

Prayer Focus 8th December 2019

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. Isaiah 11:10

Dear Heavenly Father,
Help me to hear your voice, touch me once again.
Give me courage to choose joy.
I need you now this Christmas.
You are the source of all hope and we know our hope is in You --
You will not disappoint us.
Teach us this week to anchor our hope in Jesus.
Help us to persevere with You when we feel like giving up.
We eagerly wait for Your return. In Jesus' name, Amen.

EBC & Local Focus:- Please pray in the run up to Christmas for those who are feeling financial and family pressures.

Pray for those who will be spending Christmas alone whether through bereavement or relationship breakdowns.

Street of the Week :- Leeson Close

Community Prayer Diary:- The Ambulance Service and paramedics

National & World Prayer Points:- As we draw closer to the General Election, please join us in praying for wisdom in how we should use our important vote. We pray that the Government elected on 13 December will lead with integrity, help to repair division and tackle inequality and poverty within the UK and the around the world.

Locusts have destroyed up to 40 per cent of crops across Pakistan in the country's worst infestation this century. Farming communities have been left without food and a source of income. Pray that they are able to recover from this significant loss.

There has been another brutal attack on Christians in Burkina Faso, West Africa, in which 14 of our brothers and sisters in Christ were killed. Last Sunday, armed men stormed a Protestant church in the town of Hantoukoura near the border with Niger. They killed the pastor, Tchintchiéba Ouoba, and 13 other worshippers, including five teenagers. The attackers then fled on scooters. This is the latest in a series of attacks specifically targeting Christians. As violence against Christians continues to rise in Burkina Faso, Open Doors teams have been visiting Christians there to provide prayer and encouragement and to deliver relief aid to some of the most vulnerable Christians. As one Christian leader warned, "If the world continues to do nothing, the result will be the elimination of the Christian presence."

PLEASE PRAY: For the Lord's comfort and grace to be at work in the lives of all who have lost loved ones in the latest attack and that He would be close to the broken-hearted
That Christians would have the grace to remain firm in the faith as they face increased hostility and not give in to the temptation of tribalism, anger or revenge
For wisdom and provision for Open Doors staff determining the appropriate ways to help, and for protection as they travel to volatile regions.