

**Benefice Prayer Diary**  
**Marshfield with Cold Ashton and Tormarton with West Littleton**  
**(insert month/year here)**

**A Benefice Prayer:** Lord, let us not labour for you in vain. Teach us to pray, deepen our fellowship, enable our ministry, strengthen our benefice, and nurture our children. That, united in Christ, we might indeed become a holy temple in which you dwell by your Spirit. Amen

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January:**

Today, thank God that the new year offers us an opportunity to put aside disappointments and difficulties of the past year and make a new start in our lives, trusting in God to be with us, whatever lies ahead.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> January:**

Pray for other Christians who live in our communities but are not part of our parish churches. Remember particularly the congregation at Marshfield Chapel.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January: The Epiphany**

*O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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.*

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the clergy and people of ST DUNSTAN'S Parish.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray today for the parish of Marshfield, for its PCC, and their churchwardens Eric Pullin and Paul White.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January:**

"Where there is no vision, there is no hope" (*George Washington Carver, 19thc. US scientist*) As we seek to rebuild hope and confidence in people's lives in the wake of the global pandemic, we pray for God's vision for a better future ahead.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray for the growth of our faith and fellowship, through the occasions when we meet during the week as well as when we share in worship on Sunday.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray for all those who earn their living within the Benefice. Pray also for those seeking work, changing jobs or starting work for the first time.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray for the work with children through the Kids Club, "The Bunch" and "Thrive" in Marshfield. Pray for the leaders, the children and the families from which they come.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

*Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; 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.*

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the clergy and people of MUKONO CATHEDRAL.

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray today for the parish of Tormarton, for its PCC, and their churchwarden Bruce Finnamore.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January:**

Some of the prayers in this Diary are taken from "Families Worldwide", the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary. Pray for our local branch and for the worldwide work of the MU in providing Christian care for families.

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January:**

Remember the elderly of our communities. Pray for the various ways in which our communities support them and for the volunteers who provide this support.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray for the work of "chaplains" - in the Services, in hospitals and prisons and in places where people work.

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January:**

"Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own, look with mercy on those today who are fleeing from danger; who are homeless, hungry and fearful" (*taken from "Families Worldwide"*)

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

*Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.*

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January:**

Today marks the start of the the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. "We thank you, our God, for our unity in diversity: different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit; different kinds of service, but the same Lord; different kinds of working, but the same Lord" (*taken from ROOTS Worship Resources*).

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray today for the parish of West Littleton, for its PCC and for their churchwarden David Adams.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray that God will protect and provide for each member of His worldwide Church and lend support, encouragement and strength to all who are facing the increasing trials, tribulations and persecutions that are present in our world today.

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January:**

Pray for God's healing for all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, especially those we know and love.

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January:**

Pray for our linked CMS mission partners Jimmy and Katia Rocks, their family Joanna and Davi & their ministry of outreach in one of the needy areas of Brazil.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January:**

Pray today for those you know who view the way ahead with concern, and those who only see darkness. May Christ's love bring light, peace and hope to them.

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

*Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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.*

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> January:**

Today, the Church celebrates the conversion of St Paul. Pray that "we may follow him in bearing witness to (God's) truth" (*from the Collect for the day*)

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January:**

In our link Diocese of Mukono, Uganda, pray for the clergy and people of NAMATABA Parish.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray today for the parish of Cold Ashton, its PCC, and churchwarden Monica Green.

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray for the Benefice Ministry Team members - Rev Sally Wheeler, Rev Lynne Godfrey, Andrew Gammie, Aurea Hart, Jon Hoffman, Charles Keen and Mike Strathdee. Pray also for our diocesan Bishop, Vivienne Faull, our suffragan Bishop Lee Rayfield, and for the staff that support them in leading this diocese.

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January:**

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the poor in heart, for they shall see God'. Pray for those who are 'poor in heart', who feel unloved and unwanted; may we recognise them, value them and show them your love so they may grow in confidence and come to accept you into their lives (*taken from "Families Worldwide"*)

**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January:**

Pray that all the gifts God gives us - time, talents and money - are put to good use as we work to build His kingdom here.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January: Candlemass - The Presentation of Christ**

*Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

**An Epiphany Prayer**

Almighty God,  
your Son Jesus Christ is the the light of the world.  
Grant that your people may shine with the radiance of his glory,  
that he may be known, worshipped and obeyed  
to the ends of the earth, now and for ever  
(*from the Book of Common Order, Church of Scotland*)

Please Note: If you would like a prayer to be included in the prayers at our Tuesday prayer group or in this Prayer Diary, please contact Paul Sawyer, 16, Fairfield Close, Marshfield (891436)