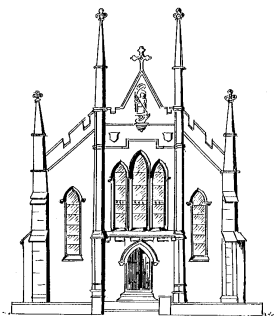


# DAILY PRAYERS FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**HOLY TRINITY & ST GEORGE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Serving Kendal and Sedbergh

**[www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk](http://www.kendalcatholicchurch.uk)**

**Sunday - Advent Week 4** (Year B)

20<sup>th</sup> December

**Collect:**

Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord,  
Your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by His Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of His Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Luke 1:26-38

**Today's prayer:**

Almighty God,  
fulfil our desire  
and kindle our hearts  
by Your Spirit,  
that being filled with the oil of Your grace,  
we may shine as bright lights  
at the coming of Your Son Jesus Christ;  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. Amen.

*Gelasian Sacramentary*

**O Clavis David:**

O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at Your will the gate of Heaven: Come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead Your captive people into freedom.

*Isaiah had prophesied:*

I will place the Key of the House of David on His shoulder; when He opens, no one will shut, when He shuts, no one will open. (Isaiah 22:22), and His dominion is vast and forever peaceful, from David's throne, and over His kingdom, which He confirms and sustains by judgment and justice, both now and forever. (Isaiah 9:6).

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

## Monday – Advent Week 4

21<sup>st</sup> December

St Peter Canisius

### **Collect:**

Hear in kindness, O Lord,  
the prayers of Your people,  
that those who rejoice  
at the coming of Your Only Begotten Son in our flesh  
may, when at last He comes in glory,  
gain the reward of eternal life.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Luke 1:39-45

### **Today's prayer:**

#### **O Oriens:**

O Radiant Dawn, splendour of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.

#### *Isaiah had prophesied:*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shown. (Isaiah 9:1).

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

## Tuesday - Advent Week 4

22<sup>nd</sup> December

### **Collect:**

O God, who, seeing the human race fallen into death,  
willed to redeem it by the coming of Your Only Begotten Son,  
grant, we pray,  
that those who confess His Incarnation with humble fervor  
may merit His company as their Redeemer.  
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Luke 1:46-56

### **Today's prayer:**

#### **O Rex Gentium:**

O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature You fashioned from the dust.

#### *Isaiah had prophesied:*

For a Child is born to us, a Son is given us; upon His shoulder dominion rests. They name Him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:5), and He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. (Isaiah 2:4).

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

## Wednesday - Advent Week 4

23<sup>rd</sup> December

St John Kanty

### Collect:

Almighty ever-living God,  
as we see how the Nativity of Your Son  
according to the flesh draws near,  
we pray that to us, Your unworthy servants,  
mercy may flow from Your Word,  
who chose to become flesh of the Virgin Mary  
and establish among us His dwelling,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Luke 1:57-66

**Today's prayer:**

**O Emmanuel:**

O Emmanuel, King and Lawgiver, desire of the nations, Saviour of all  
people, come and set us free, Lord our God.

*Isaiah had prophesied:*

The Lord Himself will give you this sign: the Virgin shall be with child, and  
bear a son, and shall name Him Emmanuel.

*Emmanuel means God is with us.*

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

*There were many devices used to teach the faith in the early church,  
here is one of them - an acrostic:*

*If we start with the last title and take the first letter of each one –  
Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia – we come up the  
Latin words ERO CRAS meaning, "Tomorrow, I will be [there]!"*

*Therefore, the Lord Jesus, whose coming we have prepared for throughout  
Advent and whom we have considered in the seven Messianic titles,  
now speaks to us: He says, "Tomorrow, I will be [there]!"*

*So, the 'O Antiphons' not only bring an intensity to our Advent preparation,  
they also prepare and lead us into its truly joyful conclusion!*

## Thursday – Advent Week 4

24<sup>th</sup> December

### Collect:

Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus,  
and do not delay,  
that those who trust in Your compassion  
may find solace and relief in Your coming.  
Who live and reign with God the Father,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel:** Lk 1:67-79

**Today's prayer:**

A Christmas Eve Prayer

Loving God,  
help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the world.  
Let kindness come  
with every gift and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings,  
and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Your children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

*Robert Louis Stevenson*

Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay!

## Friday – The Nativity of the Lord

### Collect:

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that, as we are bathed in the new radiance of Your incarnate Word,  
the light of faith, which illumines our minds,  
may also shine through in our deeds.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Luke 2:15-20

### Today's prayer:

O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts  
in this profound mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of all men and women  
this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately  
and which You alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better,  
and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also Your beauty, holiness, and purity.  
Awaken in their hearts  
love and gratitude for Your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in Your love  
and give us all Your heavenly peace. Amen.

*Pope St John XXIII*

**O come let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

## Saturday – St Stephen

Protomartyr

### Collect:

Grant, Lord, we pray,  
that we may imitate what we worship,  
and so learn to love even our enemies,  
for we celebrate the heavenly birthday  
of a man who knew how to pray even for his persecutors.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Today's Gospel reading:** Matthew 10:17-22

### Today's prayer:

The gates of heaven opened for St Stephen,  
the first of the martyrs -  
in heaven he wears the crown of victory.

Lord,  
today we celebrate the entrance  
of Saint Stephen into eternal glory.  
He died praying for those who killed him.  
Help us to imitate his goodness  
and to love our enemies.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son,  
who lives and reigns with You  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

St Stephen, Pray for us

*Remember too, that St Stephen is the patron saint of altar servers – we thank God today for each of our altar servers. We ask Him to continue to bless them and encourage them in the work and witness they give to Him as good servers of the community at the altar.  
Happy feast day!*