

Wed. 24/12	Pray for those who find Christmas a lonely or stressful time. Immanuel, God with us, pray that God will awaken the hearts of those who do not yet know Him.
Thur. 25/12	The word became flesh. Rejoice!
Fri. 26/12	Give thanks that we can freely rejoice and express our faith without fear. Remember our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world being persecuted for their beliefs. Pray for strength and courage for those undergoing persecution, and for peace that only God can bring. Pray that their faith will not fail.
Sat. 27/12	Pray for all those who distribute Bibles and testaments at home and abroad. Pray for the Bible Societies, Gideon's International and Scripture Gift Mission. Pray for all those given testaments or penny bibles during the Commonwealth Games. May they be read and God heard.
Sun. 28/12	Creator God we thank you that we can enjoy life in your world where the Sun gives warmth and the rain gives life. May we be ever grateful. God of love we pray for those who suffer when the cold comes and the winds destroy and waves overwhelm, who struggle when the sun scorches, the land lies still and drought endures, may they receive help and comfort. God guiding spirit, inspire us to safeguard your world.
Mon. 29/12	Pray for the agencies that provide shelter and help to the homeless in our city (Salvation Army, Bethany, City Mission, Shelter, Crisis). Pray that they will be able to bring love to those on the streets who need it. In particular, give thanks for the Care Shelter and for the work of Bethany and the many churches that make this happen.
Tues. 30/12	Give thanks for our minister Peter and his wife Leandra. Pray that they may be able to support one another in their lives. Pray for Peter as he travels to South Africa to see his brother over New Year, for safety and for good fellowship together.
Wed. 31/12	'Be holy, because I am holy'. 1 Peter 1:16 As we see another year draw to a close, ask that we might rid ourselves of anything that stands in the way of deepening our relationship with God. Take this opportunity to hand over "all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy and slander of every kind- so that by it you may grow up in your salvation".

Newhaven Church Prayer Calendar

December 2014

Mon. 01/12	Today is World AIDS Day. Pray for all those who are infected by HIV and AIDS, that they will not feel stigmatised or ashamed, that they will know they can speak to you and feel whole again through the Holy Spirit.
Tues. 02/12	People talk for a lot of reasons: to receive comfort, to vent their feelings, to persuade, to inform, to criticise, to be understood or to relieve nervousness. In other words, they talk for reasons that don't necessarily match our expectations. That's why we need to pray, "God, help me, not just to listen, but to really <u>hear</u> what they're saying." From The Word for Today.
Wed. 03/12	Heavenly Father, during this month there will be excited children making up their Christmas lists. We give thanks for those fortunate enough to open up a parcel to find that their wishes have come true but we take a moment to pray for the many who will neither make a list nor receive a parcel at Christmas. We pray that they might know the gift of your love for them and be surrounded by loving families.
Thurs. 04/12	Help us to have confidence in sharing our faith. Pray that we all may see our responsibility for passing on the gospel and telling others about Jesus. Help us as a congregation to encourage each other to be the salt and light that we are called to be.
Fri. 05/12	Please pray that as Christians we will not be overwhelmed by the rising tide of hatred and suffering being promoted both at home and abroad in the name of so-called 'Islamic' extremists. Pray that we will remember to don the full 'Armour of God' (Ephesians Chapter 6) and, whilst praying against all the evil, we will remember Paul's other exhortation to think on things which are 'true, noble, right, pure ... etc' ensuring that 'the God of peace will be with us' (Philippians Chapter 4).
Sat. 06/12	Please pray for volunteers to come forward to help with the Christmas Extravaganza on the 20 th . We need 16 leaders and 8 teenagers and some folk to help in the kitchen. As well as our church children we hope to have a good number from Victoria Primary. Please pray that parents will apply for their children to come
Sun. 07/12	"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in" (Matt 26:35). Lord, please instil in us a spirit of hospitality and generosity, and open our eyes to see those who need it.

Mon. 08/12	Pray for all the elderly in our congregation who can no longer come to church that they will still feel part of the church family.
Tues. 09/12	Give thanks for the courage and faithfulness of all the medical workers who are stepping up to help with the Ebola outbreak. Pray for their effectiveness in treating and preventing the spread of this virus. Pray for God's protection and guidance upon them. Pray for all those putting themselves at risk to treat patients. Pray for those who are patients, for their recovery and cure or for a dignified and peaceful passing for those who do succumb to this disease.
Wed. 10/12	"Cancer is limited. It cannot cripple love, or corrode faith, or eat away peace, or destroy confidence, or kill friendship, or shut out memories, or silence courage, or invade the soul, or reduce eternal life, or lessen the power of the resurrection." Pray for those known to you who are battling cancer. From The Word for Today.
Thurs. 11/12	Pray for Kate and those organising the cookery class which is due to start in January. This is a chance for those on low budgets to learn how to cook good nutritious meals at modest cost. Pray that those with real needs may hear about it and be able to attend. Pray particularly for those with young families who need to make child care arrangements.
Fri. 12/12	Continue to pray for our recruitment of a Youth Worker. The job has been offered to an applicant. There are visa issues and let us pray that these can be quickly resolved so that a start can be made as early as possible in the new year.
Sat. 13/12	Spirit of compassion, you gently comfort those who have experienced violence, those whose lives are shattered by conflict, who experience oppression or persecution. You guide those who tend the wounded, who seek to heal memories and to encourage hope, inspire people in all nations of our world to show your fruit of love and joy, of kindness and goodness of gentleness and peace. From World Mission Council.
Sun. 14/12	Pray for our Christmas Greetings Tree. This will be available every Sunday from now until Christmas for members of the congregation to write a message, decorate a "Bauble" and donate as they wish to help with Newhaven's commitment to Kampi Disabled Children's Centre.
Mon. 15/12	Please pray for Christine as she speaks on the Christmas story at this week's assembly at Victoria Primary. Give thanks for the good relationships between the school and the Church that have been built over many, many years.
Tues. 16/12	This year we will be carol singing at ASDA and also in the Starbank Inn. Both these events are opportunities for us to bring the Christmas message to our community. This has been well received in the past. Pray that those participating will appreciate the words and think about what the meaning of Christmas is.
Wed. 17/12	Even things that seem chaotic suddenly begin to have purpose when you can pray: "Lord, even if you don't act, I thank you for your ways. If you don't deliver me and I have to go through this, I'm glad you're in control, and that you'll do what's best. You don't have to explain; I'm going to trust that when it's all over, <i>everything</i> you've permitted will work together for my good and your glory, because I'm called according to your purpose. (Romans 8:28). From The Word for Today.
Thurs. 18/12	Give thanks for all volunteers we have in the church cafe, many of whom don't come to church. Pray for more volunteers for toddlers to establish another 4 weekly team and boost already dwindling numbers of volunteers each week. Give thanks for all the mums who come, may they see your Holy Spirit at work.
Fri. 19/12	Many of the young folk in our congregation are preparing to sit prelim exams in the early new year. Pray that they will look to God for his guidance and achieve a sense of calm.
Sat. 20/12	Pray for the success of today's Christmas Extravaganza. This is a chance to present the Christmas story to many children. Pray for fun and safety in all the activities and clarity in the message. Pray also for a good attendance of non-church children particularly from Victoria Primary.
Sun. 21/12	Pray for the All Age Christmas Service that takes place today. Give thanks for the many people who are involved, whether leading or simply taking part through worship. Pray that we may be moved as we ponder together the most amazing truth that God became man and turned around history.
Mon. 22/12	As people attend carol services and nativity plays, pray that their minds will be open to respond to this amazing story. Pray for Peter as he prepares for our services at Newhaven. Pray that he will find clear and relevant ways to present the Love of God shown in Jesus.
Tues. 23/12	Life is complicated. We face many conflicting choices. Use Paul's prayer in Philippians 1:9 -"We pray that our love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - to the glory and praise of God"