

All Saints Church Clifton
Cycle of Prayer – January 2018

Date	Festival	Prayers
1	Naming and Circumcision of Jesus	Your Blessed Son was given the Name that is above every name: give us grace faithfully to bear his Name, to worship him in the freedom of the Spirit, and to proclaim him as the Saviour of the world.
2	Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops, Teachers of the Faith, 379 and 389 Seraphim, Monk of Sarov, Spiritual Guide, 1833 Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah, Bishop in South India, Evangelist, 1945	<i>"Acquire a peaceful spirit and thousands around you will be saved"</i> . Seraphim. <i>"Every evil is a sickness of soul, but virtue offers the cause of its health"</i> . Basil <i>"In India we wonder if you have sufficiently contemplated the grievous sin of perpetuating your divisions and denominational bitterness in these your daughter churches."</i> Bishop Azariah
3		Pray for all who have a New Year's resolution and determination to get fit in 2018 asking that they may be able to keep their intention. Pray for the work of the NHS in reducing obesity, for those who are obese.
4		Louis Braille was born today in 1809. Pray for all those with sight impairments – the blind and the partially sighted. Pray for teachers, charities and NGOs who work with the blind, who raise awareness and who enable access to reading and learning.
5		Pray for the work of the RSPB, those who care for the British bird population, conservationists and researchers. For all who work to care for creation, those who work to halt and inform about climate change
6	The Epiphany	Through the leading of a star You manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face.
7	Epiphany 1	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
8		Pray for Physicists and also Earth Scientists who study all aspects related to planet earth. May their work inform us so that we are better able to care for creation. (Today is Rotation of the Earth Day and we remember Leon Foucault and his pendulum)
9		Pray for all those who look toward the coming year and are planning for the future – for businesses, families, individuals, our Church and this diocese
10	William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645	Pray for the Church of England and the Anglican Communion. Laud, as well as being a supporter of more catholic practice, worked to generate uniformity on the Church. Pray for our divided Church and the challenging debates and decisions on human sexuality.
11	Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa, 1915	Pray for all who work on behalf of Women's Rights. Even today equality, justice and safety are not guarded in law for women. Pray for Christians in Nigeria who experience some of the most violent persecution in the world.

12	Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167 Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar, 689	Pray for the industrial areas of the NE – Teesside and Tyne and Wear. Areas that have seen huge change over the last decades and will continue to do so as global need for chemicals, oil, shipping, mining and steel change.
13	Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367 Kentigern (Mungo), Missionary Bishop in Strathclyde and Cumbria, 603 George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers), 1691	Pray for brother and sister Christians who are ‘Quakers’. Quakers are renowned for their active campaigning for economic justice, peace, sustainability and human rights – may the whole church become an increasingly active voice on these subjects.
14	Epiphany 2 Baptism of Christ	In Christ You make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory. Father, at the baptism of Jesus you revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children.
15		Pray for all those who work in the broadcasting industry. Television and radio (and on-line streaming) are hugely important in bringing news and entertainment to all. Pray for those whose main connection with others is through TV and radio.
16	Religious Freedom Day	Pray for the work of the world’s religions and religious organizations that bring good to the world. Thank God that Religious Freedom exists in many parts of our world. Pray for those who suffer persecution - and for those who deliver such persecution.
17	Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356 Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932	Pray for the life and work of the Community of the Resurrection, and for the College of the Resurrection. Give thanks for the life and work of Brother Andrew (John Norton) – at ASC and in South Africa with the Community.
18	Amy Carmichael, Founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer, 1951 <i>First Day of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	This year’s material is developed in the German Churches: <i>God has, in Christ, reconciled the world to himself. The love of Christ compels us to be ambassadors of this reconciliation, which is enacted by dismantling the walls. With the fall of the Berlin Wall, Germany experienced how a seemingly insurmountable wall could be brought down. The fall of this wall is a symbol of hope that, with the love of God, nothing is impossible.</i>
19	Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095	Pray for the Diocese of Worcester and the parish of Westbury on Trym (founded in the year 717). Pray for Fr Andre and his ministry team, the work of the parish at Westbury and the work of the Elsie Briggs House of Prayer.
20	Richard Rolle of Hampole, Spiritual Writer, 1349	Remember in prayer those special parts of creation – the Arctic and Antarctic. Pray that we may address the issues of climate change effectively. Pray also for those who live lives of prayer and work to deepen our spiritual insight
21	Epiphany 3	Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace,

		and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power.
22	Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome, 304	Pray for children who suffer at the front line – of violence, war, family crisis, rape and abuse. Those who work for and amongst them. Pray also for those young people who suffer from abnormalities of perception of their own body shape or weight.
23		Pray for those who are unable to speak, those who stammer, those who find it a challenge to put thoughts to words. Those frustrated because their ideas and thoughts are locked away and difficult to communicate.
24	Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher of the Faith, 1622	Pray for those who work in the food industry and in particular with fish. From deep-sea life threatening fishing to fishmongers. Including conservationists and scientists
25	Conversion of Paul (Tu B'Shevat)	Pray for those who live in, work with, and research trees, forests and woods. Pray for those who work with wood. Pray for fruit farmers.
26	Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul	Remember in prayer your friends and companions. Those who make your life special; for the communities in which we live, thanking God for opportunities to work together. Pray for those who are alone.
27		Pray for those whose interests lie predominately in the world of electronics and digital communication. For developers and users of the social media, 'games' and other on-line activities that have transformed the world. May they be enabled to do this to the benefit of humankind and creation.
28	Epiphany 4	God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.
29	Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher, Teacher of the Faith, 1274	Remember those who are freethinkers; who challenge arbitrary authority, question the status quo, and construct alternatives to engrained behaviours. May they be enabled to do this to the benefit of humankind and creation.
30	Charles, King and Martyr, 1649	The Anglo Catholic movement in the world, 'High Anglicism', the fundamental belief in God Incarnate and the move to act on behalf of 'the God in everyone'.
31	John Bosco, Priest, Founder of the Salesian Teaching Order, 1888	For us to address the challenge of communicating the Gospel more effectively in our own places – where we live and work