

PRESBYTERY OF NORTH EAST & NORTHERN ISLES PRAYER POINTS

DECEMBER 2025

Please use these 'Points' in personal prayer, but also encourage their use in church services/meetings, study & prayer groups

DOES THE INCARNATION REALLY MATTER?

From an article by Rev Joe Barnard *Cross Training Ministries, Canada*

1. **The incarnation reveals the dignity of human nature.**

The incarnation highlights for us that we are made in the image of God. God is able to take the form of a human being because humans are able by design to reflect the life of God.

2. **The incarnation measures the immeasurable love of God.**

The marvel of the incarnation is that the eternal Son of God assumed the form of a man in order to rescue us from sin, suffering and death.... Thomas Watson was right when he said, "Christ incarnate is nothing other than love covered with flesh."

3. **The incarnation illumines the sacredness of the cross.**

If Jesus is not God, the cross is unspectacular. If Jesus is simply a martyr, he is forgettable. But Jesus is God, ... enfleshed as a human being. The more we appreciate the incarnation, the more we will marvel at the cross.

4. **The Incarnation reveals the essence of spirituality**

Our greatest fulfilment [comes] by yielding ourselves completely to God. Although we cannot replicate the unique person of Christ, we can learn from him what it means to be truly human. **I am most myself when I am most yielded to God.**



Mightily Meek God, we come to you in these dark days, both physical and metaphorical, and cry out for simple faith to grow in amazed, joyful love as we re-enact and remember and re-imagine the wonder of your birth as a human baby in this Christ-mas season. Light up cold, sad hearts in congregations and communities all over our Presbytery and beyond, with the hope, comfort and warmth of your eternally extravagant Love. Help each one of us to yield, and keep on yielding, completely to you, and so become the mind, hands and feet of Christ incarnate for our day and age. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

We pray for real people in real congregations just like ours,
with the same problems and joys, hopes and fears, worshipping the same wonderfully kind God.

ABERDEEN SPRINGFIELD Church

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Byun Ord 1992 Ind 2023; Elder: Frans Maes; Joint S Clerks: Iain McCombie, Karen Crawford

1. Festival of Light 7th Dec - *As we welcome hundreds of our neighbours, may we shine Christ's hope into our community — lifting spirits, warming hearts, and reminding all who attend that God's light is stronger than any darkness.*

2. Candle Lighting in Memory, 14th Dec - *for all who will come — from within the church and across the community — to pause, reflect, and light a candle. May this quiet time give comfort to the grieving, rest to the weary, and space for every heart to find hope, peace, and gentle healing in God's presence.*

3. Renewal of Love as We Enter Our Third Year of Union *O God, deepen the spirit of love, unity, and compassion among all our members — heal divisions, soften hearts, and help the church embody Christ's love in every word and action.*

ABERLUTHNOT with Laurencekirk

Int Mod: Rev Brian Smith [West Mearns]; Elder: Audrey White; S Clerk: Helen Macdonald

AUCHTERLESS & AUCHABER

Rev Stephen Potts Ord & Ind 2012; Elder: Margaret Veitch; S Clerk: Audrey Stephen

BELLIE & SPEYMOUTH [Fochabers, Moray]

Rev Eddie Enslin Ord 2010 Ind 2024; Elder: Margaret McInnes; S Clerk: Liz Rennie

1. *Thanks for the many points of connection in our congregation and parish — from Sunday worship to Messy Church, The Gathering (Young parents), Midweek reflections & prayer, Cosy Café for Secondary School pupils. May these places of welcome become signs of Christ's hospitality in our community.*
2. We continue to explore ways of reaching out into Fochabers, Mosstodloch and Spey Bay, especially with the **Malawi partnership and preparations for the mission trip in Jul 2026.** *May we listen well to the Spirit and step forward with courage.*
3. Remember before God **all in our parish who are facing loss, illness, or loneliness.** May our *pastoral team, elders, and all who offer care carry Christ's compassion into each home and conversation.* And give **thanks** for the quiet faithfulness that sustains our congregation.

CULLEN & DESKFORD uniting with others **SEAFIELD PARISH** [Coastal & rural Moray/ Banffshire]

Int Mod: Rev Dr Kay Gauld (Retd); Elder: Anne McLaren; S Clerk: Sheila Sellar

DEER PARISH [rural Aberdeenshire]

Rev Sheila Kirk Ord 2007 Ind 2010; Elder: Sarah Wilson; S Clerk: Graeme Skene

DYCE with New Machar

Int Mod: Rev David Locke (Retd); Rev Joan Thorne OLM Ord & Appt 2019; Elder: Kevin Angus;
S Clerk: Raymond Mack

FOVERAN [Newburgh, north of Aberdeen]

Int Mod: Rev Dr Ibidun Daramola; Elder: & S Clerk: Susan Edwards

MAUD & SAVOCH with New Deer St Kane's [Rural Aberdeenshire]

Rev Aileen McFie Ord 2003 Ind 2018; Elder: Jan Sanders; S Clerk: Andrew Dick

STONEHAVEN FETTERESSO

Rev George Sneddon Ord 2023 Ind 2025; Elder: Dick Jenkins; S Clerk: Robert Bell

Father, we lift up all these churches and parishes to you, praising you for where things are going well and asking your help for those who are struggling. Encourage & equip all in leadership that all people in NENI might hear of and respond to Jesus as Bethlehem Baby and Lord of history.

Wishing every presbyter a God-blessed Christmas & New Year!

Joy has dawned upon the world,
promised from creation;
God's salvation now unfurled,
hope for every nation,
Not with fanfares from above,
not with scenes of glory,
but a humble gift of love:
Jesus, born of Mary.

Son of Adam, son of heaven,
given as a ransom,
reconciling God and man,
Christ, our mighty champion!
What a Saviour, what a Friend,
what a glorious mystery;
once a babe in Bethlehem,
now the Lord of history. [GWA 99 v 1&4]