

Sunday 20th

Pray for the **elderly and vulnerable** in our church. Ask God to keep His hand on them and protect them from the virus.

Monday 21st

Pray for **Luke & Karis Carson** taking a break over Christmas time, the past few months has been tough work for them as they have been busier than ever with extra pressures during lockdown. Pray both will have some good rest and be able to switch off from ministry.

Tuesday 22nd

Pray for all those who particularly feel their loneliness at this time of year that they may know the reality of Emmanuel – God with us.

Wednesday 23rd

Pray for those in our congregation who are carrying burdens of illness and bereavement.

Thursday 24th

Thank God for the opportunity to spend time with loved ones this Christmas. Ask God to keep everyone safe as they mix between households.

Friday 25th

On this Christmas Day **praise God for the gift of His Son**. Remember those who find this day difficult.

Saturday 26th

Pray for many who are physically and mentally tired after the pressure of Christmas within the pandemic, that they all may know spiritually the truth of Isaiah 40:31 *“...they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”*

Sunday 27th

Pray for those who will listen to the services online. Pray they will feel connected to Church and that God will speak to them through His word.

Monday 28th

John & Sarah Kennedy probably like most people, are emotionally drained with the consequences of the pandemic and the roller-coaster ride that this term has been. After Christmas they plan to drive 7 hours to the hills to the North East for a break from the city. It will be quieter and less hot. Pray for a safe drive and a chance to get re-charged.

Tuesday 29th

As we approach the end of 2020, ask God to continue to move in this situation. Ask that the spread of the virus will slow and that there will be developments in the search for a suitable vaccine

Wednesday 30th

Pray for many who face 2021 with apprehension, that they will place their faith and confidence in God

Thursday 31st

On the last day of 2020 praise God for all his blessings during the past year and pray that He will continue to lead us in the year ahead both individually and as a congregation

We surround the family of
Allen Patterson
Maureen Kerr
Robert Wright
Thomas Morrow
Mary Simpson

with our love and prayers in their recent bereavement and sorrow

First Presbyterian Church Portadown

December 2020

Prayer Calendar

Please use this information to pray for our congregation and its ministries every day.

“Let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16



Tuesday 1st

As the country starts to open again after the lockdown give thanks with **Jonathan & Nicola McCracken** for safety and pray that they will soon be able to meet as a church.

Wednesday 2nd

Henry Bell is very thankful for the opportunity to travel to Canada for Christmas. He is currently in quarantine in Hamilton until Dec 14. He hopes to return in January. Pray for health and adjustment to Canada and for this precious time with Hannah, Miriam and grandchildren.

Thursday 3rd

John & Sarah Kennedy write: *We have just appointed a new school director, Adam Ecklund, an American. With his wife and 3 daughters he hopes to get here around February 2021. Pray for a smooth move for the family (from Texas) - that they will have peace and courage - this is a big step for them.*

Friday 4th

Luke & Karis Carson write: *Pray for three of the men I meet with weekly in prison: this month two of them are going in front of parole boards with the hope of setting a date to be released. They have both served long sentences and have been deemed high-risk to the public but are now faced with the challenge of showing probation (and people that only know them on paper) that they are new creations, different men who are trying to follow Jesus and leave their past behind. The other man is hoping to be sentenced before Christmas and is praying that he will have already served the majority of his sentence and will be able to go home soon. All three are excited about going to church when they get released so please pray by the time they get out there will be some form of physical service for them to be a part of!*

Saturday 5th

Pray for **healthcare staff** in Hospitals across Ireland, that God would give new reserves of strength for each day

Sunday 6th

Pray for the **senior members** of our congregation who have been confined to their homes in recent days. Pray they will be aware of God's presence with them.

Monday 7th

Robert & Kyla Cuthbert write: *Pray for plans to start our youth academy early next year. Pray that God would bring along the kids He wants and that they would be challenged by God's word. Pray also for wisdom and discernment in knowing how to share the gospel effectively.*

Tuesday 8th

Avisai & Judith Suarez write: *Pray for those living in Northern Ireland as refugees. That this Christmas will be a blessed time for them and that despite all the difficulties of this year, God would reveal his love to them through his people.*

Wednesday 9th

Henry Bell writes: *One of WEC's new church partnerships is with an eleven million strong denomination in Ethiopia. New missionaries are to be sent out with WEC in December to Guinea Bissau. Pray for these new workers and peace in Ethiopia after the recent eruption of violence in the north.*

Thursday 10th

Pray for the members of our congregation who are **frontline staff** working in units set up to care for Covid-19 patients that God would grant them safety and success in their work

Friday 11th

Pray for **PCI ministers**, who are seeking to be attentive pastors to their people, yet are prevented from visiting in homes. Ask God to help them find simple ways to connect, give listening hearts and find ways to bring his Word to bear on real situations.

Saturday 12th

Pray for the many in our congregation who are suffering from prolonged periods of serious illness that they may know the reality of His Word in Isaiah 43:2 *"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow you."*

Sunday 13th

Jonathan & Nicola McCracken write: *Pray for opportunities to witness to neighbours in the lead up to Christmas. Pray too for travel restrictions that we will be able to travel up to see family over the Christmas period.*

Monday 14th

John & Sarah Kennedy write: *The school has started a fundraising campaign to buy the site that the school is on. We have no experience/success in fund raising! If we can't raise the funds (either through gifts or loans) we will be moving out as the land will be sold - which is not an exciting prospect!*

Tuesday 15th

Pray for the young people in our Church family will return shortly from University to celebrate Christmas with their families.

Wednesday 16th

Pray for the **Leaders of our country** as they continue to face the challenges of Corona virus. Pray for wisdom and guidance as they help us navigate through this time.

Thursday 17th

Robert & Kyla Cuthbert write: *Pray for our ongoing witness in our neighbourhood and for opportunities to share the love of Jesus with those we live beside.*

Friday 18th

Pray for families who have lost loved ones to Covid-19 or related health conditions. Especially ask God to lead and care for them as their process of grieving has been made much more difficult by the restrictions surrounding funerals.

Saturday 19th

Remember the **Pastoral Team** as they reach out to members of the congregation. Ask that God will guide them as this busy time of the Christmas season.