## Diocese of Hereford ... Sunday Prayers (10th November to 22nd December)

### 10TH NOVEMBER - 3 BEFORE ADVENT (REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)

United Church of South India. Anglican

Hereford Pontesbury Deanery.

Porvoo England: Norwich; Sweden: Luleå.

The Wider View Pray that the number of children employed in various industries in

Tanzania may continue to reduce, and for the safety of children

employed in dangerous work, e.g. in the mining industry.

This Week At **Remembrance** tide, give thanks for those who lost their lives in

the cause of freedom, for the various community, church and school events taking place, for service organisations and the Royal British

Legion, and for all who serve in our armed forces today.

In Anti-Bullying Week, pray for all who are working for elimination of

bullying, in schools, workplaces and wherever it happens.

Wednesday is **Social Media Kindness Day**. Pray for a kinder social

media, and for the victims of on-line bullying, scams etc.

Wednesday is also **World Kindness Day**. Pray for the use of this day to promote kindness in our schools, and that in all we do we may be

thoughtful of others.

Monday honours **Martin of Tours**, who, as a soldier, gave half his cloak to a cold and hungry beggar, and later in a dream saw it being worn by Christ. May we have the grace and courage to live sacrificially and to see our possessions as held in trust, ours to be used in service. Give thanks for the creative skills of those who work with wood, for

Pray for the nurseries and playgroups which serve our communities.

#### 17TH SEPTEMBER - 2 BEFORE ADVENT

Anglican Church of Southern Africa. **Anglican** 

Hereford Communications - the Diocesan team, and all who in our local

and for all who teach and pass on these skills.

churches share good news and invite people to join us.

Porvoo Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church; England: Rochester.

The Wider View Pray for all our links with churches elsewhere, and especially for our

links with Nuremberg and in Tanzania at a time when by tradition we

pray for the missionary work of the Church worldwide.

This Week In **Road Safety Week**, pray for safety on our roads, and for all who have

> been injured, disabled or bereaved as the result of a road accidents. **Hilda**, commemorated on Tuesday, founded the double monastery of monks and nuns at Whitby, where a synod in 663 brought harmony to the Northumbrian Church. Pray for all who seek to reconcile and bring

together opposing views, and for a spirit of compromise.

Tuesday is also World Toilet Day. Pray for faster action to improve and safeguard people's access to sanitation, a critical factor in building a

fairer, more peaceful world.

World Children's Day on Wednesday prompts prayer that the voices

and pleas of children may be heard above the noise of human conflict. Thursday is **Pancreatic Cancer Day**: pray for continued research and development to beat this deadly cancer, and to bring hope to those who are diagnosed with it.

In the week of **World Television Day** pray for TV's role in sharing stories of human need, exposing wrongs and reporting on conflicts.

#### 24TH NOVEMBER - CHRIST THE KING (NEXT BEFORE ADVENT)

Anglican Anglican Church of South America. Hereford Ross and Archenfield Deanery.

Porvoo England: St Edmundsbury & Ipswich; Scotland: Aberdeen & Orkney.

The Wider View In our fragile world, where communities are impacted by severe

weather, climate change and other events, pray for those driven from their land, for those who bring emergency relief, and for

agencies helping with reconstruction or relocation.

This Week May we celebrate today the **Kingdom** Christ proclaims among us in

all its richness, before the new liturgical year begins with the

reflective and penitential season of Advent.

Monday remembers the hymn-writer **Isaac Watts**: give thanks for all who in hymns and worship songs help to enrich and enliven our praise and worship.

White Ribbon Day on Monday, focuses on the issue of violence against women and girls, this year on the urgent need is to address in men and boys attitudes and behaviours that contribute to a fear of violence for women in their day-to-day lives.

In the week of  ${\bf Thanksgiving\ Day},$  pray for the people of the United

States, and for President Biden and his elected successor.

Friday this week is **Black Friday**, designed to follow Thanksgiving, and kickstart the commercial rush towards Christmas. Pray for those who will be tempted to spend more than they can afford on deals which

may be less of a bargain than they claim.

Saturday marks the apostle **Andrew**, patron of Scotland, at a time when we also pray for the missionary work of the Church. Andrew is also patron of Russia: pray for a just end to the war in Ukraine.

# 1ST DECEMBER - ADVENT 1

Anglican Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

Hereford Pray for our Safeguarding Team, and that we may continue to respond

appropriately and with care and sensitivity to any situation of hurt or

need that may arise in our churches and community work.

Porvoo Scotland: St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane; Finland: Borgå (Porvoo).

The Wider View Pray for all our deaneries, parishes and churches linked with

Nuremberg, and for the development of existing and new links.

This Week Pray for our use of **Advent and Christmas materials**, including this year's booklet of reflections, "Follow the Star - Calm and Bright".

On **World AIDS Day** pray for all who live with HIV, and for those who

offer support and advice, educate and work to counter prejudice. Monday is the **UN International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**: pray for the release of all who are misused, endangered and exploited within the various forms of modern slavery.

**Nicholas of Myra**, remembered on Friday, is also patron of children, charitable guilds, sailors, unmarried girls, merchants, and pawnbrokers. Give thanks for the spirit of kindness, and pray for it to be present in every situation of human hurt.

Pray for villages and communities raising funds for charity via Christmas lights, and for those collecting when singing carols in malls and shopping centres.

**International Civil Aviation Day** this week celebrates the role of air travel in building peaceful relationships: give thanks for this, but pray also for the ways in which ease of travel can overload communities with tourism and overwhelm local custom and culture.

### 8TH DECEMBER - ADVENT 2

Anglican Episcopal Church of Sudan.

Hereford Telford Severn Gorge Deanery.

Porvoo England: Chester; Finland: Kuopio.

The Wider View HIV continues to be a significant health factor in Tanzania: pray that

present progress in dealing with this may be maintained, and for all

who live with HIV to receive the treatment they need.

This Week International Anti-Corruption Day is on Monday: pray for the highest

standards to be upheld in commerce, politics and all areas of social

activity and interaction in our world.

**Human Rights Day** and **Animal Rights Day** both fall on Tuesday. Pray for all whose human rights are routinely disregarded, including tribal and minority groups. Pray we may also respect, care for and value the animals within our charge and keeping.

Thursday is the **National Workplace Day of Remembrance**. This is a time to remember all who lose their lives in the course of their work, and to pray for all whose work is dangerous or poorly regulated.

The **International Day of Neutrality** this week prompts prayer for nations adopting a position of neutrality, that their decision may be respected at times of international tension and conflict.

**John of the Cross** (Saturday) expressed his mystic faith in poetry, writing of his yearning for union with God, so that the Spirit could flow into him: give thanks for his vision, and for all Christian poets.

### 15TH DECEMBER - ADVENT 3

Anglican Anglican Church of Tanzania.

Hereford Pray that our ministry may affirm and value the rights, abilities and

value of everyone, without regard to age, gender or ethnicity, and that this may be reflected in our planning and in selection and appointments.

Porvoo England: Southwell & Nottingham; Norway: Borg.

The Wider View At a time when many people are travelling, pray we may work

internationally to build a collaborative worldwide framework for

effective research and control of emerging diseases.

This Week Pray for all who teach languages in our schools and colleges, and for

the work of translators and interpreters.

Wednesday is International Migrants Day. Migration can be a driver of economic growth, dynamism and understanding. Pray for those who bring skills here as migrants, and for those who leave to look for new opportunities and a better life elsewhere.

The "Great O's" - counting down the last days of Advent by reflecting on Messianic titles in Old Testament scripture - begin with O Sapientia (O Wisdom) on Tuesday. Amid the noise and glitter of the countdown to Christmas on the high street and even in our churches and schools, may we find time and space to reflect on Christ's presence in our lives, and his call to us to open our hearts to his love.

Tuesday remembers **Eglantyne Jebb**, founder of Save the Children. Pray for the work of this society today, in some 115 countries.

### 22ND DECEMBER - ADVENT 4 (O Rex Gentium)

Anglican Church of the Province of Uganda.

Pray for all our preparation for Christmas worship, and that all who

share in it may feel welcomed and affirmed. Pray for those who may be struggling at Christmas because of recent bereavement or trauma,

and that they may find peace and supported in worship.

Porvoo Norway: Oslo; England: Durham; Scotland: Moray, Ross & Caithness.

In the week of Christmas, pray for all the peoples of the Holy Lands and the lands around, and for the three great faiths that find their focus

there, as tension and conflict continue. Pray that peace may dawn on

these troubled lands, and for the church in Bethlehem and Jerusalem. Pray for all who will be **travelling** this weekend and through the week,

many to spend Christmas with families and friends, for safety on our roads and for the work of the police and other emergency services.

The final O Antiphon, on Monday, is **O Emmanuel** May our prayerful keeping of Advent lead us to wonder afresh at the God who is with us, who comes not in wrathful power but in the meekness of babyhood.

Pray for all who will spend Christmas alone, and for initiatives to provide warmth and welcome for those who need it. Pray for all who

are homeless, and for the work of homeless charities.

Give thanks for those who will be working over Christmas, in essential and emergency services, and to ensure our comfort and safety. Pray for prisoners and for prison staff. Pray for all families that are divided at Christmas for any reason, and for reconciliation where it is needed. The **post-Christmas saints' days** include Stephen, first martyr, and the Holy Innocents, prompting prayer for all who face persecution, and for the many innocent victims of the violence of others.

Hereford

The Wider View

This Week