

***1st Sunday in Advent***

 ***28th November 2021***

***Prayer Letter***

*“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us”.* ***1 John 5:14***

***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For HM the Queen, leaders in our Churches and the Judiciary

For our political leaders in national, devolved and local Government, the Mayor of our Capital and also the Mayors of our Metropolitan regions

For social workers whose work involves protecting the most

vulnerable in our society

For those who serve in our armed forces, emergency services, prison service

For our volunteer rescue services the RNLI saving lives at sea and our cave and mountain rescue specialists, all who are prepared to risk their own lives to help others in danger

For our frontline health and social care workers

For those struggling to access the support to meet the care needs of loved ones in their own homes

For all who work to deliver education across our nation, including teachers and lecturers in our schools, colleges and universities

For the family of Ava White who was just 12 year old when attacked and killed in Liverpool City Centre in the past week and that justice is seen to be done for all those in our country who have suffered from violent crime

***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For our Vicar Dave and our Curate Emma, as a trial period for two Sunday morning services commences

For our Church Warden, Pauline and all who help in welcoming people to our Church

For Matthew and Rosie in their work with the children, youth and families of our Parish

For our licenced lay ministers and all who are authorised lay ministers in our Parish

For all involved in recently updating our church website. That their work enables those seeking to know more about your love for them to also discover more about our Christian faith and that they may be encouraged to join us in worship at St Thomas’

For Vicky and Nic in their weekly outreach in prayer and reflection across the internet

For our Baptism team in supporting and helping to prepare families for the Baptism of their children in our church and for those coming to our Church bringing children to baptism and those coming to celebrate the baptism of a child this Sunday, 28th November 2021.

For all who give their time in whatever way they can, to assist the mission of our church, in service to God and in helping others.

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***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For all who live or work in our in our community and also for those who are visiting our town

For elected representatives in Parliament and on Blackpool Borough Council

For all who are struggling with illness and injury, loneliness, hardship, caring responsibilities, anxiety, depression or disability

For the community of Devonshire Primary Academy: teachers, other staff, children, parents, grandparents and carers

For the residents of Milbourne Street, Elizabeth Street and Butler Street

***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For Christians facing persecution in parts of our world where there is for them the constant risk of imprisonment, torture and death. We pray for a softening of hearts, for all those who rule by fear and oppression

For those who are negotiating to free Nazanin in Iran and all the other innocent people held captive unjustly around our world

For improved relationships between the nations of our world where conflict and disagreement between them threatens peace

For refugees everywhere, especially at this time for those who risk their lives in attempting to cross the bitterly cold English Channel in flimsy unsafe craft while also crossing the busiest of merchant shipping lanes

***“The Lord bless you and keep you, The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.***

***The Lord turn his face to you and give you his peace” Numbers 6:24-26***

***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For the work of many Christian Charities working to bring hope and improved lives for the poor, the sick, the disabled, the dispossessed and all who are suffering acute malnutrition due to famine

In continuing to ask for your protection for all who are suffering and fleeing countries around our world and becoming refugees, desperate for safety, security and opportunities for a better life

For Christians and Christian charities working to help refugees to be resettled safely or for them to be re-united with family members they have become separated from in situations of war, chaos and persecution around our troubled world.

[www.stewardship.org.uk](http://www.stewardship.org.uk)

[6 Christian Charities Working with Refugees (www. stewardship.org.uk)](https://www.stewardship.org.uk/blogs/6-christian-charities-working-refugees)

***Lord, hear me as I pray;***

For our family members, our friends and colleagues in our places of work

ForSheila, Jack, Leah, Louise, Debbie, Nic and Joanne, Bob and Sue, Norman and Jean, Anne and Wendy

We also remember and pray for all those we know personally who are ill or struggling at this time in body, mind or spirit.

For all who are missing a family member who is away from home

For all who have been recently bereaved -That they may be given comfort and strength in their grief and loss