

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>6 DECEMBER Is 35:1-10 Ps 85:8-13 Lk 5:17-26 Give thanks for the sacristans, flower arrangers, church cleaners and sides people who keep our church a beautiful and welcoming place in which to worship.</p>	<p>7 Is 40:1-11 Ps 96 Matt 18:12-14 Give thanks for the work of Jeremy Smith. We pray for God's guidance as he moves with his family to the College of the Transfiguration to begin training for the ministry.</p>	<p>8 Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-10 Matt 11:28-30 Pray for our government, the department of justice and for all who are working tirelessly to stem the tide of greed and corruption in our land.</p>	<p>9 Is 41:13-20 Ps 145:8-13 Matt 11:7-15 Give thanks that the "Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love".</p>	<p>10 Is 48:17-19 Ps 1 Matt 11:16-19 Pray for an increase in our faith as we daily read and meditate on God's word.</p>	<p>11 2 Kings 2:6-11 Ps 80:1-3, 14-19 Matt 17:9-13 Give thanks for the work of the Fikelela teams and for the financial support from the parish for this important outreach.</p>	<p>12 ADVENT 3 Is 12:2-6 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:7-18 Pray, in this season of Advent, that God will instill in our hearts a spirit of generosity, especially to those less fortunate than ourselves.</p>
<p>13 Num 24:2-7, 15-17a Ps 25:3-9 Matt 21:23-27 Give thanks that even though we serve such an awesome God, we can still come before Him with our prayers and know that He will hear them.</p>	<p>14 Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13 Ps 34:1-8 Matt 21:28-32 Give thanks for Rev Claire and her family and we pray that their first Christmas with us will be one of great joy.</p>	<p>15 Is 45:5-25 Ps 85:8-13 Lk 7:19-23 Give thanks for the beauty of God's creation and pray that we are mindful of our responsibility to take care of His world.</p>	<p>16 Is 54:1-10 Ps 30 Lk 7:24-30. Pray that we may always "Sing Your praises "and give thanks for our organist, musicians and singers who enrich our services.</p>	<p>17 Gen 49:1-2, 8-10 Ps 72:1-8 Matt 1:1-6a, 17 Give thanks for our retired clergy and their many years of dedicated service to the church.</p>	<p>18 Jer 23:5-8 Ps 72:11-21 Matt 1:18-25 Pray for our continent of Africa and for peace and reconciliation in the many countries torn apart by war and religious and ethnic intolerance.</p>	<p>19 ADVENT 4 Lk 1:47-55 Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45 Give thanks for Mary's unquestioning obedience to the angel's message of the coming of the Messiah.</p>
<p>20 Is 7:10-14 Ps 24 Jn 3:31-36 Pray for the Rondebosch police. May they be protected from the dangers of their jobs and pray for all victims of violent crime.</p>	<p>21 Zeph 3:14-18a Ps 33:1-5, 19-21 Jn 4:39-42 Pray that we might put God first in all things and see Him at work in every aspect of our lives.</p>	<p>22 1 Sam 1:19-28 Ps 113 Jn 6:35-40 Pray for Archbishop Thabo and Bishop Joshua. May they be filled with God's Holy Spirit as they lead His people.</p>	<p>23 Mal 3:1-5 Ps 25:1-15 Jn 7:37-42 Pray that we might treat all God's children with dignity and respect despite our differences.</p>	<p>24 CHRISTMAS EVE 2 Sam 7:1-16 Ps 89:19-30 Jn 12:44-47 Pray for the children and families at the Crib service this evening. May all who attend be filled anew with wonder at the story of the Nativity.</p>	<p>25 CHRISTMAS DAY Ps 98 Heb 1:1-4 Lk 2:1-20 Pray for all for whom this is not a season of joy; the homeless, the unemployed, the frail, the lonely and the addicted.</p>	<p>26 Ps 148 Col 3:12-17 Jn 1:1-14 Give thanks for Stephen, the first Christian martyr and pray for the many Christians throughout the world still being persecuted for their faith.</p>
<p>27 ST JOHN 1 Jn 1:5-10 Ps 27:4-12 Jn 1:6-14 Give thanks for John, apostle and evangelist and pray that we might become worthy disciples of our Lord.</p>	<p>28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS 1 Jn 2:1-6 Ps 16 Matt 2:13-18 Pray for all innocents persecuted today, in particular for women and children and all victims of gender based violence.</p>	<p>29 1 Jn 2:7-11 Ps 96:1-9 Lk 2:22-35 Pray for God's protection over all travellers at this busy time of year. Pray, too, for all emergency services personnel.</p>	<p>30 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-10 Lk 2:36-40 Pray that our church may be filled with the Holy Spirit in the coming year.</p>	<p>31 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2, 11-13 Jn 1:1-18 Pray that as we come to the end of this year we never forget that God is our rock and our refuge in Whom we can trust completely.</p>	<p>1 JANUARY Ps 8 Acts 4:8-12 Lk 2:15-21 Pray that all who do not yet know the Lord may come to recognize Him as their one true Saviour.</p>	<p>2 Ps 147:12-20 Eph 1:3-14 Jn 12:44-50 Give thanks for all our lay ministers who faithfully carry out their roles in our services.</p>
<p>3 1 Jn 3:1-6 Ps 98:5-8 Jn 1:29-34 Pray for all school, university and hospital chaplains. May they be a source of comfort to all whose lives they touch.</p>	<p>4 1 Jn 3:7-10 Ps 98:7-10 Jn 1:35-42 Give thanks for our beautiful gardens and buildings and for those who tend and maintain them.</p>	<p>5 1 Jn 3:11-18 Ps 100 Jn 1:43-51 Pray for the parishes in our Archdeaconry; St Paul's, St Andrew's, St Peter's, St Saviour's, St Matthew's, Christ the King and Good Shepherd.</p>	<p>6 EPIPHANY Ps 72:1-7, 10-14 Eph 3:1-12 Matt 2:1-12 Pray that we might be as generous as the Magi were with our gifts of talents and time for the increase of God's kingdom.</p>	<p>7 1 Jn 3:18-4:6 Ps 2 Matt 4:12-17, 23-25 Pray for all the sick of our parish and for their doctors, nurses and carers.</p>	<p>8 1 Jn 4:7-12 Ps 72:1-8 Mk 6:30-44 Give thanks for Caro and all who work behind the scenes to keep our parish running smoothly and efficiently.</p>	<p>9 Ps 29 Acts 8:14-17 Lk 3:15-17, 21-22 Pray for the prayer groups in the parish and for the prayer ministers available after each service.</p>

Father, we pray that you will turn our hearts towards you as Christmas approaches. Let us not get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the season this year and miss the chance to celebrate the gifts of hope, peace, joy and love that you sent us on that first Christmas. That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you Father for your immensurable gift. Amen.

Oh God, you were pleased to announce the coming of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, with choirs of angels who proclaimed with their song,
"Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth". Grant that we may so pass our time here to your glory, that at Your Son's second coming we may rejoice before Him. Amen.

Lord, teach us to pray. Some of us are not skilled in the art of prayer. As we draw near to Thee in thought, our spirits long for Thy Spirit, and reach out for Thee, longing to feel Thee near. We know not how to express the deepest emotions that lie hidden in our hearts.
We thank Thee that Thou art hearing us even now. We thank Thee for the grace of prayer. We thank Thee for Thyself.

God of Hope, we seek You.
During this holy season of Advent,
Help us to see You in all whom we encounter.

God of Hope, we seek You.
We seek You in the crude manger,
A child born to save the world.
May Your hope be a comfort
To all who long for justice.

God of Hope, we seek You.
May your hope fill our hearts
And grace our lips so that we might
Reflect your hope for all the world. Amen.

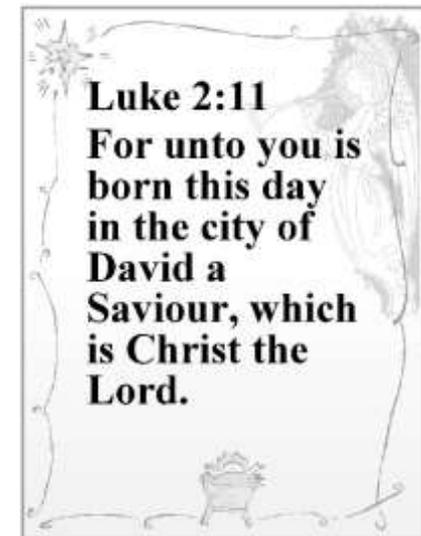
Goodness is stronger than evil;
Love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness;
Life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours through Him who loves us.

Desmond Tutu.

O God, teach us that our hearts are empty unless You fill them and all desires fail unless they crave for You.
Mercifully give us light and grace to seek and find You, that we may ever be Yours and You may be ours for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER DIARY

St Thomas Church, RONDEBOSCH



DECEMBER
2021

