



Dear all,

In another Church's Magazine I was reading recently, I read this prayer that can be found in one of the Churches at Lindisfarne (Holy Island):

A Prayer for this season

God of all creation, who inhabits every season
Grant us your peace

When we are frightened, gift us the knowledge of your presence
When we are ill, gift us the cradle of your love
When we are overwhelmed, gift us your vision and perspective

Gift us compassion for those who struggle
Gift us wisdom to know how to love our neighbour
Gift us integrity in our words and in our actions

Sustain us, teach us, use us
As we walk through this season
With the One who will never have to self-distance
Amen.

May this prayer bring you comfort and strength today and every day.

Church News:

- **National Day of Prayer TODAY!**

Visit [this link on YouTube](#) to learn about a National Day of Prayer taking place TODAY – do join it if you can, even for a short time!

- **Inspiring Resources**

If you visit the Church's Inspiring Resources webpage [by clicking here](#), you can find some of the notes from the current Sermon Series on Ezekiel – do read and enjoy! In addition, you can find the CTSN New Year letter

- **A Thank-you!**

Thank you to everyone who packed a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child this year – whether in a physical box or online. There was a great response despite all the challenges 2020 brought us. An excerpt from a recent email sent by Nick Cole, Director of Operation Christmas Child UK who came and spoke for us in October 2020 said:

'..... your gift will bring a great big smile and a whole lot of joy to the precious child who receives it. Your generous gift will remind them they are special and thought of and enable them to hear about God's amazing love for them too'.

- **Do you have an old laptop (PC and Mac!) you're no longer using?**

If so, [idash](#), a great local company and our church IT provider, is involved with the [Dreamdrops NHS charity](#) which refurbishes old computers for use by pupils and schools affected by Covid19. These can be dropped in at idash. Click on either of the links above for more information.

- **St Mary's Bible Project**

Early 2020, we launched a project to update all our Church Bibles. This was put on hold due to 2020's events, however in December we had the opportunity to purchase these at a reduced cost, saving over £1000 on the expected cost. If you would like to contribute to this project (a great way to start 2021!), please [click here](#). Bibles cost £10 each and we have bought 145 for Church use.

- **Bringing Hope into lives through prayer**

In December we launched a new online initiative for St Mary's – a virtual Prayer Wall. Here you can leave prayers for people to pray and light a virtual candle. Do visit this page by [clicking here](#).

- **Another initiative...**

In December last year, the church's Creation Care Group 'twinned' the three toilets at St Mary's with latrines in Uganda. Next time you visit one, look out for the photo of its twin. To find out more about this project and how you can twin your own toilet(s) in your home, [click here](#).

- **Join us on Zoom for 'Zoffee and Zea' this Sunday**

Enjoy a time of catching up with each other at **11:45am** on Zoom this Sunday. Please email vicar@eatonsocon.org for the Link details.