



" Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King

Let every heart prepare Him room

And Heaven and nature sing . . .

Isaac Watts, (674-1748)

Prepared by Susanne & Bruce Edwards September 2018
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Priory Prayer Diary

Thoughts For Advent 2018



Countdown to Christmas



The coming- an advent eulogy

"Come in, come in, Eternal Glory thou shalt win ..."

John Bunyan 1628-1688



[Use this twice]

13 and 6 days to go . . .

A thought for the Holy Family - at this time we pray for our immediate friends and family, that their coming together to celebrate the coming of Jesus may be a blessed time together and not spoilt by excessive commercialism.

"All happy families resemble each other ..."
Anna Jarenina, Leo Tolstoy, 1828-1910

12 and 5 days to go . . .

The journey to Bethlehem. We pray that all our journeys this Christmastide may be safe and stress-free, that the users of our transport systems exhibit patience, tolerance and care at this time and that we arrive at our chosen destinations in a spirit of love and charity.

"A man travels the world in search of what he needs and returns home to find it"
Gorge Moors, Irish writer 1852-1933

11 and 4 days to go . . .

The Innkeeper. We pray that we may consider all those in the hospitality sector and those in food shops who are committed to meet our demands and supply us with our domestic and travel needs - an onerous task to be carried out with humour and forbearance. Let us be grateful there those who serve . . .

"...there was no room for them in the inn ..."
St.Luke, Ch2 vv7

10 and 3 days to go . . .

The arrival of the Baby Jesus ... We prayerfully consider all those who will provide the essential care to expectant mums, those who deal with medical emergencies and the caring staff of our NHS who often do not receive the thanks and support they deserve.

"...that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.."
II Corinthians Ch11, v24

9 and 2 days to go . . .

The shepherds and the sheep - seen as the worship of the lowly; may we consider our position as 'toilers in the field', those who strive to maintain a Christian attitude and a desire to fulfil a life of 'goodwill' towards all those who share our lives.

"... thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility."
Book of common Prayer, Collect, 1st Sunday in Advent

8 and only 1 more day to go . . .

The Three Kings; representing the worship of the nations and the homage of the leaders of the countries; we would pray that all those in positions of power and influence practise foresight and some humility in the decisions made that effect the newly born ...

"For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory"
The Lord's Prayer

7 days to go . . .and on Christmas day . . .

The Star to guide us: O Lord, we pray that on this Christmastide, the celebration of Your birth, we keep Your Name ever present in our thoughts, that we are not side-tracked by crass commercialism and that we recall how those who have gone before us truly worshipped, Amen . .

