



Prayer Diary January 2026

This diary is designed to help you to pray for the life of our congregation. We would encourage you to take it and use it on a daily basis, asking God for His hand in all that we are and do.

Scripture Reflection

The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call in truth.

Psalm 145 v 18

Thursday 1st - Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness". **Lamentations 3 vs 22-23**. On the first day of 2026 we look back with thankfulness and take hope for the future from these powerful words.

Friday 2nd – The Trussell Trust report that 1 in 7 people in the UK are in need of the support of **foodbanks** to survive. Over the Christmas period foodbanks were supplying an increased number of emergency food parcels to families and the over 65s. They believe there must be urgent action on hunger as poverty, debt and rising costs are forcing too many to resort to foodbanks and other forms of relief which they also provide or signpost, such as community groups in churches and schools providing meals, debt advice/budgeting and vouchers.

Saturday 3rd – Continue to pray for Mark, Zoe and our friends in **Naas PC**. An "Explore the Bible" group meets in Newbridge twice a month but please pray for the work in Newbridge to expand during 2026. Ask that the Lord will guide and bless these efforts, along with the New Member course planned for Naas in January. Also pray for gospel opportunities at the Soul Works open mic session on 30th January.

Sunday 4th- Prayer is communication with God. It helps us to stay close to God. The more time we spend talking to Him, the closer we will become to Him. Through prayer, we find peace, guidance and strength to cope with life's many challenges and struggles. Every Sunday morning in January at **10.10 am** there will be a **time of prayer** in the Lawther school. Why not join us? As we think about the example of Jesus please ask the Lord to help us have the same strong, faith-filled prayer life that Jesus had.

Monday 5th- Give thanks today for the amazing skill and dedication of **Special Educational Needs (SEN)** teachers and other professional and support staff. Pray that God will strengthen them as they deal with increasing demands and fewer resources. Pray that all children will find a place to suit their needs.

Tuesday 6th – Many Christians all over the world celebrate **Epiphany** today, remembering the Wise Men who came to visit the young child, Jesus. They gave Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh: pointing to Jesus as King, Priest and Sacrifice for us. Give thanks for the revelation to them of who Jesus was, and for their inspiration to us to worship Him.

Wednesday 7th-The **Ladies Bible study** will recommence today after the Christmas break. The focus will be a morning of Prayer which is also the topic of the book we are studying. Please pray for all those who attend, that they will know God's presence and grow in their faith and knowledge of God. Give thanks for answered prayers and pray that all who attend will be greatly blessed by the time we spend together.

Thursday 8th – Today Albert Oliver and a team from High Kirk head off to **India** to undertake various projects in the areas around Victory Children's Home, Sasalu. Give thanks for established links with the Francina Foundation, Pastor Mark and Jennifer at the Rose of Sharon Home. Pray for spiritual and physical protection for the team and for their good health, safety whilst travelling and in all the work they are involved in.

Friday 9th- Remember today those people who are experiencing great stress and pain because of serious illnesses that may be terminal. Pray that God will enable them to access treatment and care to relieve their symptoms and make them comfortable. Pray that the government will prioritise **palliative care** so that care will be available for all who are suffering at the end of life. Pray that many will know that "God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort" (2 Cor 1v3 NLT).

Saturday 10th – Thank God our Creator for the miracle of new life. Give thanks for families who are **expecting a new baby** in the coming months. Pray for expectant mothers, that they will enjoy good health during their pregnancies. Pray for a sense of joy, excitement and thankfulness as new mums and dads await the arrival of their babies.

Sunday 11th- Pray for all those who will attend for worship today, that they will come to church prepared to meet with God. Pray for Stephen as he shares God's Word with us, may he know the Holy Spirit's leading. Pray that on this **Communion Sunday** we will realise afresh the wonderful sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ on the cross and that this will shape the way we live our lives throughout the week.

Monday 12th – When we come to Jesus in repentance and faith, God graciously welcomes us with compassion, love, forgiveness and joy. Pray that God will help us to reflect His extravagant grace to anyone who comes to Him through faith, especially to those **prodigals** returning in faith to their Father.

Tuesday 13th – Tonight our **Church Committee** meets to discuss and implement plans to be proposed/progressed by the three sub-committees – Administration, Finance and Property. This meeting will concentrate mainly on the year end accounts and our financial situation and how this will impact our plans for a refurbishment/rebuild of the halls complex. Give thanks for the work of our **Treasurer, Denise** as she co-ordinates all this information and especially at this very busy time finalising accounts and the necessary auditory requirements.

Wednesday 14th- Pray for all **families who care for a loved one** - a sick child, a young person with a disability, a dependent adult or a relative in a nursing home. Give thanks to God for the love, devotion and care which is provided by these carers on a daily basis. Pray for wisdom, patience, energy and perseverance to keep going especially on days when it is challenging and exhausting.

Thursday 15th – Pray for our **GB and BB companies**, for their Captains, Officers, leaders and girls/boys. Ask that all who attend may learn, grow and discover more about themselves and God in a safe, caring environment rooted in the Christian gospel. May they enjoy the activities each week and develop solid friendships and pray that this may provide the means for young people to hear and respond to Christ's call on their lives.

Friday 16th- Give thanks for the Bible Society NI, for its passion to reach all ages of people with the transforming power of God's Word, and specifically for its **Bibles for Babies** project 2025. Throughout their first five years, children born in 2025 and who are registered, will receive a Bible storybook, fun activities and a children's Bible. Pray that through this project, families will be encouraged to read to their young children about the God who sees, knows and loves them.

Saturday 17th - The **Israeli/Gaza conflict** is now in a time of fragile **ceasefire** despite accusations by both sides of violations. There are reports of children being killed for straying into a controlled area and undertaking "suspicious activities". Many in this area fear the onset of Winter with hunger, flooding and suffering still part of their daily lives. The phased ceasefire plan is now entering Phase 2 – prisoner and hostage releases (many dead) have taken place and now there are efforts to establish an International Stabilisation Force to maintain peace but many doubt this will bring about a long term solution.

Sunday 18th- Pray for the '**Connected**' series in our church, which is an opportunity for people to explore what it means to be connected to Christ and His Church. Pray for Stephen as he leads the 3 session series and guides the discussions afterwards. Pray for everyone who will attend as they seek to become a follower of Jesus, explore what church membership means or to refresh their understanding of what it means to be a Christian.

Monday 19th - **CAMHS** stands for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services. It provides mental health assessment and treatment for children and young people aged 0 to 18 and support for their families. This covers drug and alcohol problems, eating disorders and other areas of mental health. Please pray for the teams of specialist Mental Health workers who are there to help in all areas of mental health. Please pray for all who are concerned about a young person and that they will receive the appropriate help available.

Tuesday 20th- Give thanks for our **Kirk Session** and for all the work that they do throughout the year. Pray that God would uphold them and their families, protect them and provide them wisdom and discernment in their decision making. Pray that they would hold true to biblical principles in all that they do.

Wednesday 21st – Tonight is the first **PW/Woven** meeting of the new year. Pray for the women who attend, perhaps for the first time, that they would enjoy fellowship and friendship with other women. We pray for Judith Hooks as she joins us to share her inspiring story of faith. Pray that each woman would be encouraged in her faith and feel blessed by being there.

Thursday 22nd- **Older adults** are more vulnerable to conditions like hypothermia in cold weather. Research indicates that 63% of adults were using their heating less as a result of the cost of living crisis. Cold temperatures can increase the risk of illnesses such as flu, chest infections or respiratory problems. It can be much harder for the elderly to fight off such illnesses. Please pray for the elderly as the days become colder and that family and friends will make sure they are safe and warm.

Friday 23rd – Christian children around the world face **persecution** and are bullied, rejected or attacked because they know and love Jesus. This persecution can be from within schools, families or communities. Pray that Jesus will be their refuge and strength in times of trouble. Pray that in 2026 they will receive the support they need from the church and their families and be blessed with Christian fellowship.

Saturday 24th- Today our P7 pupils will receive the results of November's **SEAG Entrance Assessment**. Pray that these children, along with their parents, will know God's guidance in choosing the best secondary school to meet their needs and suit their abilities, and also to be excited about this next stage of their educational journey. Today also marks the **International Day of Education**, its theme this year being "Learning for lasting peace". Pray that education will promote peace, sustainable development and global unity.

Sunday 25th – **John 16 v 33** says "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world". This verse acknowledges that **suffering and difficulty** are part of life for every Christian, but it also gives us great encouragement. Praise God that we have peace and victory through Him.

Monday 26th - Yesterday was **World Leprosy Day** which aims to raise awareness and fight the stigma of Hansen's disease. (Leprosy). It is a day for individuals, organisations and governments to come together to address the challenges posed by Leprosy. Please pray for its eradication and for wisdom and insight for those who are trying to prevent its spread and find a cure. It is important to detect it early in individuals to ensure that the right treatment is started. Give thanks for Joanne Gilmore who co-ordinates the Leprosy Mission boxes in our church.

Tuesday 27th – **Holocaust Memorial Day** - On this date in 1945 the Auschwitz - Birkenau concentration camps still held some 7,000 prisoners. Over a million people deported to Auschwitz perished there. Please pray for an end to all war and violence. Pray that we will be alert to the injustices of history and of our present time. Where life is abused, unwelcome, excluded or destroyed, pray that we will be equipped to challenge and bring about change in hearts and minds for a just and better life for all.

Wednesday 28th- There are so many demands on the **health service** during the winter period. Please pray for strength for hospital staff as they provide cover for others who are sick. Pray for wisdom for the emergency services as they try to prioritise the urgency of calls. Pray for those who work within the primary care sector especially as they deal with the increase in those suffering from flu symptoms.

Thursday 29th – Remember **Andrea** as she continues her pastoral work within the fellowship of Muckamore. Give thanks for her abilities and caring nature that she may continue to be used by God as she speaks and prays with those who are ill, elderly, struggling or lonely. Pray that she can connect with those she may not know well and bring them encouragement, care and comfort.

Friday 30th- Give thanks to God for the increased number of young people who are attending **Youth Club** on a weekly basis. Pray for Steve as he commences a new programme, for safety each Friday night and for sufficient resources to ensure adequate supervision. Pray that good relationships would be established between the young people and also with the leaders.

Saturday 31st -Give thanks for God's provisions in 2025 to sustain 21 **SASRA Scripture Readers** and headquarters staff. Pray for ongoing provisions in 2026. Pray for new relationships to be formed with Scripture Readers and existing relationships to grow, enabling them to develop more gospel opportunities and Christian growth.