BEAMINSTER AREA TEAM MINISTRY

Advent Prayer Diary

Saturday 28th November – Friday 25th December • 15 Churches, One Community in Rural West Dorset

As we journey through Advent across our 14 parishes and Mapperton House chapel, please join in daily prayer for our villages, schools, community outreach, and neighbours across West Dorset.

Week 1: Watching in Hope

Sat 28 Nov *Eve of Advent*	Pray for all preparing our 15 churches across the Beaminster Area Team for Advent—giving thanks for volunteers and clergy setting the tone for a season of watchful hope. Pray for Bishop Karen and the Diocese of Salisbury.
Sun 29 Nov *Advent Sunday*	**Give thanks for our Team Rector Revd Canon David Baldwin, our team clergy, our lay ministers, and everyone worshipping across our 14 churches and Mapperton House chapel today, as well as those joining via Worship at Home.**
Mon 30 Nov *St Andrew*	Pray for the Beaminster Baby & Toddler Group meeting at 10am this morning, asking God to bless all the parents, grandparents, carers, and little ones who find friendship and welcome there.
Tue 1 Dec	Pray for our local farmers, smallholder families, and agricultural workers across our 50 square miles of West Dorset countryside as they face winter weather, rising costs, and the daily demands of caring for livestock and the land.
Wed 2 Dec	Pray for Walk In Wednesday at St Mary's Beaminster today, and give thanks for all our weekly social spaces, coffee mornings, and Gin Church online that build genuine friendship across our villages.
Thu 3 Dec	Pray for the pupils, staff, and governors of Salway Ash CE Primary School, Broadwindsor School, Parrett and Axe CE Primary School and Beaminster St Mary's as the autumn term draws to a close, asking for energy, patience, and joy through the final weeks of term.
Fri 4 Dec	Pray for local GP surgeries, district nurses, community pharmacists, and carers who travel rural lanes in all weathers to tend to the sick, elderly, and housebound across our parishes.
Sat 5 Dec	Pray for Messy Church and our missional outreach and fundraising taking place across the Team today - asking that families, neighbours, and visitors may encounter the warmth, joy, and good news of Jesus Christ.

Week 2: Preparing the Way of Peace

Sun 6 Dec *2nd of Advent*	**Pray for peace in our troubled world—remembering regions torn by war and displacement—and ask God to make our congregations instruments of reconciliation in West Dorset.**
Mon 7 Dec	Pray for the Beaminster Bereavement Support Cafe and for everyone who finds Christmas painful—the bereaved, the estranged, and anyone facing their first Christmas without a loved one.
Tue 8 Dec	Pray for all our social and fundraising activities across the Team—for the volunteers who organise fundraising, and Friends groups that sustain our historic buildings and bring our villages together.
Wed 9 Dec	Pray for the residents and staff of Broadwindsor house and all those who receive communion at home.
Thu 10 Dec	Pray for the students, teachers, and support staff at Beaminster School and Mountjoy School, asking for encouragement, resilience, and peace for young people and staff alike at the end of a busy term.
Fri 11 Dec	Pray for those living in isolated cottages, hamlets, and farms across our benefice who struggle with winter darkness, loneliness, or limited rural public transport.

Sat 12 Dec	Pray for musicians, organists, bellringers, and village choirs preparing music for carol services and Christmas celebrations across all 15 of our churches.

Week 3: Rejoicing in the Lord

Sun 13 Dec *Gaudete Sunday*	**Give thanks for the joy of the Gospel. Pray for visitors and occasional churchgoers stepping through our church doors over the coming weeks, that they may find a genuine welcome.**
Mon 14 Dec	Pray for Beaminster Foodbank, its dedicated volunteers, and everyone who donates or relies on its support this winter, asking that every household in need receives practical help and dignity
Tue 15 Dec	Pray for local shops, market traders, pub landlords, café staff, and hospitality workers who serve as vital community hubs in Beaminster and our surrounding villages.
Wed 16 Dec	Pray for our neighbouring Christian denominations across West Dorset, asking for unity and blessing in our shared ecumenical witness to Christ.
Thu 17 Dec *O Sapientia*	Pray for wisdom for our clergy, churchwardens, PCCs, PSO, Family and Outreach worker and Team Administrator as they coordinate ministry, administration, and safeguarding across the benefice.
Fri 18 Dec	Pray for our Eco Church initiatives and the stewardship of the Dorset countryside—our rivers, hedgerows, farms, and hills—asking for grace to care faithfully for God's creation.
Sat 19 Dec	Pray for open-air carol singing, village crib services, and community gatherings taking place across our parishes this weekend, that the message of Emmanuel, God with us, may reach every household.

Week 4: Welcoming Love Incarnate

Sun 20 Dec *4th of Advent*	**Remembering Mary, the mother of our Lord, we pray for expectant mothers, new parents, midwives, and health visitors supporting families across the Beaminster area.**
Mon 21 Dec *Winter Solstice*	On the shortest day of the year, pray for those struggling with seasonal depression, poor mental health, or chronic pain, asking for the dawn of Christ's comfort.
Tue 22 Dec	Pray for emergency services, paramedics, firefighters, postal workers, and delivery drivers working tirelessly in cold and wet weather to keep our rural communities safe and connected.
Wed 23 Dec	Pray for those travelling long distances to reunite with family and friends, asking for safe journeys on busy roads and railways.
Thu 24 Dec *Christmas Eve*	Pray for all attending Crib Services, Carol Services, and Midnight Mass tonight across the Beaminster Area Team—and for those working through the night in hospitals, care homes, and emergency services.
Fri 25 Dec *Christmas Day*	**Give thanks and praise for the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Pray that the peace, hope, and love of the manger may dwell richly in every home across our parishes today and always.**

A Prayer for the Beaminster Area Team

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.