

## December 2025 prayer diary

### MONDAY 1 DECEMBER

- Many universities Christian Unions are hosting carol services over the coming weeks. Pray that the gospel is faithfully proclaimed and that students invite boldly.
- Pray that city workers will take the opportunity to invite colleagues to carol services and then bring them back after Christmas.
- On behalf of our Facilities Team, they ask that we pray for:
  - preparations for Christmas, including the many Christmas events that St Helen's is running. Pray that nothing will distract from the gospel message being proclaimed.
  - relationship with outside contractors, including those working at the St Andrew's churchyard as that project comes to an end.
- The ladies' evangelistic event "Christmas is Coming" is tonight. Rose Illingsworth is being interviewed. Pray that women there will want to investigate Jesus for themselves as a result.

### TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER

- The first year Associates have a review of Philippians in their training session this week. Pray that the mindset they've seen in the letter will increasingly shape them and their attitude to ministry.
- Pray for the lunchtime meeting at St Helen's (William on Genesis 10:1–11:9).
- Please pray that many City RML John group members will come to the weekend away on the doctrine of scripture (this weekend), particularly those new to St Helen's and Christianity.
- 4pm and Central Focus midweek carol service (Aneirin speaking). Pray that many from the church family will make good use of tonight's carol service.
- St Michael's Cornhill Advent carol service (Henry speaking).
- Pray for the many Christmas evangelistic events at l'ECUB church (Will & Joanna, Bordeaux); pray that the church family will invite widely; 6th - evangelistic wreath making event for women; 13th - evangelistic Christmas kids' trail in city centre Bordeaux, followed by Christmas tea; these events will have a gospel talk. 14th & 21st - Sunday gathering with evangelistic talk.

### WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER

- Pray for the lunchtime meeting at N Bishopsgate (William on Genesis 10:1-11:9).
- Please pray for a carol service happening at Fieldfisher (Sir Jeremy Cooke speaking).
- Give thanks for the many seekers who've attended the Explore course at IGG over the last term. Pray they'd want to read to the end of Mark and repent and believe.
- The Kamuku translation team (Gareth & Katharine, Nigeria) is coming to Jos for two weeks. Pray that all will be well in the homes of the teams so that they can travel and work without worry, and for a productive time. The security situation has been relatively calm in the Kamuku area recently, but neighbouring areas have been heavily affected by robberies, killings and kidnappings. Please pray for a peaceful time in the next two months as people harvest their crops and celebrate Christmas.

## **THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the lunchtime meetings at St Helen's (William) and Covent Garden (Guilio) on Gen 10:1-11:9.
- Please pray for the Accenture carol service (Zim Okoli speaking).
- Friends from St Helen's are visiting Joelle (Cambodia). Pray for safety as they travel up and down the country, for good health for all, that visits to groups of local believers will be useful and fruitful and an encouraging time. As the villagers are busy harvesting their rice, a number of the women have not been coming to the Bible study in Krala. Pray that when harvesting is over, they will be keen to rejoin.
- We partner in prayer with Holy Cross, Gleadless Valley in Sheffield. This month they ask us to give thanks for: the Fun Food and Faith outreach over half-term – for new children coming; new people coming on Sundays and for 2 recent newcomers who have put their faith in Jesus.

In addition, the 2 Samuel series – thankful for the way the Lord has been challenging church family about His grace and sovereignty, their walk with Him and their outreach in Christ and finally thankful for more funding coming in for their paid staff posts.

Please pray for:

- (6th) Gleadless Valley Memorial Service – that they might be able to share the gospel hope and comfort to those who are grieving.
- (12-14th) the youth group going to the Oakes Christian Holiday Centre for their annual camp – for hearts to turn to Jesus and be deepened in Him.
- (8th) Christmas Outreach through Care Homes, Carol Service (14th), School Assemblies, Sunday Special (21st), Fun Food and Faith and Christmas 'Hampers' distribution of food, clothing and gifts (23rd).
- Christmas and new year series in Luke and for the use of 'Christmas Uncut' to draw adults and youth.
- Pierre (International Ministry Assistant) and Sunday (Youth and Children's Minister) and their families as the church trusts the Lord to provide for another 3-years contracts for them.

## **FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER**

- Please pray for William speaking at the Lime Street Ward club carol service today. Please pray that those attending will hear and respond to the good news of Jesus come into the world.
- Please pray for Susie's Christmas dialogue event happening at Pizza Express (Wes and Rose speaking).
- City RML John - pray for what is being taught to start to hit home for group members, so that unbelieving members may be converted and baptised, and others radically committing their lives to Jesus.
- (5-7th) RML John weekend away: this will be the first weekend away for lots of those coming. Please pray that it's a good time as they think about "The Word of God" as well as a good time socially.

## **SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER**

- Pray that many students will sign up to come to the Winter Student Getaway at the start of January.
- Please pray for carol services at Gospel at Work talks across central London - for Christians to bring colleagues and for soft hearts that hear and respond with trust in Jesus.
- Please pray for evening carol services taking place over December: pray that many will be inviting, positive responses and that there will be a clear gospel proclamation, from which many will be saved.

## **SUNDAY 7 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the 9.30am & 11.15am (William on John 4:43-54), the 2pm Mandarin-speaking (Tom on Matthew 1:1-17), the 4pm (Aneirin on Matthew 25:14-30) & 6pm (Tim on Luke 1:39-56) meetings.
- Each Sunday in December at Asha they are looking into Matthew 1-2. Pray that they will rejoice that Jesus came to save us and that those who don't know him will recognise his divinity and salvation. In addition, please pray ahead for Sunday 21st when Asha is aiming to have a more guest-oriented celebration for Christmas.

- We partner in prayer with EAST Glasgow Church, who are preparing to launch in the New Year:
  - Thank God for answered prayer – there has been a bit more interest in the launch team and a few more have joined. They have 40 members of their launch team and are still praying for 50.
  - Pray for a big month of increasing visibility within the community. They have 3 Christmas events, on Dec 12, 13 & 14th.
  - Pray that friends who don't know Jesus will step through their doors and take one step closer to interacting with Jesus
  - Pray for their 'soft launch' Sundays today & 14th as they head towards a public launch on January 11th.
  - Pray for wisdom with prioritising the many various things they could be doing in the lead up to January 11th. Pray that they will know where is best to spend time and energy.

### **MONDAY 8 DECEMBER**

- Pray for our musicians to be sustained through this busy period, and for them to find real joy in serving where the gospel is being proclaimed.
- SSY carols (Drew speaking).
- Pray for Christmas evangelism opportunities in schools, for children to be bold inviters and faithful proclaimers of Jesus. Pray that many children will hear and respond to the Christmas message as it is shared in school assemblies and clubs.
- With lots going on in our buildings this month, pray for the Associates involved practically behind the scenes. Pray God will be growing them in joyful, servant-hearted attitudes.

### **TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER**

- Give thanks for lots of newcomers in 4pm small groups (RML) this term. Please pray those in 4pm RML will make the most of opportunities to share Jesus this Christmas, will take time to reflect on the wonder of Jesus coming into the world to save sinners and continue to meet with church family and be built up in Christ.
- Pray for the lunchtime talk at St Helen's (William on Genesis 11:10-12:3) and the Aldersgate & Moorgate carol services (9/10<sup>th</sup>).
- Please pray for the following carol services also taking place today:
  - CMS: happening at St Stephens Walbrook (Paul W speaking).
  - A&O Shearman: happening at Christ Church Spitalfields (Tom Wright speaking).
  - Ashurst: happening at Christ Church Spitalfields (Rico Tice speaking).
  - Nick Kilhams Foundation carols (Drew speaking).
  - UK Power Networks carols (Henry speaking).

### **WEDNESDAY 10 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the lunchtime talk at North Bishopsgate (William on Genesis 11:10-12:3).
- Please pray for the following carol services also taking place today:
  - Freshfields (Kev Murdoch speaking)
  - Rothschilds, happening at St Stephen's Walbrook (Paul W speaking)
  - NatWest carol service (Abraham Sin speaking)
- As part of studying 1 Timothy, the older youth RML groups are having a seminar on gender roles this evening. Please pray for soft hearts before God's word and helpful time in discussion.
- Give thanks for new students who have joined us this term and pray for them as they go home over Christmas to be godly in the way they relate to their families and to keep delighting in Jesus' Word.
- Asha is having their ESOL Christmas party. Pray for fun times, for a clear Gospel presentation and for people to come on Sundays to hear more.
- Pray that the language survey that Ruth (Cote d'Ivoire) is helping to plan will be able to go ahead after being postponed for a few months. Pray for wisdom in planning amid uncertainty.

## **THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the Insurance Carols at St Helen's (Rico Tice speaking) and Covent Garden lunchtime talk (Guilio on Genesis 11:10-12:3).
- Please pray for the following carol services taking place today:
  - BCLP (Paul W speaking)
  - NHS (Wes speaking)
  - Amazon (Abraham speaking)
- Pray that City workers will make the most of Christmas gospel opportunities with colleagues in workplaces and at lunchtime carol services.

## **FRIDAY 12 DECEMBER**

- Please pray for the last Little Pickles session this term. Pray for Phil as he leads a Christmas Special Circle Time, that invitations to all age carol service will be well received, and that many people will come.
- Bridge (11-14s) have their Christmas party this evening. Please pray that many guests will be able to come, and that they might want to come back in the new year.
- Please pray for the Cantonese Christmas Dialogue event happening at St Helen's (Sam Leung speaking).
- Please pray for many new Chinese friends to come to St Helen's this evening for the Mandarin Christmas Dinner (Henry speaking).
- White & Case carols (Drew speaking).

## **SATURDAY 13 DECEMBER**

- Ryan Davison and Jess Davies (6pm congregation) are getting married in St Helen's today.
- Elisha (Associate 2024-25) and Patriza are getting married today in Nairobi.
- Give thanks for the opportunities that Christmas events afford us in speaking clearly and boldly of the gospel. Pray that nothing will be an impediment to the gospel going out, and that any building-related issues that may arise will be able to be dealt with quickly and without fuss

## **SUNDAY 14 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the all-age carol services at the 9.30am & 11.15am (Drew/Phil speaking), 2pm Mandarin (Tom on Matthew 1:18-25), and carol services at the 4pm & 6pm (William speaking). The 4pm carol service incorporates a children's Christmas party. Pray for fun, fellowship and safety, and for lots of energy for leaders.
- James HH is preaching an evangelistic Christmas sermon at Tourcoing in N. France during the afternoon.
- Connexion church (Joe & Anne-Sophie) Christmas service takes place today. Pray for a clear gospel presentation from John 3:16 and lots of guests. Pray for logistics as we aim to hold two services. This will mean a lot of chair moving but we believe it's worth the effort to fit people in.
- We are partnering in prayer with St Matthew's, Ponders End (in Enfield). Please pray for their carols by candlelight service taking place today at 6pm, when their community choir will be singing and they will be inviting in the whole Ponders End community to hear the good news of the incarnation.

## **MONDAY 15 DECEMBER**

- Pray that students returning home for Christmas will be humble and godly towards family and consistent in listening to Jesus in his word.
- Pray for those from overseas in our church family to benefit from being part of the church family this Christmas.
- St Michael's Cornhill lunchtime carols (Henry speaking).

## **TUESDAY 16 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the lunchtime carol service at St Helen's (William speaking) and the Aldersgate & Moorgate carol service (16/17<sup>th</sup>)
- Please pray for a law firm carol service happening at Canary Wharf with (Paul W speaking).
- Give thanks for our small group leaders; pray that they will continue to sit under and be refreshed by God's word themselves, and remain prayerful for their groups over the Christmas break

## **WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER**

- Pray for children of Christian families around the world who are growing up amidst war, poverty or persecution. Pray they will know the reality of God's love.
- Please pray for the Grant Thornton carol service (Wes Illingworth speaking).
- Youth RML (14-18s) have their Christmas dinner this evening – please pray many guests will be able to make it (Will is speaking on 1 Timothy 1:15).

## **THURSDAY 18 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the lunchtime carol service at St Helen's (William speaking) and the Covent Garden carol service (Leo speaking).
- Give thanks for the smooth start to Sunday mornings meeting at 9.30 and 11.15am. Pray we'd continue to settle and make the most of building each other up and welcoming newcomers before and after each gathering.
- Pray for those amongst us who struggle with depression, which can intensify over the winter months. Pray for care and support from the church family. Pray for resilience to persevere in faith through the thorns and thistles of a broken world.

## **FRIDAY 19 DECEMBER**

- Pray that parents at St Helen's will have good conversations with their children about the meaning of Christmas.
- Pray that as a church family we will be alert to those in particular need this Christmas and be generous in hospitality.
- Pray that those for whom Christmas is an especially lonely time will know the comfort of their loving heavenly Father, and that church family will be good at looking out for them.

## **SATURDAY 20 DECEMBER**

- Pray for our brothers and sisters around the world who have recently become Christians and are facing persecution from their families and communities. Pray that the hope of the gospel will provide strength and courage and ask for them to know the comforting presence of God.
- Pray there will be a God-given hunger to know more about Jesus, in many guests over the Christmas period. Pray they will come to follow-up courses or commit to reading a gospel one-to-one.

## **SUNDAY 21 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the carol services at the 9.30am & 11.15am (Paul speaking), 2pm Mandarin carols (Tom speaking), all-age carol service at the 4pm (Aneirin speaking) and 6pm (Carl Matthei speaking). The morning carol services incorporate a children's Christmas party. Pray for fun, fellowship and safety, and for lots of energy for leaders.
- Pray for those spending time over Christmas with non-believing families that God will provide an open door for them to share the gospel (Col 4:3), "keep their conduct honourable" (1 Peter 2:12) and love their families well. For those who will spend Christmas in London without their families, that they will find people to spend Christmas with and enjoy spending it with church family.

## **MONDAY 22 DECEMBER**

- Give thanks for all our mission partners, and for their faithful service of the Lord. Pray that, as we celebrate again the wonderful gift of God's Son to a sinful world, they will be encouraged, and that they will start the new year with joy in their hearts.
- Give thanks for our staff team, and for their labours for the Lord this term. Pray that they will all be refreshed over the Christmas break.

## **TUESDAY 23 DECEMBER**

- Pray that those who are away from London over Christmas will still take opportunities to meet with God's people and listen to God's word.
- Pray for all of the 6pm that they will continue as believers over Christmas, staying in good routines outside of RML term and pray that many will use the time over Christmas to carefully and prayerfully consider if joining a West Central London plant in September 2026 will be the right thing to do.

## **WEDNESDAY 24 DECEMBER**

- Pray that those for whom Christmas is an especially lonely time will know the comfort of their loving heavenly Father, and that church family will be good at looking out for them
- Pray for those who will especially feel the loss of loved ones at Christmas. Pray that each will turn to our Saviour for solace and renewed hope, and grace to help.

## **THURSDAY 25 DECEMBER**

- "In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5)
- Pray for the St Helen's Christmas all-age service (Phil H speaking). Pray that today will be a time for us to meditate on the goodness of God in sending his only Son to save his people.
- Thank the Lord that Jesus' life is the light of men. Pray we'd be full of humble gratitude as we realise afresh that, through him, he has given us the right to become children of God.

## **FRIDAY 26 DECEMBER**

- Pray for those for whom the Christmas season is busier rather than quieter, that they will still have time to enjoy the "good news of great joy that [is] for all the people" (Luke 2:10)
- Pray for prayerful perseverance and further opportunities to speak about the Lord for those who invited friends and colleagues to carol services and met with discouraging responses.

## **SATURDAY 27 DECEMBER**

- Give thanks for all those who serve on our Church Council and its various committees, and for our six churchwardens. Pray that all will continue to walk in Christ Jesus the Lord, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith... abounding in thanksgiving (Col 2:6-7).
- Give thanks all the churches across London with whom we work in gospel partnership. Ask the Lord to use each one to advance his kingdom as the gospel is held out in love.

## **SUNDAY 28 DECEMBER**

- Pray for the 9.30am & 11.15am (Carl Matthei speaking), the 2pm Mandarin (Henry on Matthew 2:13-23) and the 4pm & 6pm meetings (Andrew Markham speaking).
- Pray that, with small groups not meeting, group members will be looking out for one another during the Christmas period, that none might drift (Heb 2:1).

### **MONDAY 29 DECEMBER**

- Ask the Lord to limit the atrocities being committed in the wars being waged in many countries. Pray for the wicked schemes of man to be brought to nothing. Pray that Jesus' kingdom will grow in these countries, and for Christians to remain faithful.
- Pray for secret believers around the world who can't meet openly for fear of persecution. Pray they will find great comfort in Immanuel, God with them.

### **TUESDAY 30 DECEMBER**

- Thanks for an encouraging and equipping weekend away thinking about church, for some from the 11.15am congregation. Pray we'd be increasingly convinced that we are part of what God is doing in the world, even if things look weak and small. Pray for growing commitment and confidence to love each other, to speak the truth and to hold out the truth to the world around.
- Please pray occasional members of the youth groups and those from unbelieving families will sign up for the youth groups weekend away in January.

### **WEDNESDAY 31 DECEMBER**

- Give thanks for many great opportunities to speak of Jesus in recent weeks. Pray that the seed that has been sown will not be snatched or choked but bear much fruit.
- Pray that in the year ahead Christians will be faithful in holding out the word of life to those around them, because God's word "shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:11)

## **Mission Partner news**

St Helen's sends out and supports individuals and families involved in cross-cultural Christian ministry, both overseas and in this country. We are also linked with national Christians and churches overseas. Below is a focus on two of our mission partners. News for our other partners is on the information board under the balcony in St Helen's.

### **Joe, Anne-Sophie, Lucie (born 2013), Emma (born 2015) and Charlotte (born 2018)**

#### **Joe and Anne-Sophie are part of the ministry team at Eglise Connexion in Paris**

received 17.11.25

### **Thanksgiving**

- Togo trip: give thanks for the mission trip to Togo in November. Eight people from Connexion church have been partnering with a Togolese church in evangelism and encouraging local Christians.
- Give thanks for an event in Lyon in November aiming to encourage people to consider Bible-teaching ministry. Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send out his workers into the French harvest-field.
- As they come to the end of their first term, give thanks for our three apprentices this year: Silvain, Dahlia and Eva. Pray that they'll be filled with joy as they grow in their knowledge of Christ, that they'll grow in ability and confidence as they learn to teach others, and for good Christmas rest.
- Give thanks that Anne-Sophie has been able to carry on teaching Mark' Gospel to year 7 pupils as part of a catechism class at Lucie's school. Pray for open eyes to see that Jesus is the Christ.

### **Dates**

- 7 December: pray for the second Bible-overview seminar at Connexion church, this time running from the promises to Abraham to entrance into the promised land.
- 13 December: Leaders training morning. At Connexion church we'll be beginning to study 1 Corinthians from January-June. At this training morning, we aim to offer an introduction to the letter, as well as some tips for personal work with members of small groups.
- 14 December: Connexion church Christmas service. Pray for a clear gospel presentation from John 3:16 and lots of guests. Pray for logistics as we aim to hold two services. This will mean a lot of chair moving but we believe it's worth the effort to fit people in.
- Hand over for Interaction camp. Joe intends to take a summer off being director of Interaction camp C in 2026. We believe we've found a replacement director. Pray for a smooth handover before sign-ups and more intense practical preparations begin in January.