

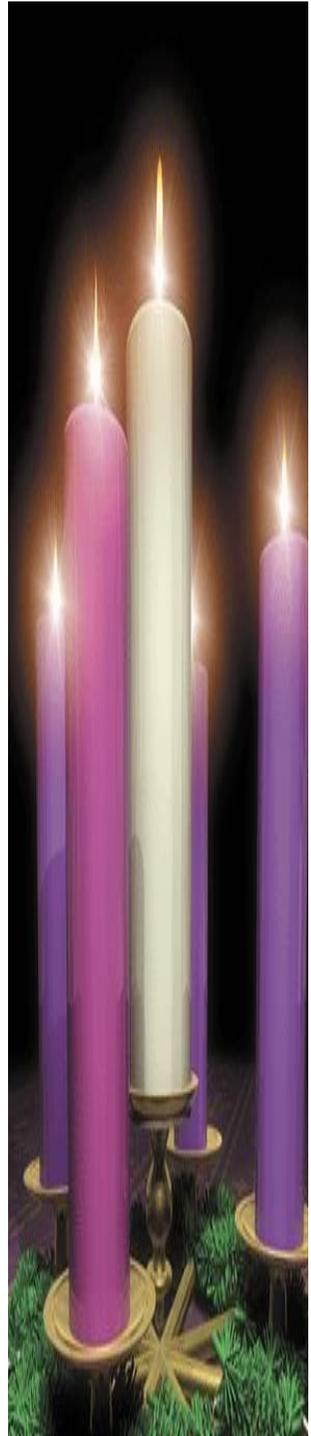


Colchester Advent Prayer Guide

Colchester is very blessed with a number of Christian Organisations, Agencies and Chaplaincies

We hope you will use this Prayer guide as a focus for daily prayer during the Advent season. We also hope that it will provide you with some knowledge of the breadth of Christian works and the contact details for each.

We start our guide on 1st December, beginning with praying for the Colchester Borough and we conclude on 24th December praying for World Peace



December 1st

Colchester Borough

At the start of this Advent season, we pray for God's blessing for our town. We pray for the Colchester residents and all those work in and visit the Borough.

We remember our MP's – Will Quince, Bernard Jenkin & Pritti Patel

Our Mayor - Gerard Oxford
and Borough Councillors

December 2nd

Beacon House

Contact details: Vivienne Wiggins – 01206 761960

office@beaconhouseministries.org.uk

www.beaconhouseministries.org.uk

Bringing hope, peace and comfort to Homeless people in the town, as we supply hot meals, nursing care, laundry, showers, IT access and a range of support.



December 3rd

Christian Youth Outreach (CYO)

Contact details: CYO, Elim Church, Clematis Way, Colchester, CO4 0QH
01206 863835 mail@cyocolchester.org.uk

www.cyocolchester.org.uk

CYO works with schools and colleges to be a distinctive Christian presence, to support the pastoral care of pupils and staff and to help develop spiritual life. We do this by providing or supporting chaplains and mentors who work regularly with schools and colleges in the Colchester area. Our 'Sanctum' prayer space project gives young people an opportunity to explore prayer and their own spiritual life and our 'Beloved' course helps Year 9 girls to discover their true value. We also do occasional lessons and assemblies linked to the chaplaincy work. We also support those working in primary schools and can offer training and resources to those wishing to run prayer spaces. At the heart of our work is the passion to connect the work of God's Kingdom to the world of education, helping the church to be good news to schools and colleges.

December 4th

Colchester CAP Debt Center

Contact details: Paula Goddard, Centre Manager
paulagoddard@capuk.org

www.colchesterchurches.org.uk/2015/02/12/cap/

Partnering with Christians Against Poverty, CAP Colchester offers free debt counseling, Job Clubs and Money management to those affected by poverty.

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Contact SGBC Administrator (liz@colchesterchurches.org.uk) for further information

December 5th

The Gideons International

Contact details for North Essex Branch:

Mrs Anne Owen, Tel. 01206 383843, Mob. 07968 745669.

www.gideons.org.uk

To place copies of God's Word in the traffic lanes of life, in order to win men, women and young people to the Lord Jesus Christ.

December 6th

Essex Christian Healing Trust (NE Essex)

Contact details: essexhealing@aol.com www.essexhealing.co.uk

The Essex Christian Healing Trust is "an ecumenical body that exists to support and encourage the Christian Ministry of Healing throughout Essex and East London." We have a prayer diary which is available on request. The prayer diary covers most aspects of Healing Ministry in Essex and beyond over a month of suggested topics



December 7th

Open Door Colchester

Contact details: Eld Lane, Colchester CO1 1LS 01206 769436
www.opendoorcolchester.co.uk

Open Door drop-in centre is based in the centre of Colchester and provides a safe and welcoming environment to all. We believe that everyone in life should be able to go somewhere to meet friends, make new ones, and receive support or advice if/when needed, regardless of their present or past circumstances

December 8th

GO4 Entreprises

Contact details: info@go4enterprises.org
www.go4enterprises.org

GO4 Enterprises is a Community Interest Company which is basically a Ltd Company (Shares) that has further regulation by the CIC Regulator to ensure it reinvests profits into its social purposes. In the case of GO4 that is to offer volunteering, training and employment opportunities through its cafe to unemployed people and those with learning difficulties. Although established by Christians it is open to all though.

December 9th

University of Essex Anglican Chaplaincy

Contact details: jmmurphy@essex.ac.uk 07779 266034

www.angchap.org.uk www.facebook.com/UoEAngChap

University Chaplaincy is a coal-face ministry. I work with hundreds of staff and students, people of all faiths and none. I operate a drop-in service and try to be visible round campus by walking my dog. During term time, I run a weekly breakfast bible study and a midweek service of Holy Communion. Each month there is also a topical discussion with cake and an invited speaker, plus a film night/social at my home.

December 10th

Journey into Wholeness

Contact details: Howard Gardner

www.journeyintowholeness.co.uk

We are a registered charity supported by members of many different Churches. We have stalls at Mind Body Spirit events in Essex and use the Jesus Deck as a very effective means of sharing Jesus with New Age spiritual seekers.



December 11th

Cantus Firmus Trust

Contact details: David Gunton: david.gunton@cantusfirmus.org.uk
www.cantusfirmus.org.uk

Cantus Firmus is a local registered charity which encourages and introduces the use of creative arts – music, singing, art, writing, dance, drama – in worship and outreach, and offers this to Churches in the Colchester area (and further afield) for the enrichment of their worship and ministry.

December 12th

Colchester Town Mission Trust

Contact details: Jon Potterton email: honsec.ctmt@gmail.com

Colchester Town Mission Trust manages invested assets so that the interest can be used for supporting evangelistic work in Colchester and District. Trustees meet in April and October to determine distribution of gifts.



December 13th

Friends International at the University of Essex

Contact details: Michael and Caroline White

E-mail: whitec@essex.ac.uk 01206 825060

www.friendsinternationalincolchester.com

www.facebook.com/friendscolchester/

We offer friendship to international students through a variety of regular events including iCafe, iWomen and iStudy [Bible Study]. Please pray particularly for our iHome programme which runs through the Christmas vacation offering students the opportunity to be hosted for a meal by a local Christian family. We would also appreciate urgent prayer for a new staff worker and for their financial support; and that our Christmas Parties on 9th and 16th December will help the students to understand the Gospel through the Christmas Carols and the talk.

December 14th

St Helena Hospice Chaplaincy

Contact details: Rev Gill Moore & Rev Vickie Peters.

Telephone 01206 845566

www.sthelenahospice.org.uk

Chaplaincy offers spiritual care to all people in our local area with a life-limiting illness who are receiving care from St Helena hospice.

Spiritual care is about helping people to find their inner peace , sense of purpose and hope in life

December 15th

St Peter's Church with Beacon House Guest House Project

Contact details: Rev Mark Wallace 01206 572641

E-mail: towncentreparrishoffice@gmail.com

www.stpeterscolchester.org/serve/the-guest-house-project

Working with Beacon House we seek to welcome those in need who are homeless and sleep in rough, to serve them a hot meal, to spend time getting to know them, to seek to help them in ways appropriate to their needs, to offer them a comfortable and safe bed for the night, and then to offer them a warm breakfast in the morning

December 16th

Colchester Street Pastors

Contact details: Stef Jones Tel: 07881381265

www.streetpastors.org/locations/colchester

Colchester Street pastors are trained volunteers from many Churches in the Colchester area who care about their community. We can be found in the town centre Fridays and Saturday nights 11pm until about 4am. Street Pastors engage with people on the streets to care for them, listen to them and help them. They work together with other partners in the night-time economy to make communities safer

December 17th

Colchester Hospital Chaplaincy

Contact details: The on-call Chaplain can be contacted through the hospital switchboard – 01206 747474
chaplaincy@colchesterhospital.nhs.uk

www.colchesterhospital.nhs.uk/chaplaincy.shtml

The Chaplaincy team at Colchester Hospital is an integral part of the healthcare team working alongside other departments to provide holistic care to patients, family members and friends, as well as staff. Chaplaincy provides spiritual care that recognises and responds to the needs of the human spirit when faced with trauma, ill health or sadness and can include the need for meaning, for self-worth, to express oneself, for faith support, perhaps for rites or prayer or sacrament, or simply for a sensitive listener. Chaplaincy is about expressing respect and care, about listening in a compassionate way, helping to create a space which cares for the spiritual needs of the patient and family, and bringing a different light to often difficult situations.

Chaplaincy sheds light in a different way.



December 18th

Colchester Soup Run

Contact details: Ann Bates ann.bates36@btinternet.com

The Colchester Soup run have volunteers from several churches in the area. We provide sandwiches and hot drinks, soup, tea and coffee together with fruit and treats of chocolate and crisps every night of the year. The visitors know that we are all Christians and often ask for our prayers. In particular these people this winter need the stamina to cope with the cold and wet we are forecast to have. They also ask for prayers for their families.

December 19th

Essex Integration

Contact details: Mark Snelling, Operations Manager

76, East Hill, Colchester, CO1 2QW Telephone: 01206 861180

Email: info@essexintegration.org www.essexintegration.org

Essex Integration is a non-profit organisation that provides essential support services to newly arriving refugees and migrants accepted under the Home Office VPR scheme to Essex.

While it works on a contract basis for Essex County Council to deliver the core requirements of the scheme, it also provides, as a charitable trust, wider integration support through a range of voluntary and community services.

Essex Integration has a Christian ethos underpinning our values as we serve and support migrants and refugees

December 20th

Colchester Foodbank

Contact details: Michael Beckett – Manager Telephone: 01206 621998

Address: Unit C33 Moorside Business Park (off Eastgates), Colchester

CO1 2ZF Hours: 10am to 2pm, Mondays to Fridays Email:

info@colchester.foodbank.org.uk www.colchester.foodbank.org.uk

www.twitter.com/colchfbank

www.facebook.com/FoodBankColchester

Our charity meets the immediate need to feed those in poverty, to move individuals and families in crisis out of poverty from their contact with us and our services and to work pro-actively to reduce the need for Foodbank by research and analysis

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Matthew 25:35-36



December 21st

Abbeyfield Community Project

Contact details: Mark and Naomi Snelling

Telephone number: 01206 570361 www.abbeyfieldcommunity.com or our facebook page

Based at 170 Berechurch Road (near the Garrison in Colchester) Abbeyfield Community Project is a group of local churches working together with the residents of Abbeyfield to establish and maintain a thriving community where everyone has a sense of belonging and value.

The project is now in its 13th year and Mark and Naomi Snelling took up part time roles as its community workers in September 2015. The house is their family home as well as the venue for weekly and seasonal activities including a community meal, toddler group and informal worship event.



December 22nd

Colchester Korban

Contact details: Mark Wood, Project Manager

Telephone: 01206 869533 / 07435 974356

Email: Korban.manager@outlook.com

www.korban.org.uk (NB this website is being updated)

Colchester Korban is a small supported housing charity working with young people in crisis. We operate a 5 bedroom house giving a place of warmth, safety and support to 5 homeless young people at a time. We are opening a move-on house in December, this is a 3 bedroom property enabling young people to take a step towards fully independent living. Our desire is to create a homely environment for young people to feel safe, accepted and able to move forward from. We are able to do this because of the generosity of the local church and due to the ever present need to support and accommodate young people who have found themselves homeless and in a vulnerable situation. We appreciate your prayers

December 23rd

Seeking God's Blessing for Colchester

Contact details: liz@colchesterchurches.org.uk

www.colchesterchurches.org.uk

SGBC exists to Support, Encourage, Enable, and Kindle Christian mission activity and cooperation in, and to bless, the Borough of Colchester in the name of Jesus Christ.

Our Mission Statement is: To enable Christian Churches and Agencies in the Borough of Colchester to work together so that the world may believe in Jesus.

December 24th

World Peace

As we approach the celebrations of the birth of the Prince of Peace, let us remember all those who suffer daily, who strive to protect others and let us pray that the love of our Lord will be shared through us and throughout the world this Christmas.



