Psalm 132, Amos 7, I Corinthians 6.12-end

Father, we thank you for all who share the plight of those less fortunate than themselves, those who work for the good of their neighbour those who go the extra mile and turn the other cheek.

Wednesday 20th Psalm 81, Amos 8, I Corinthians 7.1-24

Father, we thank you for those who do all they can to make others feel comfortable, accepted, and valued.

Thursday 21st Psalm 76, Amos 9, I Corinthians 7.25-end

Father, we thank you for those who make no pretence of greatness or superiority but stand alongside their neighbour no matter what the cost.

Friday 22nd Psalm 27, Hosea 1.1-2.1, I Corinthians 8

Father, thank you for those whose gracious words and caring deeds enable others to have self-respect and hope.

Saturday 23rd Psalm 122, Hosea 2.2-17, I Corinthians 9.1-14

Father, thank you for every opportunity to love our neighbour and be representatives of your Almighty, humble, holy love.

**Sunday 24th January 2021 – Third Sunday of Epiphany – Acts 9: 1-22 & Matthew 19: 27-end
Prayer for the Day**

God of all mercy, your Son proclaimed good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed: anoint us with your Holy Spirit and set all your people free to praise you in Christ our Lord.

Prayers for the Week

Monday 25th ‘Conversion of Paul’ Psalm 66, Ezekiel 3.22-27, Philippians 3.1-14

Lord, we are so glad that you gave us our voices and that we can use them to make so much noise—we can sing and shout!

Tuesday 26th ‘Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul’

Psalm 34, Hosea 4.1-16, I Corinthians 10.1-13

Lord, we can use our voices to say please and thank you; to say something kind for those who are sad; to give encouragement to those hurting inside; to show the way to someone who is lost; to say something good when others are being nasty; to speak about Jesus. Even when other only laugh.

Wednesday 27th Psalm 45, Hosea 5.1-7, I Corinthians 10.14-11.1

Lord, we can use our voices to sing your praise; to say our prayers and to speak of your love; to shout aloud that we think you’re wonderful.

Thursday 28th Psalm 47, Hosea 5.8-6.6, I Corinthians 11.2-16

Lord, we can make sure our voices keep quiet instead of saying something hurtful or unkind; we can be silent, instead of getting angry, gentle instead of being a bully and thoughtful instead of being selfish.

Friday 29th Psalm 61, Hosea 6.7-7.2, I Corinthians 11.17-end

Lord, we can use our voices to say thank you for all the wonderful things with which you fill our lives, our world and our days; to say sorry when what we say or do that hurts you, other people and ourselves.

Saturday 30th Psalm 68, Hosea 8, I Corinthians 12.1-11

Lord, we shout aloud that we follow Jesus and that we are giving our lives to him whose death, and resurrection shout aloud your love for all the world.