

Every day in November at 6pm each evening, there has been a call to **#pray for the nation**. This last week's prayer focus:

*Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days, we turn our hearts to you.*

*In ages past, you have delivered our nation from disaster. Do it again, we pray.*

*Give wisdom beyond human wisdom to our leaders,  
Give strength beyond human strength to the NHS and  
all our frontline workers.*

*Give comfort beyond human comfort to the elderly and  
all who grieve.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, in these dark and difficult days,  
turn your face towards us, have mercy upon us,  
and heal our land, we pray. Amen.*

## A call to prayer for the nation



*We would love to hear from you with favourite prayers and reflections that are important to you. Please send them to [dawn@walmsleyparish.org](mailto:dawn@walmsleyparish.org)*

*If you would like to receive our weekly 'Walmsley Parish Newsletter', please contact me to send it to you.  
Love from your friends in Walmsley Parish xx*

## Prayers for w/c 29 November



God of hope, we look to You with an open heart and yearning spirit. During this Advent season, we will keep alert and awake, listening for Your word and keeping to Your precepts. Our hope is in you.



### A PRAYER FOR THE First Sunday of Advent

God of light and life,  
give us hope as we wait  
for your coming again.  
When we are tempted  
to be grateful to have found you  
while others are lost,  
send us out into the darkness  
in search of those  
who need you most.  
Amen.

A family prayer from the Church of England's **#pray for the nation**

**Loving God, you know us and all that we are facing.  
We thank you that we can come to you as we are – with all  
our fears and concerns, our difficulties and challenges.  
Please draw close to each of us and those we remember  
before you now. Bring to us your peace and comfort.  
And fill us with your Spirit that we may be bearers of your  
grace and hope to others.  
As a country protect us, encourage us and keep us. In the  
name of your Son Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

The prayers in last Sunday's online Team Service were not spoken, but sung! The wonderful words were by our Team Rector, Peter Reiss... [*The tune was Lux Eoi, as used for "Alleluia, alleluia, hearts to heaven and voices raise".*]

- 1. Let us pray to God for justice In those places where the tears of the victims fall unheeded  
And have done so over years.  
Gracious God bring change and promise of a new day's brighter dawn; bring an end to brutal structures - plant your Kingdom, peace restore.**
- 2. Let us pray to God for healing for the sick, and those depressed, for the lonely and the wounded, Anxious, frightened, sore, distressed.  
Gracious God bring hope and comfort and give strength to cope with pain; Lord, breathe in your Holy Spirit, and revive their souls again.**
- 3. Let us pray to God for mercy for those times we've walked away, turned aside or failed to notice, Fearful that we'd have to pay.  
Gracious God, forgive us, change us to be people of your will; let our hearts beat with your heartbeat  
And our hands your tasks fulfil.**
- 4. Let us pray to God for others, those who do not know his care; those who find the stress in living  
Drowns their joy and feeds their fear.  
Gracious God bring light and sunshine:  
May your children know their worth,  
Play in freedom – have a future;  
May your Kingdom come on earth.**

The COLLECT for the FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT:

***Almighty God,  
give us grace to cast away the works of darkness  
and to put on the armour of light,  
now in the time of this mortal life,  
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great  
humility;  
that on the last day,  
when he shall come  
again in his glorious  
majesty to judge the  
living and the dead,  
we may rise to the life  
immortal;  
through him who is  
alive and reigns with  
you,  
in the unity of the  
Holy Spirit,  
one God,  
now and for  
ever. Amen.***



Psalm 80 is selected for this day

**Powerful, prayerful words from Bill Braviner last Sunday on the day of 'Christ the King', whose power was indeed love!**

**We praise you, O Christ!  
You are king, yet crowned with thorns;  
You are king, yet enthroned on a cross;  
You are king, yet riding a donkey;  
You are king, yet found with the excluded.  
Your power is love, your wealth is welcome, your gift is life.  
Help us follow you. Amen.**