

gifts the Saviour brings: joy, peace, mercy and love. We remember those who live in the shadow of a marginal existence. We pray for the homeless and jobless, those struggling to put their lives together. We lift up families to You, especially the children who may not have experienced the joy of Christmas celebrations this season. We pray for those living alone, and for the elderly and the bed-ridden. Christ, You are the Light of the world. Enable us to give of ourselves generously and compassionately in bringing Your peace and hope to others. *Pray for The Diocese of Indianapolis – The Episcopal Church (V (5) Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

WEDNESDAY 29-Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury and Martyr, 1170

As schools, colleges and universities are now closed for the holidays, we pray for our children and young people at the end of another academic year. May young lives, no longer fettered by timetables and homework deadlines, find refreshment and relaxation with friends and families. Be with those who will have concerns about exam results and those starting new lives in the world of work. Especially, Lord, we pray for those who feel let-down or alienated by all things 'educational' and don't know where to turn. Help us, through our allegiance to Christ, to create a society in which both young and old, gifted and less able, feel valued and proud to be a part. *Pray for The Diocese of Iowa – The Episcopal Church (VI (6) Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

THURSDAY 30

O Lord, Christ and Saviour, we pray for people of every race and belief, and in every kind of need: make your ways known on earth, your saving power among nations. We pray for the Church, both here in the Cape and throughout the world, and all who call themselves Christians, that they may go forward in unity and strength. Help us to respect the beliefs of others even if we do not share them, to celebrate what we have in common and to accept our differences. Guide us all in our ministries as we live each day. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer. *Pray for The Diocese of Iran – The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

FRIDAY 31

Father, we pray for the peoples of the world and their leaders. We pray for all who offer their services in the leadership of the affairs of the world that they may uphold what is right for the peace and survival of humankind. We pray particularly, at this time, for peace in all countries of the world, where violence, war and terrorism are taking place. We ask you to purify the minds and attitudes of those involved in bringing violence and terrorism to the world, and pray that the world know Christ's peace without which society loses its direction and ignores a deep desire for all men to live in unity with each other. Lord in your mercy. *Pray for The Diocese of Irele - Eseodo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

Christmas and New Year blessings to all.

The Prayers for January will be done by Midge and Mike Graham

PRAYERS FOR PARISHES AND PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE OF FALSE BAY

PREPARED BY MIDGE AND MIKE GRAHAM

EMAILED BY THE DIOCESAN OFFICE

TEL: 021 856 34 23

E-mail: mgraham@telkomsa.net

**PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS
FOR THE PEOPLE AND PARISHES OF
THE DIOCESE OF FALSE BAY**

DECEMBER 2021

PRAYER THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

The birth of Jesus made possible not just a new way of understanding life but a new way of living it.

ARCHDEACONRY OF BLUE DOWNS

DECEMBER EVENTS

1	WORLD AIDS DAY
3	BISHOP'S PARTY
8	Schools Close
16	DAY OF RECONCILIATION
25	CHRISTMAS DAY
26	DAY OF GOODWILL

WEDNESDAY 1-Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon and Religious, 1637.

Special Day of Prayer: World Aids Day

Dear God, we ask you to walk with us in our HIV and AIDS filled world. We pray expecting Your presence among us. Be with all who live with the effects of this disease; be with those who wait to die because they have no access to medication. We pray that you would be with children who received HIV as a legacy from their parents; with the orphans and families who have lost loved ones. Be with countries who have millions of citizens with HIV/AIDS, with all who are stigmatised and ignored because of their disease. Be with politicians and corporate executives who control access to affordable medications; with researchers and scientists who work to find a cure; the healthcare workers and caregivers who comfort and encourage. We pray that you will be with all who have lost hope because of HIV and AIDS. Lord, fill the hearts of people around the world with good will so that together we can work for justice and healing for all who suffer from HIV and AIDS. Amen. *Pray for The Diocese of Ife East – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

THURSDAY 2-International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, recognized by the UN
Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry. Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *The Diocese of Ifo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

FRIDAY 3-Francis Xavir, Priest and Missionary to the East, 1552 -International Day of Persons with Disabilities, recognized by the UN

We pray for all God's people; for people who are blind and cannot see, and for those who can see but are blind to people around them; for people who move slowly because of accident, illness, or disability, and for those who move too fast to be aware of the world in which they live; for people who are deaf and cannot hear, and for those who can hear but who ignore the cries of others; for families, friends, and caregivers who serve people with disabilities, and for those who feel awkward in their presence; for people who feel isolated by their disabilities, and for people who contribute to that sense of isolation. We pray for all the people in your creation, that we may learn to respect each other and learn how to live together in your peace. Amen. *Pray for The Diocese of Igbomina – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kwara Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SATURDAY 4-John of Damascus, Teacher of the Faith, c.760

Father, many members of this church will have the opportunity to go away on holiday this summer and we pray that this will be a time of rest, reflection and recreation for all. We remember all those whose lives are much more difficult than ours, especially those who live in poverty and hunger and have no escape from the daily pressures of their lives. We pray that you may relieve their distress and make known to us ways in which we can help them. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer. *Pray for The Diocese of Igbomina - West – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kwara Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SUNDAY 5-SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

May we go often to the Bethlehem of our hearts and visit the one who offers us peace. May we bring peace to our world. May we daily open the gift of our lives and be grateful for the treasures it contains. May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as we gather with family, friends, associates around the table of festivity and nourishment. May we keep our eyes on the Star within us and trust our own inner wisdom. May the wonder and awe of Christmas lead us to renewed awareness and appreciation of whatever we easily take for granted. May each person who comes into our lives be greeted as Christ in our midst. We pray this in the most holy name of Jesus Christ. Amen. *Pray for The Anglican Church of Burundi (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

MONDAY 6

ST MATTHEW WITH DELFT SOUTH,, DELFT

Lord God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks for a faithful congregation who continued to bless the church during a trying time. We pray for the families who suffered the loss of loved ones and pray for God's continuous love and guidance during the time of mourning. Lord, guide and protect us as we pray for a mighty move of God amongst the community of Delft where the murder and drug related crimes are on the increase, and we pray the scales will fall from the perpetrators eyes to see the hurt and pain they cause. Come, Lord Jesus, heal the hearts of the families with broken homes, starving families, abuse in the homes and for the homeless. We continue to give thanks to God for our faithful servants who with open hearts help those in need and prepare food for the starving every week. We come with grateful and thankful hearts for the increase in numbers attending church; for our young people so eager to work in God's Kingdom; for our confirmands that were confirmed and for our matriculants able to write exams in a calm manner. Lord God, we pray for continued protection on our clergy, wardens, secretary, verger, our leaders and organisations and all their families, and all the parishioners. We thank God for the decrease in Covid infections and increase in vaccinations. *Pray for The Diocese of Ihiala – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

TUESDAY 7-Ambrose, Bishop of Milan and Teacher of the Faith, 397

And peace will be known all over the earth. Open our hearts to see your bounty, to trust your promises, and to venture forward in faith; may we be confident that your goodness and gifts will ever sustain us; may we be courageous in word and deed for the sake of the world you love. Grant us a spirit of oneness and faithfulness that we may be the Body of Christ. *Pray for Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SUNDAY 26-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

We pray for the Church, that through its prayers, actions and public statements it may continue to work towards a world where all are free from the pain of hunger and the terror of war. We pray for world leaders, that they may be inspired to work together to tackle the causes of poverty and injustice, and to use their power, not for their own glory but for the good of all. We pray for ourselves, that we may have the courage to be witnesses to the power of sharing and to the values of global community. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. (Linda Jones)*Pray for Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

MONDAY 27-ST JOHN, APOSTLE

ST GEORGE THE MARTYR, ST SIMON, SIMONDIUM; ST GILES, LANQUEDOC; ST JOHN, KYLEMORE; LA MOTTE; BOSBOUL WEMMERSHOEK; GROENDAL; GROOT DRAKENSTEIN

We hold before you, our parish with its many challenging pastoral areas. We pray for our pastoral presence, mission and witness in the different communities that fall under the umbrella of St George. We pray for the parish as it continues to be a beacon of hope among the disempowered communities that form part of the makeup of the parish with its high unemployment rate and economic challenging conditions. We pray for a spirit of unity and community amidst the diversity. We give God thanks for our Rector Fr Wilfred Meyer who needs to be the centre of unity in this diverse parish framed within the Groot Drakenstein Valley. We pray for the rectory family, Debbie, Cleo and Jordan who form the family support. We give thanks for the pastoral gifts and support and assistance of Revds Davene and Eunice and their families. We pray and give thanks for Jackie, our secretary and ordinand, who serves the parish with her administrative skills and our Church Wardens who provide executive leadership. We give thanks for all our leaders in the chapelries.. We pray that God will give Wilfred grace and wisdom to touch the lives and hearts of many in our diverse parish, where the use of technology is not so widely used and welcomed. We give thanks for the involvement of our rector regarding the challenges that exist on the Solms Delta farm. We pray for the educational guidance, assistance and support the Solms Delta learners receive from the rectory family. We pray especially for those learners who have now been accepted to study at tertiary institutions and those who are still awaiting outcomes. We pray for all the parish ministries and organisations whose growth and activities have been interrupted during this long period of Covid 19 and the restrictions that have been placed on the activities and effectiveness of our ministries. We pray for future growth in the organisations and a renewed sense of commitment to the life of the parish. We pray and give thanks for all our fundraising efforts that supported the parish income which was and is seriously at risk. We pray that the ministry of the parish will encourage new members to avail themselves for the Readers Guild, Lay ministers, Sacristans, liturgical Dancers and Servers guild. We give thanks for the Stewardship across the parish and the dedicated giving amidst the challenging times brought about by the Pandemic. Enrich us with a greater sense of commitment and grace us with a community spirit as we continue to grow the parish, and may the protection of our God be upon us. *Pray for The Diocese of Northern Indiana – The Episcopal Church (V (5) Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

TUESDAY 28-HOLY INNOCENTS

God of every nation and people, You have made known your love through the gift of your Son, who bears the name Emmanuel, 'God with us'. Remove whatever hinders us from receiving the

We pray for the church at Christmas: for the Christian family who will be celebrating this festival in so many different ways, and for those who dare not celebrate openly; for Christians in countries where there is persecution; for Christians in our own country, with whom we will share our celebrations; for our Church family. Grant that all who come into our church this Christmas time may be enabled to renew their relationship with you. Help us all to be glad of your presence, and to rejoice at the coming of Jesus. May your blessing be upon all who worship with us, give us grace to live as faithful members of your family that we may learn each day afresh to love and serve you. *Pray for The Diocese of Ilaje – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

WEDNESDAY 22 ALL SAINTS, BELHAR

Gracious and Holy God, we at All Saints thank you for your presence amongst us and for walking alongside us through the trying times in our parish. Lord God, even in the throes of the Covid 19 pandemic you remained faithful to us and kept us faithful to you. We celebrate the lives of the saints whom you have called to their rest during this past year and in particular the life of our Archdeacon to the Ordinary and Cluster Rector, the Venerable Trevor Steyn. We bring their grieving families to the foot of your cross trusting that they will find comfort in you. God our healer, we lift up all who are downcast praying that, together with those in our parish who are ill, they will experience your divine healing. Grant wholeness to the broken, hope for those in despair and a new vision for those who have lost all sense of purpose. Renew in us an eager expectation as we approach Christmas, to celebrate the coming of our Lord, not only as a baby, but as King and Lord of our lives. We continue to pray for our Rector Reverend Gradwell, our Assistant Priest, Reverend Eugene and all involved in ministry at All Saints. We thank you that we are now able to vocalize our praises in hymns and choruses. We pray with gratitude for our Church Wardens and all leaders of organizations within our parish. *Pray for The Diocese of Ile - Oluji – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ondo Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

THURSDAY 23

We thank you heavenly Father, for the loveliness of the Christmas story: the child in the manger, the song of angels, the homage of the shepherds, the tender love of Mary. Most of all we thank you for the meaning of the Christmas story: that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, that all might live through him. All praise and thanks be yours, O God, for so great a love, so great a gift, so great a Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Pray for The Diocese of Ilesa – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

FRIDAY 24-CHRISTMAS EVE

Gracious, loving and merciful God, on this Christmas Eve, as the light of your Word penetrates our hearts, as we are reminded of the gift of life and faith, as the glories of the heavenly hosts are echoed in our church, we open ourselves up to your Spirit and give you thanks. We are grateful, Lord Jesus, that your story has become our story, and we celebrate your birth. Continue, we pray, to instill in us a profound sense of your abiding presence, and help us to take to heart the wonder of your love, that we may walk in your ways and delight in your will. Help us, Lord God, to be the faithful, gracious, loving, giving and forgiving people you would have us be. (by Rev. Dr. Sean B. Murray) *Pray for The Diocese of North East India – The (united) Church of North India (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SATURDAY 25-CHRISTMAS DAY

Loving God, in remembering the birth of Jesus we share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds and the worship of the wise men; make us instruments of your will and work on earth; may our efforts bring about the good that will hasten the day when your kingdom of jus-

Heavenly Father, as once again we prepare for Christmas, help us to find time in our busy lives for quiet and thought and prayer, that we may reflect upon the wonder of your love and allow the story of the Saviour's birth to penetrate our hearts and minds. So may our joy be deeper, our worship more real, and our lives worthier of all that you have done for us through the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Pray for The Diocese of Ijebu – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

WEDNESDAY 8-Ember Day

We make our prayers to you, O Lord our God, for those who are to be set apart for the work of ordained ministry. Grant them the abundance of your grace that, in the power of the Holy Spirit, they may faithfully fulfill their calling in building up the life of your Church and in furthering your kingdom in the world. *Pray for The Diocese of Ijebu - North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

THURSDAY 9

ST MONICA, ST MARK, ST GEORGE, KUILS RIVER

We give thanks for God's generous blessings throughout the year. We are thankful for all the services of worship, the celebration of the sacraments, for the celebration and commendation of all whom God called to their eternal rest. We are grateful for all who recovered from illness; all who are journeying faithfully through the grieving process; all who found employment; all who wrote their matric exams with preparation and confidence. We pray for the many families still living with the reality of poverty, disability, brokenness, rejection. We pray for all in the grip of substance abuse and those victimized by violence and abuse. We pray for the safety of our children and young people during the vacation, together with the educators. We pray for the elderly and the compassionate care they need. We pray for safe travel for all who will travel. We ask God's rich blessings of the Christmas season on all families who will also be preparing for the new year. Please pray for the clergy and their families, together with all our leaders and members. *Pray for The Diocese of Ijebu South West – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lagos Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

FRIDAY 10-Ember day

Heavenly Father, since the time of the Apostles you have inspired the Church to commission certain members to assist in a special way in the pastoral mission of Christ. Bless the deacons and all other ordained and non-ordained ministers that they may be humble and faith-inspired in their service. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. *Pray for The Diocese of Ijesa North East – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SATURDAY 11

We thank you, heavenly Father, for the loveliness of the Christmas story: the child in the manger, the song of angels, the homage of the shepherds; the tender love of Mary. But most of all we thank you for the meaning of the Christmas story: that you loved the world so much that you gave your only Son, that all might live through him. All praise and thanks be yours, O God, for so great a love, so great a gift, so great a Saviour, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Pray for The Missionary Diocese of Ijesha North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Ibadan Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SUNDAY 12-THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in us a wonder at the wisdom and power of Your Father and ours. Receive our prayer as part of our service of the Lord who enlists us in God's own work for justice. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in us a hunger for peace: peace in the world, peace in our homes, peace in ourselves. Come, long-expected Jesus. Excite in us a joy responsive to the Father's joy. We seek His will so we can serve with gladness, singing and love. Come, long-

expected Jesus. Excite in us the joy and love and peace it is right to bring to the manger of our Lord. Raise in us, too, reverence for God our Father; gratitude for life, and a renewed and spirited resolution to serve the Father and Son with all we have. *Pray for The Anglican Church of Canada (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

MONDAY 13

We pray for our Rector Revd. Simon Kortjass, his wife Bongji, for Revd. Steven Vearey, his wife, Thurlon and their families. We give thanks to all those who were confirmed this year and we continue to pray for the Confirmation leaders and candidates. We pray for the family of the late Ven. Revd. Trevor Steyn. He touched so many lives. We continue to pray for the Cluster of Belhar. We pray for our Wardens and Parish Councillors as they are managing the finances of the Church. We pray for the sick and housebound and continue to keep praying for the families who have lost loved ones. We continue to pray for the community of Belhar. *Pray for The Diocese of Ijumu – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lokoja Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

TUESDAY 14

Living Lord, we thank you for the honour and joy of being called to your service in the fellowship of your Church. Help us never to grow weary in well-doing; make us always ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us; and keep us faithful and vigilant as servants who wait for their Lord. We ask this for your name's sake. Amen. *Pray for The Diocese of Ikara – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Kaduna Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

WEDNESDAY 15

CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY, BLACKHEATH

We continue to pray with thankfulness to God for the people of Holy Nativity Blackheath who remained faithful during a very difficult time. We trust that this time has given us much thought to think about our relationship to God, to life, to one another and the fact that everything comes to nothing and that only God is forever. However, our nothingness should not prevent us to give glory where it belongs. Secondly thank you God and the people of Holy Nativity for the opportunity to serve the needy through our soup kitchen ministry that is now growing in our ward. We pray for the families in our parish that have lost loved ones during this difficult time. May their souls rest in peace. Finally, we celebrate the fact that we can have more people return to corporate worship, hopefully with new and profound insight and boldness and especially the singing that means such a lot to us at Holy Nativity. *The Diocese of Ikeduru – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Owerri Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

THURSDAY 16

Prince of Peace, born among us. As we share together the most profound mystery of your birth among us, so we pray that you would fill us with your peace. Pour into our hearts that peace which we so desperately seek, and which you alone can give. May we live as children of the same heavenly Father, willing to share our love for you and also to listen to the faith of others, that together your people may be one. Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude for all that you have done for us, and may our joyful hearts share in the message of the angels to all humankind. *Pray for The Diocese of Ikka – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Bendel Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

FRIDAY 17

ST CLARE, ST MATTHEW, MALIBU VILLAGE/MFULENE

We continue to pray keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty and distress. Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift all who are brought

low; that we may rejoice in your comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from our love of Christ Jesus our Lord. Merciful God, we entrust to your loving care those who are ill or in pain knowing that, whenever danger threatens, your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. We pray for the parochial District of Manche Masemola, St Clare and St Matthew, be with our Priest Revd Nomxego and leaders of the church and give them wisdom. We continue to pray for parishioners to give generous offerings towards the roof that was hit by the storm damage during heavy windy rains of 2020. We thank you, Lord, for the reduced number of Covid cases which allows the church to sing and hope more parishioners will come to worship together in the house of the Lord. We ask all these prayers in your wonderful name. *Pray for The Diocese of Ikwerre – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Delta Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

SATURDAY 18- International Migrants Day, recognized by the UN

We pray for Peace. At Christmas give peace to the world; give peace to the victims of war, the refugees, the widowed and the orphans; give peace to family and friends; to those who have quarreled and need to be reconciled; give peace in our own divided hearts. We know that without justice there can be no peace. Let peace come when all people are respected, regardless of race and religion. Let peace come when trading weapons of mass destruction is a crime. Let peace come when the earth's resources are used wisely for the common good. Let peace come when money is used to serve and not enslave the world. Let peace come through the transformation of our lives that we may do justice, love and kindness and walk humbly with our God. Your son came as the Prince of Peace and brought a message of peace for all people. Help us to be peacemakers in our own homes, at our work or wherever we meet people, so that the peace and goodwill of Christmas can find a place in the hearts of all people. *Pray for The Diocese of Ikwo – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Enugu Province) (A Cycle of Prayer)*

SUNDAY 19-FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On this last Sunday of Advent, we quietly reflect on the mystery. We rest in awe, in wonder, at how our God entered our world and came to be with us. We pause to receive the gift offered to us: that the Spirit of God will open up our lives and that Jesus will really come into our hearts. May we have watchful hope today, believing what the Lord promises us. Let us pray today, that we might be God's servants, that we might be instruments of God's love for our families and all we serve this week. *Pray for The Church of the Province of Central Africa (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

MONDAY 20

STELLENBOSCH, St Mary on the Braak with St Joseph, St James

ST MARY ON THE BRAAK, WITH ST JOSEPH AND ST JAMES, STELLENBOSCH

We thank you Lord for life and its abundance as we live for your glory. We pray that you continue to bless the Parish with all its challenges. We ask you to help us in having Church Wardens who will lead and serve your people and the addition of parish council to fulfill tasks ahead. Bless those who are volunteering in different areas of ministry. Bless your Clergy, Reverend Canon Xola Mlandu, Reverend Prof. Henry Mbaya and Reverend Canon Dr. Desmond Lambrecht. We pray for their spouses and children, for the support they give them. Be with the family of Godfrey Bergstedt, Church warden, who passed on. Continue to be with all families in the Parish as they are going through hardship and steering the ship of life in the midst of darkness. In your presence there is no darkness. Be with our staff as they too are keeping the light shining. We ask all this in Jesus name. *Pray for The Diocese of Ikwuano – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Aba Province) (Anglican Cycle of Prayer)*

TUESDAY 21