

ST FAITH'S PRAYER DIARY December 2016

Luke 2:15-16 *When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger.*

THU 1	<p>Thank God for the opportunities the Christmas season brings us to declare that we follow Jesus the Christ. Pray for us all to have the boldness the Holy Spirit gives to speak up about our faith over this season. Pray for boldness to invite friends to Christmas events. Pray for the Gumtrees Playtime Gingerbread Night this evening for good conversations and opportunity to build on relationships. Pray for Rosemary and Emma as they share about what Christmas means to them as christians.</p>
FRI 2	<p>Praise God for the opportunity to share a Christmas Lunch celebration today. Pray that Jeanette McCausland would be able to proclaim the Christ who was born for us, as she speaks today. Ask God to bring visitors along, and to call them to himself. Give thanks for Soulies youth and the year of growth in maturity and number that they have had in 2016, and that their final night of the year would be a great reflection on all that God has done throughout the year. Give thanks for Mitch coordinating and for the many young leaders who dedicate their Friday nights to leading the youth.</p>
SAT 3	<p>MISSION – Irwan and Catherine – AFES Wollongong Uni - Pray for the university students attending the National Training Event with AFES this week and next, that God works in their hearts and life. Pray especially for Irwan who is presenting material in Indonesian without a co-leader. Pray also for the 3 international students whom Irwan is training in evangelism.</p>
SUN 4	<p>Thank God for the ministry of Grant Gallant over the past 13 years at Warriewood Anglican and St Faith's. Pray the farewell today would be an encouragement to Grant and Alison, and their family. Pray God would encourage the Warriewood congregation members as they look back over these years to celebrate what God has done.</p>
MON 5	<p>MISSION – Fiona Kirsop – Credo at UTS - Pray NTE would bear much fruit with students from across Australia being compelled to take the gospel to all nations and those less-reached by the gospel. Pray for safe travel and good times of community amongst a large conference. Pray God sustains Fiona and James as they serve in different capacities, for wisdom, energy and that they give glory to God in what they do. Give thanks for those students who have attended 'Prime' training with Fiona this year, equipping students to answer tough questions about Christianity; pray they will be spurred to put what they've learnt into practice and have a growing desire to do evangelism amongst classmates and at uni. Give thanks for other Prime courses that have been challenging students to engage with Muslims, graduate well into the workforce, and lead small groups effectively.</p>
TUE 6	<p>WAR VETS - Give thanks for a great 'Men's Weekend Away' to the Air Show and Museum at Temora; helping Tony Bradford and Glen Walsh to get alongside the men and especially some of the younger veterans. Pray for more opportunities to share the gospel through these relationships. Pray the Village Carols this afternoon at 5 - 6.30pm and short Christmas/gospel message given by Tony will break through all the usual Christmas 'glitter'. Pray for their combined Lessons in Carols Service on Sat 17th Dec at 5pm at the Chapel and dinner afterwards. Pray the gospel will be clearly proclaimed by Chaplain Bob Durbin and encourages fellowship and unity.</p>

<p>WED 7</p>	<p>Pray and give thanks for the Jelly Wobbles as they celebrate Christmas with the Scripture classes at Narrabeen North Public School and Narrabeen Lakes Public School's today. Pray the message of Christmas would be clear and the joy of the season would be known by students as they celebrate the birth of Jesus together.</p> <p>Pray for the "Christmas" mornings at Gumtrees Playtime today and tomorrow and for Neil as he talks to the kids about the real meaning of Christmas. Give thanks for Rosemary and Emma and other helpers who run these playgroups.</p> <p>Ask God to be working in the lives of the guests at The Community Pantry (TCP), that as we come to Christmas they can know of God's gracious love for them. Pray for Nola, Chris Nerilyn, Helen and others who are serving, setting up, cooking and on clean up, that they continue to love one another and care for the guests in a way that reflects Christ's love.</p>
<p>THU 8</p>	<p>Give thanks for the many women who attend the Quilting and Needlework group each Thursday (up to 34 last month) and for the enthusiasm of Judith as she coordinates the group. Pray they continue to be a welcoming group next year where the gospel message can be gently interwoven as they chat while sewing.</p>
<p>FRI 9</p>	<p>Give thanks for the lunch time group at Narrabeen High School, and for the many students who have come along and heard the gospel throughout the year, and that they would continue to investigate Jesus and ultimately come to know him as their Lord and Saviour. Give thanks for Mitch and Ellen who have shone the light of Jesus at this school with many students also deciding to come along to Soulies.</p>
<p>SAT 10</p>	<p>Pray for Philip Selden as he preaches on "The Word on Mental Health" at Saturday church today and Traditional church tomorrow; pray he is able to sensitively impart God's wisdom on this subject.</p> <p>Pray for the team organising the Summer Kids Club at Lakeside Park in January. Pray for the partnership between our church and Narrabeen Baptist Church and ask that together we would proclaim the gospel of Jesus in a way that is helpful. Ask that through this mission, God would reach whole families with the gospel. Pray for the planning meeting today, that God would use this time to encourage the team and help them to be prepared for January.</p>
<p>SUN 11</p>	<p>CONFIRMATION – Thank God for those confirming their faith in Jesus this morning at Warriewood Anglican, Robbie, Anica, Jessica, Eva and Luke. Pray for Bishop Chris Edwards, to be encouraging to the confirmees and faithful to God's word as he speaks at the WAC services.</p>
<p>MON 12</p>	<p>MISSION – Chris and Karen Webb – Broome. They have arrived in Sydney for 6 months home assignment. Pray for them as they feel sad about spending 6 months away from the people they have been ministering to; ask God to continue working in the lives of the people they have been discipling, while they are away from Broome. Pray they are encouraged by and equally encourage their partner churches when they visit and share about their mission work with aboriginal people Broome and the Kimberley WA.</p>
<p>TUE 13</p>	<p>MISSION – Kent and Linda – Give thanks for the visit from Central Asian people living here in Sydney; pray for relationships to build and develop. Pray for Jack to be recovering well from recent jaw surgery. Give thanks for Kent having recent contact with a number of ex-inmates he has worked with; pray for him as he now continues to support them on the outside. Thank God for Linda's visit to Nepal and Pakistan supporting Interserve workers; many in hospitals etc are overworked, pray for more people to serve in these areas.</p>
<p>WED 14</p>	<p>Pray for David, Ashley, Bruce, Verity, Jenny and others will be well prepared and show God's love to all the guests at TCP. Ask God to encourage guests to bring along friends.</p>

THU 15	Pray for the Thanksgiving and Remembrance Service tonight at St Faith's . Ask that God would deal graciously with those who mourn the loss of a loved one , particularly as we come up to Christmas time. Pray that God's comfort and love would be known as this service takes place tonight and that people from our wider community would attend .
FRI 16	Give thanks for the Soulies Youth Leaders including Luke C, Luke H, Jason, Josh, Hayley, Ebony, Cassie, Mary, Brad, Nick, Joanna, Georgina, Alex Roanize, Felicity, Kelly, Sam, Molly Ellen, Ben, Nathan and Mitch and the hard work they have put in throughout the year, and that they would have a refreshing break over the summer and continue to grow closer to Jesus over this time.
SAT 17	MISSION – Paul and Sandra King – France - Pray for good follow up, and for transformed lives after the Mark Drama by GBU and local churches. Pray for the new group, currently 20 students, meeting every week to discover the Bible before a social evening. Ask God to give Paul, Sandra, James, Kurt and the student leaders good ideas for taking the Gospel to students in Strasbourg.
SUN 18	Praise God for the special "Lessons and Carols service" to be held at Traditional Church today . Thank God for the work of the Choir in preparing for this event , and for the participation of Rob Stokes and Bronwyn Bishop in the service. Pray that many visitors would come, and Kerry would simply share why Keeping Christ in Christmas is so important. Gives thanks for Ellen Stretton and her enthusiasm bringing the knowledge and love of Jesus to youth and children at St Faith's and in our wider community for many years . Give thanks for her work in our Children's Ministry seeing much growth in numbers in Lighthouse & Grommets and for her training of numerous young leaders during this time . Thank God for the gifts and abilities to connect so well with young people that He has given her; pray He will open doors for her to continue to use these gifts for His glory .
MON 19	Praise God that he has not left us without knowledge of Himself, but has come to us in the person of Jesus Christ. Ask God to help Kerry to prepare well for speaking at our Christmas services this Saturday night and Sunday . Pray that God would give us all boldness to invite friends, neighbours and family along to hear this most important news. MISSION – Steve and Narelle Etherington – Pray for Steve to recover from his recent illness and be able to visit partner churches on their final round of deputations. Pray for the aboriginal Christians in Oenpelli to continue to put their trust in Jesus and rely on God as they face various challenges living in their remote communities. Give thanks to God for their joint work with Steve and Narelle that has led to the translation of the New Testament and parts of the OT into their own language.
TUE 20	Give thanks for the female Small Group leaders including Sarah, Charis, Ruth and others; for their love and care for the women in their groups during the year. Pray the women would be able to spend time in God's word and also catch up with christian friends when groups are not meeting during the school holidays.
WED 21	Pray for the Jelly Wobbles as they perform at TCP tonight to be able to bring a message of love and hope to all the guests. Pray for guests to feel welcomed and that they want to come to Christmas Services . Ask God to be with Steve, Paul, Merryl and others as they serve a special Christmas Dinner , pray that the preparation of the food goes smoothly and it is well attended.
THU 22	Give thanks for those who meet and support each other at 55+ get togethers and at 'Scrapbooking' . Pray they remember each other over the December summer break. WARRIEWOOD BROOK - please pray that all the residents of Warriewood ARV will PTO

	reflect on the significance of Jesus' birth. Pray for God's grace to comfort those for whom Christmas is a hard time because of illness, bereavement or loneliness. Pray for Denise and other chaplains as they share the bible, pray and support these people.
FRI 23	COTTAGE COUNSELLING CENTRE - Praise God for sustaining the counsellors for this ministry this year. Please pray for their clients through the Christmas period and the break, praying especially for those who are grieving and lonely without family at Christmas or New Year. Pray for safety and refreshment for the Counsellors as they take holidays. Thank God for their supporters and pray He will prompt more people to support this ministry prayerfully and financially.
SAT 24	Pray for the Christmas Eve services today, pray for the Jelly Wobbles appearing in concert at 4pm and again at 6pm. Pray for Ben 'wobbling' and then preaching at 6pm and 8pm tonight. Pray many families from the community join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
SUN 25	Praise God for his mercy and love in sending his son the Lord Jesus Christ to provide the way for our reconciliation with Him. Pray for all those who will be finding Christmas a sad and difficult time to know God's peace. Pray for Kerry speaking at the Christmas Day services today at 8:00am and 9:30am. Pray visitors to these services are moved to commit or recommit their lives to Jesus or to want to learn more about God and His desire to be a part of their life. Give thanks for Lloyd Bennett leading and preaching at WAC today , pray many from the community also hear and respond to the good news of the Saviour born to us.
MON 26	Pray for safety for all those travelling and holidaying ; pray especially for refreshment for school teachers, scripture teachers and students.
TUE 27	BEACH MISSION – Pray for all the Beach Missions that are taking place over the holidays. Ask God for safety in travel and enthusiasm in taking His word to the people. Pray that many come to know the saving grace and wisdom that comes from God. Pray especially for David, Debbie, Tim, Claire, Demi and others from St Faith's and Narrabeen Baptist who are at Evens Head for the next 10 days and for those preparing for "Summer Life" Narrabeen Beach Mission from 2-7 January including Mitch, Nat, and Dan and others from Narrabeen Baptist Church.
WED 28	Pray for the guests of TCP that they all know that there is a "week off" tonight and there won't be any meal. Ask God to refresh the volunteers as they have a break. Give thanks to our Lord for the opportunity to show his love in our community through TCP.
THU 29	Pray the new minister for WAC and his family are welcomed well by the congregation and colleagues at St Faith's and that they settle in quickly.
FRI 30	Pray for the upcoming preparations for Soulies Summer Camp in January 23-27. Pray this time will encourage the leaders and youth reinforcing their faith in Jesus and strengthening their commitment to support each other in their relationship with God.
SAT 31	MISSION – Geoff and Martha Boye – Tanzania – Give thanks for their safe travel over many kilometres these last 6 months as they have visited their partner churches. Pray these visits have been a blessing and encouragement for them, and along with CMS summer school they are refreshed for their return to work at Mungushi Bible College in Tanzania in mid January 2017. Pray for all the preparations and packing needed in these last few weeks.

Deadline for next Prayer Diary prayer points: Tuesday 17th Jan, 2017. Send in writing to the office or email to office@stfaiths.org.au Note: We may not be able to include everything.