

**WEDNESDAY 30th December**  
**Jamie & Helen Read (Crosslinks)**

Give thanks for how the Lord has sustained the Crosslinks home staff working remotely (17 across Britain & Ireland) and mission partners around the world this past year. Please pray that where events of 2020 have taken their toll, the Crosslinks family would find joy and hope in the Lord. Please pray for the planning of a number of digital initiatives planned for 2021 that we hope will help many more Christians of all ages be part of God's global mission, including virtual short term mission trips (yes, really!), some explainer videos aimed at building stronger partnerships and plans for our centenary in 2022.

**THURSDAY 31st December**  
**Jamie & Helen Read (continued)**

We give thanks for a strong financial base for our overseas mission partners, but Crosslinks at home faces growing pressure on the central costs needed to resource mission (staff, overheads etc). Please pray that the Lord would provide generously in 2021 through the generosity of churches and individuals.

**FRIDAY 1st January 2021 - New Year's Day**

Pray for the church as we begin a new year, that we would be holding out God's Word of truth and that our church leaders would preach the gospel faithfully, fully and fearlessly. Pray for open doors and soft hearts so that many would turn to Christ. Pray that each of us would listen to our leaders at St Nicholas and submit to their authority, "so that their work will be a joy, not a burden" (Hebrews 13:17).

**SATURDAY 2nd January 2021**

**Julia Cameron (Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion)**

Please pray for continuing plans to mark the centenary of John Stott's birth, and his legacy. For me this revolves largely around books, and a hybrid event at All Souls, late morning on 27 April. It will include participation from around the world. For more info, see John Stott Centenary on dictumpress.com. We want these events to reflect back with thankfulness, and also to inform and inspire, to engage the next generation of Christian leaders.

**SUNDAY 3rd January 2021**

**Collect for the Second Sunday after Christmas**

Almighty God, in the birth of your Son you have poured on us the new light of your incarnate Word, and shown us the fullness of your love: help us to walk in his light and dwell in his love that we may know the fullness of his joy; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

10am: service in church and on YouTube :  
Hebrews 2:18 - *Matt Taylor*

10am St Nicholas at Lady Boswell's and on  
YouTube: Psalm 90 - *Angus MacLeay*

Contact All Together

6.30pm service on Zoom: Psalm 90 - *Angus MacLeay*



**St Nicholas Church**  
SEVENOAKS

# PRAYER DIARY

## December 2020

*"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship." (Galatians 4:4-5, NIV)*



**Note: in line with the current COVID-19 guidelines, our nurture groups and study groups will continue to meet online during December.**



All the details in our monthly Prayer Diary can be found on PrayerMate: [www.prayermate.net](http://www.prayermate.net)

**Our Vision: To know Jesus and make him known locally and globally...and so we prayerfully and lovingly proclaim Him ... in order to Reach, Nurture, Equip and Send ... for His Glory.**

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**MONDAY 30th November****Thanksgiving**

Give thanks:

- for God's word preached in November;
- for John Collett and those handling our finances;
- for the Knowing Life resource.

Women's Bible Study Groups

Retired Men's Think-it-Through

Lady Boswell's assembly - *Angus MacLeay*

Campaigners meeting + Zoom catchup science

Lockdown Prayer Gathering

10am Christmas  
Celebration Services at  
St Nicholas and Lady  
Boswell's and on  
YouTube

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**TUESDAY 1st December****Emma Brewster (*SIM South Africa*)**

- Pray for the appointment for someone to join my team in leading us forward in business ministries... interviews are the first half of Dec ember.
- Pray for fresh thinking in investing in the next generation at this time.

Women's Bible Study Group

Joint Prayer Gathering for all  
congregations

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**WEDNESDAY 2nd December****Emma Brewster (*continued*)**

- Pray for the growth and development of a Diaspora ministry network.
- Pray for mum's healing and restoration and that we will be able to spend Christmas together. I will be staying in the UK for longer than anticipated to be around for mum.

Men's Bible Study Group

Women's Bible Study Group

Contact Bible Study

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**THURSDAY 3rd December****Selvan Anketell (*Japan Christian Link*)**

End-2020 marks a transition to the next phase of a venture in which I'd hoped (without success) to invest two-thirds of my time. However, praise the Lord that, in his mercy and by his grace, he still has me on track to hit 3 year-end milestones. Please ask for his further gracious help with the remaining 3 (looking v. stretching!) so I can get straight into the next phase from January. Thank you very much.

Lockdown Prayer Gathering

Bumps &amp; Babies walk

Women's Bible Study Groups

Centrepoint Bible+chat

Training for Congregation Leaders

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**FRIDAY 4th December****Philip & Sunny Glass (*Futako Tamagawa, South Tokyo - network partners with Japan Christian Link*)**

We are in the final stages of preparing to move to Japan. Please give thanks for many, many practical needs having been met already, and pray for the remaining things to work out smoothly. Above all, please pray that we're be persevering in trust and obedience with thankful and joyful hearts.

Simon Heather leading Youth Ministry  
training for Oak Hall students

Women's Bible Study Groups

Sevenoaks School Assembly: *Angus  
MacLeay*

Contact Guest Event(s)

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**FRIDAY 25th December - Christmas Day****The Collect for Christmas Day**

Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and as at this time to be born of a pure virgin: grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; 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. Amen

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**SATURDAY 26th December**

Pray for all those who are homeless at this time of year and all who are lonely or afraid, that they would know God's presence and comfort and that they would find the support they need. Pray especially for the work of London City Mission and other Christian agencies reaching out to bring hope and help to those who are in need in our Capital and other towns and cities across the UK.

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**SUNDAY 27th December****Paul and Helen S (*Africa Inland Mission*)**

- Praise the Lord for the provision of a place to stay, for school, for warm fellowship, Zoom, a car to use, loving family and great partner churches.
- Pray for us to have humility, grace and patience in these times. Pray for us to think of ourselves less, to have grace for others and to dwell more on our wonderful saviour.

10am: service in church and on YouTube :  
Hebrews 2:16-17 - *Gavin McGrath*10am St Nicholas at Lady Boswell's and on  
YouTube: Luke 2:41-52 - *Giles Witchell*6.30pm service on Zoom: *Steve Osei-Mensah*

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**MONDAY 28th December - Bank Holiday****Paul and Helen S (*continued*)**

- Pray for Esme, Martha and Tabitha - they are grieving Kotido in their different ways, enjoying school but will soon leave it and are little daunted about France. Pray that they will have absolute confidence in their heavenly Father who loves them and knows their struggles in all the transitions. Pray for us to be wise as we parent them in these transitions.

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**TUESDAY 29th December****Paul and Helen S (*continued*)**

- Praise the Lord for his amazing financial provision so far and pray for the final amount to come in.
- Pray for peace in the Sahel region, pray for all those suffering as a result of the insecurity, especially those displaced from their homes and those living in fear.

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**SUNDAY 20th December****Janet Phythian (*Growing Hope, Farming God's Way, Mozambique*)**

Please pray for peace and unity in Cabo Delgado, Northern Mozambique; and for Godly wisdom for the government in response to this violence and the shootings nearer to us along the national road.

10am: service in church and on YouTube : Hebrews 2:14-15 - *Gavin McGrath*

10am St Nicholas at Lady Boswell's on YouTube: Luke 2:21-35 - *John Khnana*

Contact All Together

6.30pm service of Lessons and Carols on YouTube: *Angus MacLeay*

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**MONDAY 21st December****Janet Phythian (*continued*)**

Give thanks for the invitation Growing Hope has received from our local prison, to enter the prison and equip prisoners with Farming God's Way. Pray for wisdom in our response to this unexpected invitation, that we know God's will.

Please pray for healing for Albano who has ongoing back pain.

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**TUESDAY 22nd December****Persecuted Christians**

Pray for Christians in Iran and particularly for those imprisoned for their faith. Ask God to equip all his people behind bars in Iran to be powerful witnesses to their fellow prisoners and prison workers. Pray for a change of heart among Iranian officials, that they will start to see Christians as good citizens, not as opponents.

Pray for Christians in China facing increased surveillance and interference even in state-registered churches.

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**WEDNESDAY 23rd December****Persecuted Christians (*continued*)**

Pray for Christians facing opposition in Uganda and that the authorities will uphold the religious freedom provided in the constitution.

Pray that the gospel will continue to spread worldwide, that God will protect all Christians as they celebrate Jesus' birth and that God's word will comfort and sustain all who suffer for the gospel.

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**THURSDAY 24th December - Christmas Eve****Arthur Parke (*SIM Benin*).**

Thank the Lord for the joy he gives me in visiting school and university groups. Pray that my presence may be an encouragement even if I take a back seat! Too many groups had no-one to take over. If only we had more Christian teachers to ensure continuity.

Christmas is a one-day affair here. Pray for more awareness of the significance of Jesus' birth as a human baby.

Pray for my 'boys' who keep me young or wear me out?

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**SATURDAY 5th December****Kathryn Bowen (*OMF, Thailand*)**

Please pray for a group of 6 young ladies I facilitated in a discussion group for 4 weeks, looking at the topic 'Am I ready for mission?' The group consisted of 1 Dutch, 1 South African and 4 Filipinos.

Please pray for completion of an essay due Friday 11th December.

Please pray for my family in Wales who I was unable to be with this season.

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**SUNDAY 6th December****Mark & Jane Oden (*Naples*)**

Francesco (assistant pastor) and Milena plan next summer to move to the outskirts of Naples to lead the church Francesco grew up in. Please pray that this move will give us an opportunity to build a very close relationship with that church. Please pray for Mark as he seeks a replacement for Francesco.

10am: service in church and on YouTube Luke 19:28-44 - *Angus MacLeay*

10am St Nicholas at Lady Boswell's on YouTube: Psalm 145 - *John Khnana*

Contact All Together

6.30pm service on YouTube with Eynsford Concert Band: Isaiah 9:6,7 - *Matt Taylor*

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**MONDAY 7th December****Mark & Jane Oden (*continued*)**

Please pray for project *Mansueto e Umile* (Italian translation of the book *Gentle & Lowly*).

Mark along with 22 pastors/ministry leaders throughout Italy are working to transform 23 chapters into 23 recorded meditations (5-8mins) to be released daily throughout December. Pray that this would be a great blessing to the Italian church!

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**TUESDAY 8th December****Nick & Dorothy Jones & Family (*Drung Church, Ireland*)**

Give thanks for new couples who have joined us online.

Please pray for our Christmas outreach, especially drive-in carol service and delivery of booklets.

Please pray for a Ministry Trainee for next year.

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**WEDNESDAY 9th December****Mark Ellis (*Christian Union Ireland*)**

Despite restrictions, CUs are seeking to run evangelistic Carol services, whether outdoors, online, or in well-ventilated spaces!

Give thanks for their faith and creativity, and pray the Father would reveal his Son to their friends.

Give thanks for stories such as in Limerick recently, where a student has been coming to one of the CU's normal small group Bible Studies (online) and became a Christian in November! Pray for a ripple out of similar stories across every CU across the island.

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Women's Bible Study Group

Nurture Groups

Radnor House Carol Service

Men's Bible Study Group

Bible and Bagels

Contact Bible Study

Leadership Team meeting

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**THURSDAY 10th December****Mark Ellis (*continued*)**

Please pray for refreshing rest over Christmas for all the Staff team who are weary after an unusual and surprisingly relentless semester.

Bumps & Babies walk  
Women's Bible Study Groups  
Centrepont Bible+chat  
Training for Congregation Leaders

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**FRIDAY 11th December****Anna Poor (*Acorn Camps Hungary*)**

Thank God for 2 regional training opportunities for youth leaders that have been confirmed for early next year. Pray for team preparations - teaching from Mark, and modelling expository Bible teaching in youth ministry. Pray for our travel plans to visit family this month, currently unclear - for wise decisions and good solutions.

Women's Bible Study Groups  
Contact Chat  
Yr 10 Bible Study

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**SATURDAY 12th December****Evangelism**

- Pray that the Advent *Windows of Hope* would be an effective way of reaching Sevenoaks with the hope of Christmas this year.
- Pray that we would be loving our neighbours at this time.
- Pray for the women's Christmas biscuit-decorating evangelistic initiative planned for this month.

Windows of Hope Trail

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**SUNDAY 13th December****Rector's slot**

- Pray for Hannah Jackson as she prepares for a new role with Africa Inland Mission, hoping to head out to Tanzania in October 2021.
- Pray for our young people:  
For students and Christmas evangelism;  
For Contact.

10am: service in church and on YouTube:  
Matthew 1:1-17 - *Angus MacLeay*  
10am St Nicholas at Lady Boswell's on  
YouTube: Luke 2:8-20 - *John Khnana*  
Contact All Together  
6.30pm service on Zoom: Isaiah 35:1-10 -  
*Jamie Read*

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**MONDAY 14th December****StJohn & Ellie Perry (*OMF Malaysia*)  
on Home Assignment in Kent**

Many Sabah flights were cancelled due to Covid, including ours in December. Praise God, with much student help, we sorted, sold, packed up, said farewells and caught the last confirmed flights back to the UK in November to start our Home Assignment.

Women's Bible Study Social  
Retired Men's Think-it-Through  
Lady Boswell's assembly - *John Khnana*  
Campaigners meeting + Zoom catchup science

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**TUESDAY 15th December****StJohn & Ellie Perry (*continued*)**

- After isolating for 14 days in a remote cottage, pray for continued restoration following the exhausting 2020 challenges moving the seminary online.
- We continue to preach, play the clarinet and sing in the choir for our Sabah church - online from Kent!
- Pray for our seminary graduates heading back to their denominations, awaiting news of their church placements after quarantining.

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**WEDNESDAY 16th December****Sophie-Ann Rebbettes (*Crossteach*)**

- Praise God for the schools who have continued to use and be grateful for our virtual assemblies.
- Pray for our Christmas resources to be used in place of the activities we would normally do.

Men's Bible Study Group  
Contact Bible Study  
Lady Boswell's Carol Service

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**THURSDAY 17th December****Sophie-Ann Rebbettes (*continued*)**

- Pray for encouragement after a lot of lessons were cancelled due to new lockdown restrictions. Pray that these would be able to happen at another time.
- Pray for a refreshing time over the Christmas holidays after a more difficult term.

Women's Bible Study Group  
Centrepont Bible+chat

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**FRIDAY 18th December****Dan & Pippa Halpin (*Oak Hill College, London*)**

Please give thanks for:  
God's kind provision! For sufficient funding for a third year, for stretching and stimulating modules, and for encouraging 'Welcome Events' in September for Pippa's Offsite Spouses and Workplace Network group.

Contact Chat  
Yr 10 Bible Study

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**SATURDAY 19th December****Dan & Pippa Halpin (*continued*)**

Please pray for:  
Joyful Perseverance! For Pippa as she continues to work from home, for the Oak Hill community as the challenges of Covid-19 takes their toll, and for us creatively reaching others this Christmas (we hope to do daily 'Christmas Carol Advent Calendar' videos online with church and Christmas window displays on our road).

Windows of Hope Trail