



Christian  
Initiative to  
Schools

in partnership with



Scripture Union

CIS Registered Charity No. 1104698

# Prayer Pointers ►

## November - December 2023

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the East came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.' ... coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped Him.

Matthew 2:1-2 and 11



And so it begins! Well, in some places, it already has for sometime. I am referring to the 'C' word, the one that causes adults to go on massive shopping sprees to ensure that their children get to have the best time ever.

Of course I'm referring to the 25th December. A day of fun, food and festivities where families can get together and celebrate. But celebrate what?

A few days ago I was speaking to a couple of staff in one of the schools I visit on a regular basis. We were talking about assemblies and one of them made this comment.

*"It's important that the pupils hear about the main religion of our country, and particularly about what Christmas is all about. Otherwise there is no point to the celebrations."*

The staff member does not have a faith, but they see the importance of children and young people hearing about what the Christian faith, the faith of our nation, is all about.

We are now, sadly, living in a post-Christian society. A society where Christianity is no longer the prominent faith in our nation. Many people have a pick 'n mix approach to belief, taking on values, culture, and worldviews from those of other religions, not in full but in part.

For the Magi of the Christmas story, the search for the new born Christ child meant following a star. Men of learning travelling to another land, leaving pre-conceived ideas behind in order to find the truth about who this child was.

*After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod,*

***Please turn over.***

*Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him.'*

And that's what they did. They knelt before Jesus, offered their gifts and knew their lives would never be the same again. They had seen the truth of who this child was. The Son of God, the Saviour of the world, the real reason for the season.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas as together we celebrate the One who came to save and bring us back to God.

### **Christopher Baker - Schools Worker**

Here are some things to thank God for and to pray for.

#### **Please thank God ...**

- ★ for the well attended Annual Celebration
- ★ for the positive response from pupils and staff to the assemblies that have already been taken this term
- ★ for the increase in numbers attending lunchtime clubs
- ★ **Please pray ...**
- ★ for forthcoming assemblies and other speaking engagements.
- ★ Assemblies:- **St. Francis College Prep.** 13th November and 11th December; **Grange Academy** 15th November and 13th December; **Etonbury Academy** 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th November and 1st

December; **Norton St. Nicholas** 28th November and 12th December; **Pix Brook Academy** 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th December; **St. Mary's C of E Academy, Stotfold** 19th December

★ Speaking Engagements:- **King's Baptist Church, Stotfold** 19th November; **New Life Church, Letchworth** 26th November; **St. Thomas' Church, Letchworth** 17th December

★ for the Hubs/CUs  
**Monday** Etonbury Academy;  
**Friday** Highfield and Fearnhill

★ for the Trustees as they meet on 15th November

★ for the CIS Quiz on Friday 24th November at 7pm at Letchworth Garden City Church, Icknield Way

★ for the Christmas Journey at St. Paul's Church 4th to 8th December and for all the pupils and staff who will be attending

★ for Christopher as he prepares for assemblies, Hubs/CUs, sermons and talks this half-term

*Thank you for your continued prayer and practical support*

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