

Prayer Focus 1st December 2019

I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Luke 2:10

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world.

This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important.

We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth at Christmas.

You entered our world as the Prince of Peace.

This Advent, as we strive to become the-best-version-of-ourselves,

fill us with a deep and abiding peace.

Help us share that peace with everyone we encounter, especially those who need it most.

Jesus help us focus on you during this busy season.

May we stay aware of the joy you bring into our lives.

We want to find you in the everyday moments and come with hearts of gratitude

to your manger this Christmas.

May the light of your love always shine in our hearts.

As Christmas draws closer, we marvel at your great love for us.

Let your love transform every aspect of our lives and touch everyone we encounter.

Our hearts are open to you, Jesus. Amen.

EBC & Local Focus:- Pray for the Christmas Tree Festival, for all those taking part and for all those attending.

Pray for the Christmas Market next Saturday.

Give thanks for the number of parents coming to the Baby Cafe, may real friendships be formed and good conversations take place.

Street of the Week :- Alderbury Close

Community Prayer Diary:- St Mary's Swanage – Avril Harris and Danny Smith (churchwardens)

National & World Prayer Points:-

From the Southern Counties Baptist Association: Please pray for our church families and communities as we enter the season of advent and the busy build up to Christmas. We pray that those outside of our churches and communities will be encouraged to join in with the festive celebrations and rediscover the true meaning of Christmas.

From BMS World Mission: Millions of people across the world can't live their lives to the full because they don't have the health support they need. BMS World Mission's health ministries across the world aim to change that. Please pray for our health work this week, from mental health ministries in Afghanistan to bringing vital healthcare to rural communities in Chad.

Political protests across Iraq are continuing into a third month. More than 300 people have died and thousands more have been injured. Please continue to pray for the safety of the public, for peaceful resolutions to the problems and for political stability.

Pray for the church in China as the crack down by authorities against Christians continues. Pray that the protests in Hong Kong may be resolved.