



**St Andrew's Parish Church  
January Parish Prayers - Caring about Covid**

*(If meeting in Zoom groups, all are invited to say the responses printed in bold)*

Lord God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, together with the witness of Le Monnaie Chapel of Christ the Healer, we gather in your name:

to worship you,  
**in the beauty of holiness.**

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks that we may continue to serve you through our collaborative ministry of worship and prayer. Today we especially hold before you all people everywhere, known to us and unknown, who are enduring the Covid pandemic either in body, mind or spirit:

Lord God, unfailing love is yours  
**be their rock and refuge.**

Jesus, Great Physician, we give thanks for all essential workers who continue to look after our needs at the hospital, in the hospice and in the wider community especially as they now administer the vaccine. We pray that you will sustain those critical workers beyond our shores bearing the brunt of Covid who need their burden lightened:

Loving Jesus, when demands are weighty  
**may your presence be just a heartbeat away.**

Holy Spirit, Sustainer of faith, we remember those still suffering from Covid either acutely or, from its long-term effects or, those who have died from it. We ask that your tender love uphold them when the days are long and comfort those whose time has come:

When spirits flag or life is ending  
**breathe life into their hearts, souls and minds.**

Bless the homes within this parish, those with families and those living alone: may they be filled with your light and peace. As we remember our loved ones overseas, for whom we have a concern, help us to sustain them with caring messages to support them, until we can meet again:

Lord, help us  
**to be loving and giving.**

We give thanks for the administration of this Parish by the Douzaine; of this island by the States and all who help to keep the public areas clean and safe. Give wisdom to

the governments around the world, especially the newly elected President of the United States of America: may all seek your direction for the common good:

Lord, your will be done  
**on earth as it is in heaven.**

May your gracious spirit be with all those who work and volunteer their time at the pre-schools, schools, charitable organisations and sports clubs in this parish and wider afield: remembering the many children, teachers, assistants and volunteers struggling to cope with online lessons and distance learning: help them to focus so that the young may acquire learning skills for life:

Lord, be a lamp to their feet  
**and a light to their path.**

Encourage the farmers as they care for livestock and the land and the services of the Guernsey Dairy and Guernsey Water. We pray for those elsewhere suffering from the effects of Covid, as also extreme weather conditions making their task all the harder. May we never take their work for granted remembering always that when we are fed and watered with blessings of wholesome produce and clean water that we are not fed by earthly provisions alone:

Lord, feed and fill us  
**with the Bread and Water of Life.**

We pray for the businesses and their staff within the parish and their suppliers that their professionalism will continue to serve the needs of others. We recognise their many activities are mirrored in businesses across the world where Covid has caused staff fatigue, financial hardship and unemployment:

Merciful Lord,  
**sustain them in their hour of need.**

We ask you to bless all gathered here in your name, our lives, our health, our homes and our families. You created us and know us. May we ever seek to draw closer to you in spirit and in truth, so that we may be a blessing to others in every word and deed that we undertake in your name.

Lord, in the spirit of obedience:  
**we ask for your guidance.**

*(above prayers composed by Rev J E C Robilliard, Associate Priest, St Andrew's Parish Church)*

*Individual prayers may be offered at this point or a short moment of silence held for those laid on our hearts and those known to God alone.*

## The Church Collect for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany

God of heaven,  
you send the gospel to the ends of the earth  
and your messengers to every nation:  
send your Holy Spirit to transform us  
by the good news of everlasting life  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*(© Archbishops Council 2000 – Common Worship)*

As our Saviour taught us, we are bold to say:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come;  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive them that trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

To your care and protection, O Lord,  
**we now commit ourselves.**  
Of your goodness forgive us;  
**with your love inspire us;**  
by your Spirit guide us;  
**and in your mercy keep us,  
now and always.**  
**Amen.**

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