



Longniddry Church

PRAYER DIARY

December 2021

1 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 “For everyone born a place at the table, for everyone born clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing for everyone born a star overhead.”

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 Advent God give us peace, Advent God give us hope, Advent God give us joy this night, Advent God give us love.

5 We pray for perseverance and courage for those who work for peace and justice in all the World.

6 Loving God, we bring you healthcare workers throughout the world, working so hard to protect the rest of us from the ravages of Covid-19 and other diseases.

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 give of themselves to look after the vulnerable.

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, poetry and literature stimulated by lockdown and other effects of Covid.

11 We pray for God’s comfort for all those affected by Storm Arwen or other adverse weather conditions.

12 We give thanks for the gifted scientists who work so hard to develop new ways of protecting us from Covid-19 and other infectious diseases.

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 Dear Lord, we pray for all suffering illness, frailty or infirmity, physical or mental. Draw near and stretch out your healing hand to calm any fears and uncertainties and strengthen them in spirit.

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

16 “Sometimes we cannot see the stars, the dark is down and holds us bleak and lost, sometimes all we can do is wait. For believing’s just too big to be alone.” Kenneth Steven

17 May we keep in mind those who are downhearted or worried at the moment. May we contact them to give support and encouragement.

18 Loving Father, we especially pray for your care and blessing on all children living in war zones such as Yemen and Afghanistan.

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 pray for the work of the Bellany centre and the help they are giving to the Wednesday Club.

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

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 was 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.