



Longniddry Church

PRAYER DIARY

December 2020

1 A prayer especially written for this time. Loving God. At this time of crisis, when so many are suffering, we pray for our nation and our world. Give our leaders wisdom, our Health Service strength, our people hope. Lead us through these parched and difficult days to the fresh springs of joy and comfort that we may find in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

2 Lord, protect with your love those who have no home and all who live in poverty.

3 We give thanks for all who help families who need support from Home Start and all those who donated towards books for children.

4 As we move through this time of Advent help us wait patiently and expectantly in the hope of light, peace and love.

5 Strengthen those who work for peace and justice in all the World.

6 We give thanks for the skills of the scientists who have worked so hard to produce vaccines protecting us from Covid-19.

7 God of all people, you know what it is to be displaced, to live a life dictated by circumstances, fear and uncertainty. Be with all those making dangerous journeys in search of a better tomorrow.

8 We pray for those living and working in care homes that they will be kept safe and protected as they welcome the joy and love of Christmas.

9 Be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good: Strengthen the faint-hearted: Support the weak and help the afflicted.

10 Thanks for the many beautiful expressions of art featured in real and virtual galleries.

11 We pray for God's comfort for all involved in floods, fire and other natural disasters.

12 May all those involved in the complicated logistics and vaccination of the population be guided, supported and energised to complete the enormous task ahead of them.

13 “Loving Father, help us to remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and worship of the wise men.” Robert Louis Stevenson

14 Thanks to those who have worked so hard to keep services and contacts within the church and community.

15 ‘Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: Blessings all mine and ten thousand beside’

16 We pray for everyone involved in our different Posada this year as we continue through Advent.

17 We pray for all chaplains whether in hospitals or workplaces throughout Scotland.

18 God bless those who provide shelter for the homeless, food for the hungry and clothes for those in need of them.

19 As we contact friends and family with Christmas greetings in many forms, help us rekindle friendships and re-affirm our love.

20 May those travelling at this festive time take care and stay safe and well.

21 May we appreciate the important parts of Christmas at this difficult time. We pray for our friends and families and remember the real Christmas message.

22 We ask for comfort and support for those waiting anxiously for essential health treatment.

23 As we hear the familiar stories around Jesus coming into the World may our giving and our loving be renewed.

24 We pray for all involved in caring for the vulnerable in hospitals, care homes, sheltered accommodation and in their own homes as they cope with so many demands on their time and energy. May they find quiet moments in all the busyness to be at peace and receive God’s loving care.

25 Joy to the World, the Lord is come! Let every heart prepare him room and heaven and nature sing. Whatever our circumstances – with family or friends in a bubble, shielding or isolating, healthy or sick, full of joy, lonely or grieving, let us unite in giving thanks for the coming of the Prince of Peace and Love. God bless us, every one.

26 Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, Love Divine. Love was born at Christmas, star and angel gave the sign.

27 The Virgin Mary had a baby boy. He come from the glory, from the glorious kingdom. The shepherds came when the baby was born: angels sang that his name is Jesus.

28 To you is born a child. That blessed bairn benign and kind shall you rejoice baith heart and mind. (Martin Luther, Scots translation)

29 What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb. If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

30 At the end of a year of upheaval and uncertainty, we pray for skill for all caring for the sick and wisdom to those searching for a cure. We pray for strength to find hope in the future.

31 As we move on into a New Year, bless us as loving God, as friend and Saviour and as guiding Spirit.