

### **13TH NOVEMBER - 2ND BEFORE ADVENT: REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

Anglican	Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui.
Hereford	Pontesbury Deanery
Porvoo	Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church; England: Rochester.
The Wider View	Give thanks and pray for the school links we have with Tanzania, and pray that the new British Council programme will reinstate support for reciprocal link visits.
This Week	<p>Pray for all who serve in our <b>armed forces</b>, and that we may continue to value the service and sacrifice offered by those who fought in the defence of our realm. Pray for ex-service personnel in need of help and support, perhaps because of the impact of injuries, or of age, or in some cases because they struggle to adapt to civilian society.</p> <p>Today is also <b>World Kindness Day</b> - pray we may have the awareness, the courage and the care to act with kindness where help is needed.</p> <p><b>World Diabetes Day</b> falls this week - pray for all who live with this condition, including children, for those who give care and support where needed, and for research and understanding.</p> <p>This is also <b>Road Safety Week</b> - pray especially for the safety of all who use our roads, and especially children. Pray for all who give road safety instruction in nurseries and schools.</p> <p>Next Saturday is <b>World Toilet Day</b>. At least a quarter of the world's population lack access to clean and safe toilet facilities. Toilet provision controls diseases like cholera, helps keep human waste out of food chains and water systems, allows children to attend school safely, and supports human dignity. Pray for all who lack access to safe toilet facilities, and schemes to help provide these.</p>

### **20TH NOVEMBER - NEXT BEFORE ADVENT: CHRIST THE KING**

Anglican	Province of the India Ocean.
Hereford	Communications in our diocese, and all who enable them - the diocesan team and all who ensure each local church shares its story and engages with its community.
Porvoo	England: St Edmundsbury & Ipswich; Scotland: Aberdeen & Orkney.
The Wider View	Pray for the plans being made for our active participation in the 2023 Kirchentag in Nuremberg, and that we may take a good and varied group of people to take part in this important event.
This Week	<p><b>Cecilia</b>, honoured on Tuesday, is a patron of music and musicians: pray for organists, choirs, music groups, and all who enrich our worship by the musical skills.</p> <p>Pray for those organising the <b>Shropshire Churches Conference</b> on Saturday, at which Bishop Richard is a keynote speaker. A theme this year is the rural church in mission.</p> <p>In the week of <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>, pray for the churches and people of</p>

the United States, at a time when political and cultural divisions seem particularly deep.

Pray for all in our communities who are victims of **domestic violence**; pray for places of refuge, for those forced to make a new start, and for children caught up in situations of violence in the home, in this week which includes White Ribbon Day (Friday).

Friday this week is also the pre-Christmas sales exercise named **Black Friday**. Pray for those in the present economic climate who may be cajoled into spending money they can't afford on things they don't really need, and for all who, as this year's Christmas rush gets under way, will spend beyond their means.

Pray for **all who care** for family members, neighbours or friends, and often don't receive the recognition and support they merit.

Pray for **small businesses** impacted by the continuing effects of Covid and now the high prices of fuel and commodities. Pray for all worried about the future of a business they've built up.

## **27TH NOVEMBER - ADVENT 1**

Anglican Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Japan).

Hereford Ross and Archenfield Deanery.

Porvoo Scotland: St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane; Finland: Porvoo (Borgå).

The Wider View Fears are mounting among more than a thousand Palestinians that the Israeli army may soon force them to leave their homes in the occupied West Bank. Pray that Israel may respond to international criticism of their actions, for Palestinians facing homelessness, and for a peaceful and equitable solution for both sides in the ongoing conflict in the Holy Land.

This Week As **Advent** begins, may the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from our hearts and lives. Pray for a good response to this year's Advent and Christmas campaign - "Follow the Star - the Great Invitation".

Pray for preparations for the **Year of Prayer 2023**, including lantern making by Messy Church and other groups this Advent. Pray for the preparations for the launch service on Saturday 7th January.

Pray for CMS, USPG and other **mission societies and agencies** of our Church, large and small (Tuesday is the day of prayer for the missionary work of the Church worldwide).

Black Friday last week is followed on Monday by **Cyber Monday**, another sales exercise, focusing more on on-line sales. Again, pray for those tempted to spend more than they really have.

**"Decembeard"** this month is designed to raise money for and awareness of bowel cancer. Pray for charities and agencies helping fund bowel cancer research and treatment, and for all who are receiving treatment for this disease.

In the week of **World AIDS Day** (Thursday), promoting awareness of the disease and its causes, pray for all who are living with HIV.

#### **4TH DECEMBER - ADVENT 2**

Anglican Hereford	The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East. Pray for all that ensures and enables the protection and safe care of all who attend and work within our churches, and especially of children and vulnerable adults, and as we select and appoint. Pray for diocesan Safeguarding staff and for those responsible in each local benefice and church.
Porvoo	England: Chester; Finland: Kuopio.
The Wider View	May the theme of the 2023 Kirchentag - "The Time has Come!" ("Jetzt ist die Zeit" - Mark 1.14) encourage prayer and reflection on our emergence from the Covid pandemic and other vital issues of the day. Pray for the English language programme, including Bible studies, and for the Anglican-Lutheran Eucharist.
This Week	<p><b>Bright Christmas decorations</b> may be reduced this year by the increased cost of power, but pray for all who light up houses and streets to cheer people up and raise funds for charities.</p> <p><b>World Soil Day</b> this week reminds us of the urgent need to protect our soil. Salinisation, caused by droughts, human activity and poor irrigation, is rendering soils unusable in many parts of our world. Pray for prevention, education and (where possible) restoration.</p> <p><b>International Anti-Corruption Day</b> (Friday) highlights the enormous damage done by corruption in today's world. Pray that governments and agencies may take action to defend justice, fairness and all that is equitable and right.</p> <p>Tuesday commemorates <b>Nicholas of Myra</b>, patron of children, pawn-brokers and also sailors. Pray for those who sail our seas, and for their safety and protection.</p> <p>In the week of <b>Human Rights Day</b>, pray for all who are denied full access to education and opportunity because of colour, faith, ethnicity or gender.</p> <p>in this week of <b>Ember Days</b> pray for those training for various forms of ministry within the Church, and for more to come forward.</p> <p>At this busy and demanding time of the year; and for all who work in the <b>retail trade</b> and the hospitality industry.</p>

#### **11TH DECEMBER - ADVENT 3**

Anglican Hereford	The Anglican Church of Kenya. Telford Severn Gorge Deanery.
Porvoo	England: Southwell and Nottingham; Norway: Borg.
The Wider View	As we approach Christmas, pray for the many friendships made over the years, through our links with Tanzania and Nuremberg, and give thanks that our faith is enriched by what we learn from others.

This Week      The **Workplace Day of Remembrance** takes place on Monday. Pray for the highest standards of safety in the workplace, as we remember those who lose their lives in the course of their work.

Pray for those who are **homeless**, perhaps sofa-surfing or sleeping on floors, perhaps actually on the streets. Whatever issues have brought about their homelessness, all will be in need of help and support in the winter weather. Pray for agencies such as Shelter, Crisis, the Salvation Army and local night shelters.

Pray for all who live with **addictions** of various kinds, for whom Christmas can be a particularly difficult and risky time, and for all who offer help and support to those with addictive behaviour.

Pray for **church musicians**. Many churches struggle to find people to play the organ on a regular basis - pray for more to come forward and offer their services, and give thanks for those who do.

### **18TH DECEMBER - ADVENT 4**

Anglican      The Anglican Church of Korea.

Hereford      Pray that we may always affirm the rights, abilities and value of every person, whatever their age, gender, ethnicity or background, in our planning, decision making and selection and appointment processes.

Porvoo      Norway: Oslo; England: Durham; Scotland: Moray, Ross & Caithness.

The Wider View      Pray for all who are persecuted for their faith across our world, and that all people of faith may learn to be hospitable to one another, and be free to worship without discrimination, arrest or reprisal.

This Week      Pray for all who will be **travelling** to be with families or friends over Christmas, that they may do so safely - also for those who will be apart from loved ones for whatever reason.

Pray that our churches may be **places of warmth and welcome** over this Christmas time, and that we may communicate our faith to those who come as visitors or perhaps as enquirers.

Pray for **key workers and emergency staff** who through Christmas ensure that our essential and emergency services are functioning, and that our celebrations can take place in comfort and safety; pray too for farmers and all who have the care of livestock.

Pray for **lessons and carols** and similar services in our churches, and concerts by church and community choirs and singing groups.

Pray for those **children** for whom the Christmas break may be a time of risk, neglect or sadness. Pray too for the many families wanting to celebrate, but already struggling to get by.

Pray for our outreach to those who may be spending **Christmas alone**, and for community and church schemes to provide a Christmas meal.

Give thanks for those who will be **ringing church bells** at Christmas and New Year, and s who call the faithful to worship week by week.