



**CROMERCHURCH**  
transforming lives with Jesus Christ

## **Prayer Diary - December 2017**

*Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on Cromer.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on the Church.  
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on me. Amen.*

Please use this diary in whatever way suits you best - don't feel you have to pray for every event on the day, but let the Spirit guide you.  
Services and prayer meetings in **bold type** are open to all.  
Prayer suggestions are in *italic type*.

## **REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICES AND EVENTS**

### **Sundays**

**9-10am Service and refreshments at the Parish Church.**  
**10.30-11.30am Service and refreshments at St Martin's.**  
**10.45am-12noon Service and refreshments at the Parish Church with Revolution (11s-16s) and Sunday Club.**  
2.30-3pm Service at Halsey House.  
**7-8pm Service and refreshments at the Parish Church.**

### **Mondays**

8.45-10am Light Break Café at St Martin's.  
10am-12noon Baby Playtime at St Martin's.  
10am-12noon Cornerstone Coffee Shop in the Parish Hall Coffee Bar.  
2-4pm Art Group in the Parish Hall Coffee Bar.  
Home groups meet afternoon.

## **Tuesdays**

1-3.30pm Staff lunch and meeting.  
10am-1pm Take-a-Break in the Parish Hall.  
7-8.30pm Meeting Point in the Parish Hall.  
7.30-9pm Gospel Choir rehearsal at St Martin's.  
Home Groups meet in the evening.

## **Wednesdays**

7-8am **Prayer meeting** (see notice sheet for venue).  
9am-12noon Bowls in the Parish Hall.  
**10-10.45am Communion service in the Parish Church (except 27<sup>th</sup>).**  
10am-12noon Cornerstone Coffee Shop in the Parish Hall Coffee Bar.  
2.45-3.15pm 'Open the Book' in the Junior School.  
Home groups meet morning and evening.

## **Thursdays**

9am-12noon Bowls in the Parish Hall.  
9am Staff Prayers.  
10-11.30am Take-a-Break Too at St Martin's.  
10am-2pm Cornerstone Café in the Parish Hall Coffee Bar.  
**10.30am Prayer meeting for Canaan** (except 3rd Thursday, when there's an **update lunch** at 12.15 at 21 Holt Rd Sheringham).  
11-11.30am Service at Benjamin Court.  
2.30-3pm 'Open the Book' in the Infants School.  
Home groups meet in the evening.

## **Fridays**

Home group meets in the morning.  
10am-12noon Cornerstone Coffee Shop in the Parish Hall Coffee Bar.  
7-8.15pm Choir Practice in the Parish Church.

## **Saturdays**

**10-10.20am Prayer Meeting in the Parish Church.**

**The persecuted church:** Please remember the tens of thousands of North Korean Christians being held in labour camps. Ask God to sustain them with his mighty power so that they have great endurance and patience.  
(*Open Doors.*)

## EVENTS AND PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR DECEMBER

- Fri 1** 10am Christmas Tree Festival  
*Mission Partners: CPAS; Michelle Proctor*
- Sat 2** 10am Christmas Tree Festival  
10-12noon I'm Incredible Club  
4pm Lights Switch On (carols from 5.15, Switch On at 5.30)  
*All preparing for worship tomorrow*
- Sun 3** Morning theme: The Perfected Kingdom.  
Preachers: Jennie Hodgkinson (PC), Paul Rosier (SM)  
**3pm Civic Carol Service** (Peter Herbert)  
7pm theme: James 5:13-20. Preacher: David Loades  
*Our church leaders; the persecuted church (see above)*
- Mon 4** 2-4pm Crafts2Share  
*Parliament and the Brexit negotiations*
- Tue 5** **2.30pm Mothers' Union Advent Celebration**  
*Mission partners: London City Mission; Andrew Leake*
- Wed 6** *All working for and all needing the NHS this winter*
- Thu 7** *Local government and council workers*
- Fri 8** 8pm Men's Social Christmas Meal  
*Measures to deal with pollution of land, air and sea*
- Sat 9** 8.30am Who Let the Dads Out? Toddler Group  
*All preparing for worship tomorrow*
- Sun 10** Morning theme: Isaiah 40:1-11.  
Preachers: Tim Britton (PC), Philip Bligh (SM)  
7pm theme: Luke 1:5-20. Preacher: Paul Rosier  
*Our church leaders; other local churches*
- Mon 11** *Broadcasters and journalists*
- Tue 12** 7pm Meeting Point Christmas Party  
*Peace - wherever needed!*
- Wed 13** *Mission partners: Beach Mission; Canaan*
- Thu 14** 7.30pm PCC (tbc)  
*Against the misuse of power*
- Fri 15** 7pm Crafts2Share bring and share buffet  
*That the true message of Christmas will be heard*

- Sat 16**     **7pm Christmas Unwrapped at St Martin's** (Simon Fenn)  
*All preparing for worship tomorrow*
- Sun 17**     Morning theme: John 1:19-28.  
Preachers: Derek Osborne (PC), Roger Billings (SM)  
**7pm Carols at Christmas (PC)** (Peter Herbert)  
*Our church leaders; fulfilment of God's vision for the church*
- Mon 18**     9.30am Junior School Carol Service  
*Those who feel shut in through age, illness or disability*
- Tue 19**     10.15am Academy Carol Service  
*School holidays beginning tomorrow*
- Wed 20**     *The ministry of retired people*
- Thu 21**     Derek Osborne's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination  
*Mission partners: Prison Fellowship and Reflex; Sara Prior-Sanderson*
- Fri 22**     *All who are not looking forward to Christmas*
- Sat 23**     *All preparing for worship tomorrow and Christmas Day*
- Sun 24**     **Christmas Eve**  
Morning theme: Luke 1:26-48 Preachers: Roger Billings (PC), Paul Neale (SM). No 10.45 service at Parish Church  
**2.45pm & 4.45pm Christingle Services (PC)** (Peter Herbert)  
**11pm Midnight Communion (PC)** (Jennie Hodgkinson)  
*Our church leaders; visitors and occasional church attenders*
- Mon 25**     **Christmas Day** theme: Luke 2:1-14  
**9am Christmas Day Communion (PC)** (Jennie Hodgkinson)  
No service at St Martin's  
**10.45am Christmas Day All Age Service (PC)** (Simon Fenn)  
*The homeless, refugees and displaced people*
- Tue 26**     *Those who have suffered from disasters in 2017*
- Wed 27**     *Safety and refreshment for those on holiday*
- Thu 28**     *That global warming may be halted*
- Fri 29**     *Mission partners: Bible Society; Tearfund*
- Sat 30**     *All preparing for worship tomorrow*
- Sun 31**     Morning theme: Luke 2:15-21. Preachers: David Loades, David Masters (PC), John Graveling (SM) (No evening service)  
*That God's Kingdom may come*

## MISSION PARTNER PRAYER REQUESTS

### **CPAS** (Contact: Liz Whitaker)

This month, please pray for:

- the CPAS team responsible for developing the new series of School Ventures where pupils from different schools go away together to investigate the core concepts of the Christian faith. There are six of them taking place during this academic year. Praise God for opportunities to expand this ministry;
- the patronage team involved in a national pilot project on recruitment to the ministry called 'Pathways', using digital pathways as part of a wider programme to support ministry in the Church of England. Pray that the right people will find the right place where God wants them to serve;
- the leadership team training church leaders in a number of dioceses. Pray for the lay leaders taking part in a 'Growing Leaders' course in Bristol diocese. Pray that they will grow in competence and confidence and will move forward in their own discipleship.

### **Michelle Proctor (SIM)** (Contacts: Liz Bennett and Tim Britton)

This month:

- give thanks for more willing to serve at Mukinge Hospital, which means that expansion of its services is possible;
- pray that the Lord will provide funds to start building a new theatre block to replace the deteriorating old theatre in late 2018;
- pray that, as the hospital expands, more will have the opportunity to hear the gospel message;
- pray for opportunities for Michelle to share the gospel and to build up the faith of Christian colleagues and patients.

### **London City Mission** (Contact: Elizabeth Bridger)

This month, please continue to pray for all LCM mission workers to have God's grace, love, wisdom and protection as they minister to the vulnerable and needy. Especially prayers have been asked for the work in:

- Dagenham: for a newly established group to help drug users. 22 came to the first meeting, and a few have appeared in Church. Pray that they will keep coming and find help for their addiction, but most of all, find Jesus!
- King's Cross street population team: some people with very dark pasts need to find hope and a new start with Christ;
- Isle of Dogs: for the many single parents and those damaged by broken relationships to find support from Christians and most of all from the Lord Jesus.

Pray for Christ-like lives for all who work in LCM, and for all who lead the work, to set a godly example of sacrificial service as they keep in a close walk with the Lord.

**Andrew Leake (CMS/Compassion International)** (Contact: David Leake)

This month please pray for:

- a 3-day conference on Creation Care that the South American Bishops have asked us to run. This will now take place in Lima, Peru in May 2018. Please pray for preparations. The main speaker is the Anglican Communion Observer on Sustainable Development and the Environment at the United Nations. We need to raise funds to cover some travel costs, so please pray for that task in particular;
- changes in government policies in Argentina which may be leading to a new wave of deforestation that will directly affect many indigenous peoples and campesinos in the Diocese. Pray for wisdom as we discern how we can best help people protect their local environments;
- a new dormitory complex we have commissioned for the diocesan retreat centre. Please pray for good progress with the plans and the eventual construction process. This will give us added space for camps and creation care training courses for church leaders.

**Cromer Scripture Union Beach Mission** (Contact: David Orsborne)

This month, please pray:

- for all who were involved with Mission this summer; that they will continue to find support and encouragement for their developing faith at home or at church;
- for the Mission leaders and Local Support Group as they continue to reflect on this year's Mission, and begin to make plans for next; that they will be open to the leading of God's Holy Spirit;
- for the launch of the new edition of Philip Bligh's book about Beach Mission (marking the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Scripture Union); that many may be touched by the amazing story of God's love and faithfulness in Cromer over more than 130 years.

**Canaan Christian Centre** (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

This month, please pray:

- for the children in the orphanage at Koszeg who we support and those in Kanaan Haz, Hungary, our daughter refuge, as they receive all the Christmas gifts we have sent out through;
- for individuals in church and the craft to share group. Pray that they may grasp the wonder of Christmas;

- for the Christmas message shared at the Canaan lunch on 14<sup>th</sup> December and at Marilyn Baker's concert on 9th December. Pray that the residents in Canaan may attend too;
- for those who look after Canaan while Winsome is away in Jamaica;
- with praise for the ongoing Children's Saturday club and the very good attendance of children.

**Prison fellowship** (Contact: Janet Rosier) and **Reflex** (Contact: Paul Rosier)  
This month:

- Prison Fellowship. Give thanks for the many volunteers around the country who are buying and wrapping Christmas presents on behalf of prisoners through the Angel Tree project. A Christmas Story book (which we sent a donation for after Prisons Week in October) may be included with the present if the prisoner agrees. Pray that each present will have an impact on the family and will be a link in the chain to the families being re-united when the prisoner is released.
- Reflex. Pray for young offenders in Young Offender Institutions who are away from family and friends for the first time this Christmas. Pray that over the Christmas period they may hear and realise that Jesus came to earth as God's love gift just for them.

**Sara Prior-Sanderson (CMS/JEO)** (Contact: Chris and Erica Roach)  
This month:

- give thanks and praise for all JEO's outreach programs;
- please pray for Sara's health as she's struggling at the moment;
- please pray for the Church she attends (East Jerusalem Baptist Church): many members have left in the last few months including the Pastor and his wife, so please pray for guidance and discernment as they try to find a way forward for the church;
- pray for the peace of Jerusalem especially as we move towards Christmas. Religious holidays always seem to be a time of increased tension there.

**Bible Society** (Contact: David Orsborne)  
This month, please pray:

- that the nativity booklets, short films and other resources produced by Bible Society to help bring the Christmas story to life will help us, and churches everywhere, to celebrate the journey that changed the world. ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas))

- for Bible Society's Advent Challenge "Bible Society Advent Challenge, that more people than ever will sign-up to journey with Bible Society (and a few biblical friends), taking on biblically-inspired challenges each day to help bring the Bible to life every day during Advent. The challenges are simple, practical, Bible-based and life-affirming and this year include child-friendly challenges for schools and families. ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/adventchallenge](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/adventchallenge))
- for Bible Society's efforts to reach the poorest, most marginalized men, women and children living on the African continent. In the next 10 years, more Christians will live in Africa than on any other continent. Demand for the Bible is already unprecedented - and it's on the rise – and that's an enormous need and opportunity. ([www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/around-the-world/in-africa](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk/what-we-do/around-the-world/in-africa))

**Tearfund** (Contacts: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

This month, please pray:

- for over 500,000 **Rohingya** refugees who have fled the violence in the Northern Rakhine State in **Myanmar**. One third of these are vulnerable adults and children. Please pray especially for children separated from their families, that they might find the care, love and support they need;
- for our **World Climate**. People living in poverty contribute least to the problem of climate change; but they are the ones hit first and hardest by its devastating effects. A changing climate might seem like an impossibly huge issue to tackle but there are ways we as individuals can make changes to our lifestyles for the sake of others. However, there is also a real need for governments around the world to take action. Please pray for these governments, especially the American President, that he might change his hard-line views on climate change.

<p>Please send prayer requests for January to Tim Britton by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.</p>
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