



ADVENT 2017
Prayer Guide for December 1 to 25
(Advent Sunday December 3, 2017)

*Choose anytime during the day to pray the listed prayers on your own. During the season of Advent, between Saturday and Thursdays, there will be a daily prayer at **12 noon in the Church**. Feel free to join us on any day/s you are able as we unite our hearts and pray as a church. We will all be praying the special theme of the day listed in this guide. Remember, this guide is only a recommended guide. Feel free to expand, reflect and pray on the suggested themes and beyond.*

December 1st

Lord Jesus, we begin this season of joyful hope and renewed expectation. As a church, we join all believers living in Qatar to remember the time of Your first arrival as Emmanuel – God with us. We thank You that through the presence of the Holy Spirit, You continue to be with us today. Lord, we ask You to help us prepare ourselves for Your second advent. May we as Your bride be ready, pure and not found wanting in any way, when You come.

December 2nd

Thank You Father for all those who have joined this “*Pray through Advent*” initiative. Thank You that many people have started to pray for the very first time. Thank You for the Epiphany WhatsApp prayer group that is daily interceding for people in our church and from around the world. Jesus, we give You all the glory, for we know You are our shelter from the storms in our life. We thank You for the wonderful stories that we are and we believe we will be hearing as You begin to answer our prayers on the storms in our life.

December 3rd

*(Pray for people you know who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus. Think and pray for at least three of them by **name**)*

This season of Advent bless my friends _____ with the joyful gift of coming to know You Jesus in a personal way. Bless them Lord no matter where they may be living or whatever spiritual state they may be in. Lift them out of the miry clay. Bless them with the gift of salvation today and may they accept your free gift and grow into a personal relationship with You. And just as the water fills the sea may this land and others be filled with people who know and honor You, Lord.

December 4th

Lord Jesus, Your advent fulfilled Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah, and filled the expectant world with hope and visions of freedom for the poor, the prisoners, the blind and the oppressed. We praise You for the many physical, mental and spiritual healings You brought during Your first advent. We await in eager anticipation for Your second advent when You will wipe every tear from our eyes and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.

December 5th

Lord God we sense Your power at work in the lives and work of all those who are involved in Your work in the Anglican Church of the Epiphany. We pray that You will anoint, bless and grow each person who faithfully prays, thinks about and gives their time, talent and treasure to ensure an effective witness in this land. May each one be used by You to be instruments who bring Your joy to the world.

December 6th

Lord Jesus, we give thanks for all those who through the ministry of music help us declare Your glory among the nations represented in the Anglican Church of the Epiphany. Those who faithfully take the time and effort before they lead us through hymns and songs of praise to exalt and worship You. May they know that we in the church truly value their contribution in turning the hall into a holy mountain where we can meet You in the beauty of Your holiness.

December 7th

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace our Lord Jesus - we are glad that all governments rest on Your shoulders. We pray for the rulers of Qatar and especially HH the Emir and the Council of Ministers, who You have permitted to govern us. Give them wisdom and discernment to provide inspired leadership and good governance especially in the midst of the current regional crisis that effects the land we live in. Continue to give them Your favour even as they permit us to live and worship in this land.



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December 8th

Lord Jesus, Your desire is for all Your disciples to reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of You. To become mature and attain the whole measure of Your fullness, Lord Jesus Christ. We ask today for unity among the Churches in Qatar. Bless each church leader of the churches in the Anglican Centre, the Religious Complex and groups that worship elsewhere. Help leaders and congregations forge strong relationships that are mission-focused. May we act as one Body, born of Your Spirit and bound together by Your blood shed for us.

December 9th

Lord Jesus, You said that with Your arrival the good news of freedom for the oppressed and recovery of sight for the blind began. We ask for Your grace and favour on our Diocese that by word and deed we continue to proclaim this Good News in Cyprus and the Gulf. Bless the Bishop, Archdeacons and the staff of the Diocese and the Anglican Centre. May they care for God's flock with the diligence of a shepherd and be good witnesses in this land. May they act spontaneously and tenderly and see that the "flock of God" is properly fed and cared for in the Anglican Centre.

December 10th

Jesus, Lord of the Harvest, in the season of Your advent, we pray that You bless labourers who work on the harvest of the next generation in Anglican Church of the Epiphany. We pray for all those who are part of the Friday School and EPIQ Youth ministries in our Morning and Evening services. Bless them for their faithfulness and diligence in ensuring no one in our church needs to cry, "The harvest is past, summer is ended and we are not saved." Also, bless all the others who work with the next generation in congregations across Qatar.

December 11th

In the season when Joy came into this world, we thank You for blessing our congregation with the joy of parish priests like Fr. Paul and Fr. Jebaraj – shepherds after Your own heart who lead us with knowledge and understanding. We thank You for the blessing they have been to the congregations they minister to in Qatar. Grant them Lord Your wisdom, love, patience and good health as they minister to a variety of needs in the diverse congregations of the Anglican Church of the Epiphany. Bless also Betty, our administrator, who tirelessly and with care takes care of many small and big things of our parish. We also pray for all their families for encouraging and supporting their ministry to the church.

December 12th

Lord Jesus, we are glad that Your word says that You will not forget the work and the love shown to You by those who volunteer and help Your people. In that confidence, we pray that You remember and bless the many who volunteer their services to run the Anglican Church of the Epiphany. The Church Council members, altar guild helpers, the cultural ambassadors, hosts, social committee members, the outreach committee, the refreshments committee, collection counters and those who regularly give of their time, talents and treasure. We pray they may be filled with the presence of God in all joy and in peace as they share the good news of God's love with others.

December 13th

Your word promises us Father God that when He comes, He will open the eyes of the blind and unplug the ears of the deaf. The lame will leap like a deer, and those who cannot speak will sing for joy! Holding firmly to this promise we pray for healing to those who are seriously ill. You are the healer and we ask for Your healing touch. We pray for the medical team working with them and their caregivers. Give them faith, strength, peace and joy in the midst of this illness.



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December 14th

Heavenly Father the season of Advent is a wonderful time to celebrate Your reconciling love offered to the world through Your Son. Father we pray that we will take the ministry of reconciliation given to us by You more seriously. As we pray for the healing of strained and broken relationships that seem hopelessly damaged from a human perspective may the love of Christ bring restoration. Help us to be Your instruments to help others to seek Your perspective. May we all humble ourselves, forgive and build bridges. Father, in this battle may we and they confront the real enemy – Satan, who comes to steal, kill and destroy relationships.

December 15th

Lord Jesus, we are grateful that by Your coming into this world we all now have Eternal security through You. We also pray with for gratitude those who ensure that we are able to feel secure when we come together to worship You. Protect and take of the policemen and women who watch over this city and especially the religious complex. Bless all the security guards employed by the Anglican Centre and the other churches in the Religious Complex. We pray for them and their families and also for those known to us who work to keep us safe in Qatar and around the world.

December 16th

Father today may we not say – “look what the world has come to” but rather help us to say “look who came into our world.” We pray that the Anglican Church of the Epiphany joins You in transforming the society we live in. May we step out in prayer to share the love of Christ with whoever we interact with. Come Holy Spirit, breath of God give life to the dry bones around us. We pray for a fresh & mighty outpouring of Your Holy Spirit in Your Church and in this Nation.

December 17th

Lord Jesus, make us more effective witnesses of Your gospel and deepen our understanding of the faith we possess. May our conviction be so strong that we desire to share them with others We pray that our LinkEd Community groups and the Lyfe resources, the Epiphany Prayer Chain and similar study groups will enable and encourage this. We pray that the number of these groups grow and that Your church and its members grow in the knowledge of Your love, grace and mercy.

December 18th

Lord Jesus, at this time of Advent we remember that when You walked this earth many times You were called ‘Rabbi’ or Teacher. Lord we give thanks for the privilege of access to quality education to many in this land. We pray for young people of our church and others we know who go to school, college and university here. May they find the right balance of fun and work as they grow in knowledge and skills. May the mind and Spirit of Christ be available to all teachers in the different congregations of our Church and other churches in Qatar. May their commitment and care for the students they are responsible for grow as they grow in You.

December 19th

Lord Jesus, when You were Emmanuel – God with us, You went through towns and villages healing every kind of disease and sickness. We pray for everyone involved in providing us with quality health care in this nation. We pray for all medical professionals – doctors, nurses, therapists, technicians, pharmacists, etc., who are part of the different congregations in Anglican Church of the Epiphany and other churches in Qatar. May they be blessed by Your wisdom and have the gift of healing as they compassionately serve their patients. We pray for new breakthrough discoveries in medicines and in medical technology around the world.



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December 20th

Lord Jesus You are foundation and the corner stone of our faith – the Stone rejected by the builders. In this land of tremendous construction projects, Your words of building on a foundation of rock and not sand is so relevant. We pray for all those who work in the construction industry here, the architects, engineers, contractors, construction workers, and those working for building materials and other construction related companies from our church. We pray that Your hand of provision and protection will be upon them. We pray also for their physical well-being during these very hot summer months. May the construction industry recognize Your basic foundation idea that all men and women are made in Your image, and treat the marginalized with dignity.

December 21st

Creator God, all things come from Your hands and we thank You for all those in our congregation who You have given the spirit of entrepreneurship to start their own companies. Lord in these very difficult times with the blockade and the related downturn on the economy we pray for each of these business persons in our congregation. Lord we take You at Your word and will not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to You. Please protect their companies and people working for them. We pray for increased business, timely payments for them and the ending of these political hostilities.

December 22nd

Lord You arrived as a baby in a borrowed manger and grew up to stun the elders in the Temple when You were twelve. Lord You do know what it is to be a child, and so we know You can clearly appreciate all that our children in church do both the ones who go to the crèche and those who are too young to go there. We pray for all our Friday school children and those who with love and dedication take care of them. We pray that they grow in Your grace, loving Your word will always act with honesty and courage. Help them to learn generosity and may they grow in wisdom and stature and find favor with You and those they interact with.

December 23rd

Almighty and Powerful God we pray for our EPIQ Youth – our next generation. May they grow up to be Joseph's and Daniel's in this land or wherever You may place them. We pray You reveal to them Your calling and purpose for their lives. Remind them no matter what situation they find themselves in, they can call upon Your name Jesus and You will respond as You did for Joseph and Daniel. May they experience an ongoing transformation by having their minds daily renewed in You. Give them discernment to identify what is not from You and bless them with good friends to grow up with.

December 24th

Lord Jesus, we know that at Your Advent You left Your Heavenly Father to join Your earthly parents. You have thereby demonstrated the importance of family. We pray for our family members living away from us. Those who are studying, working or maybe taking care of other family members outside Qatar. May they feel the comfort and strength of Your Holy presence even at this very moment as we pray. Keep them safe and from any manner of temptation. May no weapon fashioned against them by the Evil one prospers. We pray that You also encourage us as we miss their presence in our daily life.

December 25th

Holy Trinity we joyfully celebrate the birth of our Savior - the miracle of God coming to us as a baby - coming to live among us, coming to love us, and coming to die for us and make the way to eternal life. Help us to experience a sense of wonder and awe at what took place two thousand years ago. Help us to live our lives proclaiming the loving message of that night in our words and most importantly in our actions.