

## Prayer Focus 2nd December 2018

**But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.....  
Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.” Luke 1: 13, 18**

Father God,  
As we enter the season of Advent,  
We ask that you open our eyes to the extraordinary, miraculous nature of life.  
We pray that this will be a time of reflection, of deep love, and of hope.  
May we once again learn to expect the unexpected from you.  
Rekindle those hopes and dreams which we have given up on.  
Build our faith as we wait upon you that the impossible can happen.  
Help us to trust that our lives are in your hands.  
That you have marvelous plans for everyone of us.  
Lord as we wait for Christmas, help us to share these expectations with friends,  
neighbours and family.  
May we truly reflect the extraordinary God we serve in living freely in His name.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

**EBC & Local Focus:-** Please pray for:- The Christmas Tree Festival.

Pray for all those who have received Christmas leaflets from EBC.

Pray for all those involved in setting up & running the event.

Pray that all those attending will experience something of God.

Pray for events put on in the town leading up to Christmas that the focus will be on Jesus.

Pray for next Saturday's Street market that a Christian message will be heard.

**Street of the Week:-** Benlease Way

**National & World Prayer Points:-** Pray for all those planning events for homeless or disadvantaged people this Christmas. Pray for sufficient funds & volunteers.

Pray for those who will be struggling to make ends meet at this time.

Give thanks for all who give to or volunteer at Food Banks.

from Tearfund -

Fighting has continued to escalate in Mali, where 70,000 people have been forced to leave their homes. Around half of these have little or no access to food. Furthermore, 716 schools have been closed. Please pray for provision, protection, and peace.

Please pray for people living in internally displaced camps in Iraq whose living conditions have been worsened by torrential rainfall. The rain has caused severe flooding, damaging homes, infrastructure and agriculture. Pray for help to reach those in need, as roads are flooded and blocked by debris.