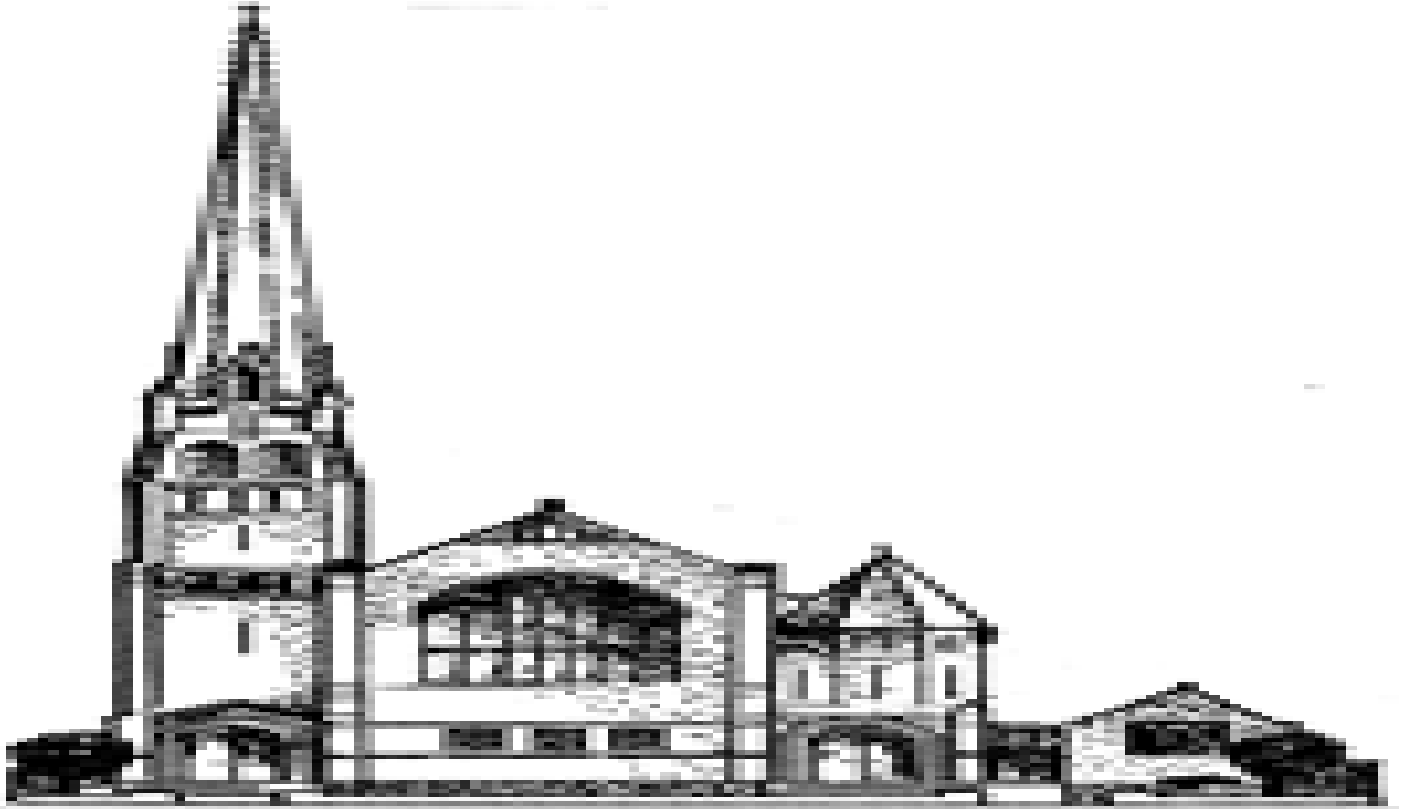


AYR, ST ANDREW'S CHURCH



DECEMBER PRAYER DIARY

(LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS)

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
your holy people, light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through our darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

(CH4 Hymn 543)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. **(John 1:1-5)**

Always start your prayer with thanksgiving and praise

Topics are arranged over 7 days which you may find helpful

SUNDAY

Praise God in his Temple! Praise his strength in heaven! Praise him for the mighty things he has done. Praise his supreme greatness. (Ps 150). Worship belongs to all the people of God. Praise God and pray for our worship leaders as Sunday by Sunday, they lead us in worship bringing to life the presence and promise of God.

MONDAY

This season of Advent and the event of Christ's coming, as we continue to wait and hope for his second coming; let us pray for the Church, for our own congregation, for all who minister to one another in the community of the faithful, in the compassion of our caring, and in the mission of the Gospel, individually and together. May the Peace of Christ bless us. May the Love of Christ work through us. May the Light of Christ shine in the darkest places.

TUESDAY

The number of displaced people due to persecution, conflict and violence is more than 80 million as we have in records. This is a global challenge of terrifying proportion. Recently we heard in news the sad story of those who lost their lives in the English Channel in search of better life. Pray for refugees and asylum seekers that they may find support in their host community. Pray for God's intervention in nations where bad governance push people to search for better life elsewhere.

WEDNESDAY

As you observe your mid-week prayer remember the importance of this month (December) bridging the old with the new year. Ask God for grace to finish well – spiritually and otherwise. Pray for spiritual strength for yourself, your family, the church, and the community. Ask God to help us follow Christ diligently and invite others to follow us as we follow Christ Jesus daily. God's word says, better is the end of a thing than the beginning (Ecclesiastes 7:8), decree and say - this year will end well for me and my household, in Jesus name.

THURSDAY

Festive seasons bring lots of joy and good memories but in many occasions amidst our joy and celebrations we make hard and difficult decisions – pause – think – and pray; ask God to guide you and lead you in your decision making processes as the year comes to an end. Pray for those who have no one to celebrate with, those who feel alone in the whole wide world. Pray for the light of God to shine in every dark corner of people's lives. As the spirit of God leads you, pray for people in need.

FRIDAY

This year will end on a Friday. So beginning from the first Friday we will give thanks for the year 2021 and get ourselves ready for the coming year. **PAUSE.** Count your blessings and name them one by one; what the Lord has done for you and your family in 2021 will surprise you. Thank God for providing for us all through the year. He has not allowed us to lack and suffer hunger as he promised in his Word. Thank God for the performance of his Word in our lives and in the lives of our loved ones, and for doing much more than we could ever have asked for, or dream of, during the course of the year. Pray for the coming year. Pass a decree that from the beginning of 2022 to the end, I shall be like a tree planted by the riverside that bears fruit in its season, whose leaves do not wither. Whatever I do will prosper, in Jesus name (Psalm 1:1-3).

SATURDAY

The time may come when the elderly are overwhelmed by personal suffering or by external circumstances beyond their control. They may be disheartened by fears of insecurity and death. They may even lose control of their minds while their hearts are still in the right place. Let us pray for elderly folks in our congregation and in our community; pray against the spirit of discouragement, fear, insecurity, loneliness, or death. Ask God to protect them and give them the grace to fulfill the number of their days. Give God praise, thank him for everything he has done. Amen!

PRAYERS FOR THE SEASON

ADVENT

And now we give thanks
that in the coming of Christ
the day of our deliverance is dawning.
For he comes to judge the world with justice,
and the people by his faithfulness.
We wait for the Lord with longing,
like those who watch for morning.
For the Lord is love unfailing,
and great is his power to save.

CHRISTMAS

And today especially we give thanks that at the
appointed time you sent your son, born as a child,
the child of Mary: that through him we might become
the children of God, one with you
for ever as you in Christ became one with us.

(Prayers from the Church of Scotland's Book of Common Prayer)

**If you have a prayer request or a favorite prayer which you would care to share in a future
prayer diary, please e-mail:**

ayrstandrewschurch@gmail.com