

Prayer Calendar

January 2025

Wednesday, 1 Loving God, as we embark on a new year, help us to look forward in hope, guided by your Holy Spirit, noticing your faithful provision for us, your people.

Thursday, 2 Lord, please guide Taunton Deanery as they seek a new Area Dean and guide the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Group as they look at how they can develop ministry and mission within the major developments around the fringe of the town.

Friday, 3 Lord, this year as we celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, we give thanks for the wisdom and discernment of the Council of Nicaea which affirmed the foundations of our faith in the Nicene Creed.

Saturday, 4 Lord of creation, we pray for our brothers and sisters in Zambia, that you may bless them with good rains this season, to swell their crops and fill the Kariba dam that provides so much of their power. Increase our commitment to addressing the impact of climate change.

Sunday, 5 God of wisdom, we pray for all who are preaching your Word today. Give them the words to inspire those who listen to live lives worthy of your calling.

Monday, 6 God of eternity, who called the Magi to follow the star, we ask you to help us see your wondrous majesty so that we have the courage to fix our eyes on you and follow where you lead.

Tuesday, 7 God of life, we pray for all children and young people returning to school this week. We also pray for teachers and support staff as they prepare for the term ahead, may they all be energised and inspired by your Holy Spirit.

Wednesday, 8 God, we pray for the regional Growing Faith Strategic Leaders Programme launching in Taunton today. We pray for leaders from education and church roles in the Dioceses of Bristol, Exeter, Truro, Salisbury and Bath and Wells as they embark on this journey.

Thursday, 9 God, we pray for everyone who lives and works within the Deanery of Exmoor. We give you thanks for all who seek to reflect your love in each of our communities.

Friday, 10 Heavenly Father we give thanks and pray for all Readers in their various ministries across our Diocese. May the Light of Christ be with them: throughout the season of Epiphany and beyond. Bless them with new life as they serve you and their communities.

Saturday, 11 Loving Father, we remember and give thanks for those who have dedicated their lives to bringing the good news of the Gospel to those who had not heard, and those who through acts of service have proclaimed your love for all humankind.

Sunday, 12 God, as we remember the lives of two abbots, Aelred and Benedict Biscop, we pray for monastic communities and their life of prayer and outreach, as they offer spiritual refreshment through retreats and quiet days.

Monday, 13 God of stillness and peace, in a world fraught with busyness and disruption help us to find the peace and calm which you can bring to our lives. As we remember George Fox today, we give thanks for the faithfulness of Quakers.

Tuesday, 14 Lord, we pray for young people growing up in Minehead and across Exmoor. We give thanks for the work of Exmoor Youth Project, serving the First Schools and supporting churches in their outreach to young people and families and pray that their work will flourish.

Wednesday, 15 God of all, we pray for the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) and Finance Group as they have meetings today. Give them wisdom and discernment so that their decisions are both practical and Spirit filled.

Thursday, 16 God, we pray for charities and organisations across our Diocese supporting refugees. We remember today the work of CHARIS refugees as they seek to resettle families in the southwest. We ask you to smooth the path for them in this work.

Friday, 17 All-seeing God, we pray for those in our communities who serve you and their communities unnoticed. We ask you to bless them in all that they are and do, giving them a sense of fulfilment and others an appreciation of their unseen contribution.

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| Saturday, 18 | Infinite Beloved God, we ask your blessing on our Healing Gathering in the diocese today, that together we may learn to be trusted instruments of your love: listening well and making room for you. | Saturday, 25 | Lord of life, we pray for the work of Movement around our diocese and for the Movement team as they join with local church youth leaders to host a worship night for young people in Taunton this evening. We ask for this to be a time of inspiration. |
| Sunday, 19 | God, we pray for all Christian churches and communities in this week of prayer for Christian unity. We give thanks for the prayer resources from the Monastic Community of Bose. Unite us Lord, in your love so that we are one, that the world may know that you are Lord. | Sunday, 26 | Lord, as we remember Timothy and Titus, the apostle Paul's companions, today, we give thanks for the ministry of spiritual accompaniers who listen and help people to notice and name where you are at work in their lives. |
| Monday, 20 | God, we give thanks for Churchwardens across our diocese as they serve you and their communities. We ask you to bless them in all that they are and do, and give thanks for their faith-filled leadership. | Monday, 27 | Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the work and witness of those who have completed their service as bishops in the Zambia Anglican Church and pray your blessing on the four new bishops who will soon be serving your people there. |
| Tuesday, 21 | God, as the Common Fund Committee meets today, we ask you to help them work together for the common good of people and communities across our diocese so that our common life may reflect your love. | Tuesday, 28 | Timeless God, as we think today of Thomas Aquinas, help us to take opportunities to share the love and salvation of Christ, wherever we are, and help us always be open to the teachings of Christ ourselves. |
| Wednesday, 22 | God, our Father, we give thanks for Ordained Self-Supporting Ministers across our diocese, as their wide variety of gifts, experience and contexts enrich the life and ministry of your Church. | Wednesday, 29 | God, we give thanks for the ministry of Discerning Calling Mentors, who accompany those seeking to discern their call. Help them hear the inner voice of those with whom they meet so that they may help people become fully as you created them. |
| Thursday, 23 | God of grace, we pray for young people living in our county town of Taunton. We give thanks for the team at Taunton Youth for Christ, bringing a message of hope to young people through their outreach van on Tuesday and Thursday evenings around the town, and ask you to bless their work. | Thursday, 30 | Jesus, teacher, as the Diocesan Board of Education meets today, we ask you to inspire them as they consider how best to support young people in schools across our diocese. Help us to see as you see and so discover ways to help young people have life in all its fullness. |
| Friday, 24 | Jesus, Rabbi, as we remember Francis de Sales, Teacher of the Faith, we ask for your guidance for all those who lead small groups across our diocese. Bless them as they offer spaces for people to grow in faith and discover their calling. | Friday, 31 | Loving Lord, we pray for those who have no place to call home and for those who work with people experiencing any form of homelessness. Help us to find ways to support those in need and to work to challenge any structures that contribute to this issue. |
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