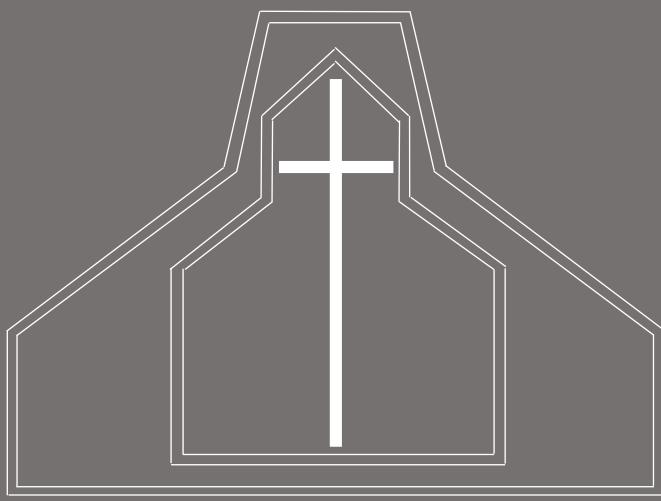


Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations.

The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

Psalm 145:13



Prayer Diary

January 2026

St Columba's
Hillhead
Parish Church

Sunday 4

St Columba's Hillhead. On this first Sunday of the New Year continue to pray for the upbuilding of the life and fellowship of the congregation. Pray that as God's people within our Church we may work for the Lord together in unity and love and that the mission of the Church will know God's blessing in life and witness. Give thanks for the continued coming together and growth in fellowship of folks from both congregations and for the natural ways in which this happening such as over tea and coffee on a Sunday morning and weekly activities. Pray that this may continue to strengthen and deepen the love and unity of God's people and that with encouragement to and from each other congregational life will be strong in the Lord. Give thanks for the well-maintained premises we have as a Congregation; pray that they may continue to be well-utilised and that God will bless that use and keep the buildings secure in and for the community.

Monday 5

Men's Group. Give thanks for the Men's Group and for those who have the opportunity to meet together for social activities and friendship in enjoyment and recreation. Give thanks too for new members in this session. Remember Jim Kennedy as Chairman and

Secretary Ian Gibb as they coordinate the week to week activity. Pray that there will be a regular good attendance and those who come will know the warm welcome and friendship offered as a helpful support through the longer darker nights of autumn and winter, especially at the start of this New Year.

Tuesday 6

The Guild. Give thanks for the opportunity to share Christmas lunch at Hayston Golf Club in December. Remember the ongoing life and fellowship of the Guild as the second half of the session resumes today with Philip, our Minister, as the speaker. Pray for encouragement and growth in faith under the current theme for the Year Living Stones. Pray for Carol as Convener and the members of the Committee and members who seek to serve to promote worship, fellowship and service in active faith. Continue to remember the Guild Projects as examples of faith in action that they may be well-supported and attention will be highlighted.

Wednesday 7

Midweek Fellowship. Give thanks for the regular weekly meeting of the Midweek Fellowship and for the opportunity to worship God and share fellowship together, especially for those who may not be able

to attend Church on Sundays. Praise the Lord for the love, support and encouragement shared amongst those who attend. Pray for Lynne as she leads the Meeting this morning and that the Word of God may bear much fruitfulness in the hearts and lives of those who attend and pray that more people may desire to come along.

Thursday 8

Walk and Talk. Remember the Walk & Talk Group as it continues to enjoy meeting on Thurs. afternoons for an hour or so of walk and conversation. Remember those who regularly share together in this hour of gentle exercise and the opportunity to socially share interest in each other and their lives. Pray for those who come regularly and for new members that each will feel welcomed and know the mutual interest and love gained from 'a listening ear'.

Friday 9

Little Fishes and Busy Bees. Give thanks that these Groups continue to be well-attended each week. Pray especially for the Busy Bees Group that those on the waiting list will be understanding of having to cap numbers for reasons of available space. Remember the leaders and helpers of both groups as they plan and oversee the life of these groups especially for

safety and wisdom in the outworking of the activities. Pray that those who come along, both carers and children, that they will be aware that they are coming into a warm, inviting place where they are valued and a desire to know more about Jesus' love.

Saturday 10

Jo Crotty. Pray for Jo as she has recently returned to Australia. Give thanks for the work that she and others have done towards for the Childrens' Trauma Healing Course in PNG in recent months and pray for those who have been trained locally to now take this forward. Pray for Jo's brother Gregg who has MND in Australia, his wife Maureen, and their family, that they would know God's loving arms upholding them in these days.

Sunday 11

Sunday Club, Little Lights, Noah's Ark. Give thanks for the regular attendance by those young people who come to Church on Sundays and seek to know more about to Jesus and get to know Him as Saviour and Lord. Pray for the young people where it can be difficult to be different as someone who comes to Church with few peers. Remember Vicky and those who lead Sunday Club that they would know wisdom and honour the Lord in their preparation, leadership and

encouragement of the young people. Give thanks for the new Little Lights class for P1 to 3 children and pray for Cassie as she leads this. Remember Noah's Ark as it meets today and pray that the families who are coming along may feel welcomed and may have a deepening interest and desire to come along. Pray also for discernment in knowing ways of supporting young families in coming to church.

Monday 12

Those who are Unwell, in Hospital or in Care. Remember all those who are unwell, awaiting or undergoing investigation, diagnosis, surgery/treatment especially in the current demands upon the Health Service. Give thanks for those who are recovering from surgery/treatment and pray that they will know increasing strength and wholeness in the forthcoming days. Pray that those who need medical help may receive their required care as promptly as possible and pray for recovery, healing and strength to endure however God provides. Especially remember those known to us suffering from chronic/terminal illness and pain as people seek to live with the constant reminder of suffering. Remember their families and carers who also share in the pain and suffering. Continue to

remember and give thanks for all Healthcare staff, especially our local GPs and staff amid continuing great pressures to respond to increasing demands upon them for their help and care. Pray for those in long term care, all NHS and Social Care staff as they seek to provide compassionate care especially in a time of increasing demands.

Tuesday 13

The Suffering Church: Earlier this year, the UK Government set out its new strategy to prioritise freedom of religion or belief around the world. Of the ten priority countries identified in the strategy, nine are on Open Doors' World Watch List 2025, with eight featuring in the top 20.

Pray for Open Doors' World Watch List 2026 parliamentary launch tomorrow. Pray for many MPs to attend so that they can hear first-hand accounts of persecution, and inspiring stories of how Christians across the world are defying the challenges to their faith by making an impact on their communities and wider society. Pray that this event will raise awareness of the suffering church amongst MPs. Pray too that the specific policy recommendations that are shared by Open Doors may be considered thoughtfully by MPs so that the Government may provide effective support of

religious freedom and belief around the world.

Wednesday 14

Friendship Club and Following Jesus Group. Give thanks that both these groups continue to meet regularly and are well-attended and for the members, carers and leaders who all contribute to making these happy and meaningful evenings. Praise God for the Prospects across Scotland Carol Service we hosted at St Columba's Hillhead Church in December and for all those who attended from groups. Pray that the outing to Pro Bowl today will be good fun and that everyone will be able to participate. Pray for the ongoing life and fellowship of the Groups as the New Year progresses that the love of Jesus will encourage and deepen the life of all and especially remember Pat Muir and the leaders that they may be inspired by the Lord to further this significant ministry.

Thursday 15

Christians Against Poverty. Pray for the work of Christians against Poverty operating locally. Give thanks for those who serve to help those in need. Times of financial hardship places great pressures on many people and many feel totally helpless for lack of sufficient money to meet necessities especially as

the colder months of autumn and winter are upon us with less financial support for heating, as well as the pressure of Christmas spending. Pray that they may receive support when it is needed and remember CAP volunteers as they engage with people to alleviate their financial circumstances. Give thanks for the opportunity for folks to be signposted to Christians against Poverty when appropriate at Warm Welcome and pray that this may be a beneficial for some.

Friday 16

Boys' Brigade. Give thanks for all the boys who belong to The 1st Kirkintilloch BB, and for their continuing attendance, activities and achievements. Give thanks especially for new members this session in the Anchor and Company sections.

Give thanks also for the £400 raised through the 'Christmas Post Service' and pray that this would be put to good use in the Kirkintilloch Food Bank.

Remember the leaders as they plan and prepare for each week's meetings that their commitment and enthusiasm will permeate through to the boys and so encourage faith and commitment in them to advance Christ's Kingdom in The Boys' Brigade.

Saturday 17

The Bereaved. Remember those who have lost loved ones, especially those in recent/not so recent days and personally known to us, especially at this time of the year when emotions can be accentuated. Remember those who have suffered through sudden trauma or chronic illness. Such loss is devastating for anyone who lost a loved one close to them and grieving can be painful and difficult. Pray that the Lord in His compassion will be close to them especially through dark and difficult days and that those surrounding them may be a quiet and sensitive support.

Sunday 18

Those with Mental Health Issues. Remember those whose mental health is struggling at the moment, especially at this time of a new year with the aftermath of Christmas emotions. Pray that the Lord would draw close to those who are despairing. Especially remember those known to us who may be struggling. Pray that the Lord will give us the right words to say to someone who is suffering and pray for opportunities for healing conversations. Pray for an increase in understanding and empathy for mental health issues in society and within the Church. Pray that those suffering will find comfort and respite and a path to full healing.

Remember also those supporting them that they may know patience, love, hope and healing.

Monday 19

Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Give thanks for MAF's amphibious aircraft which has now been operating in Lake Murray – Papua New Guinea's largest lake – for over a year. Give thanks for how it has helped hundreds of lives to be transformed for the better, from enabling healthcare to delivering school supplies. , Over 14,400 people live on Lake Murray's many islands and around its shoreline. Give thanks that it is now possible for these people to reach a hospital by floatplane in as little as 10 minutes, compared to a journey of up to five days by boat.

Pray that God would continue to bless the work of MAF around Lake Murray in PNG and for growing opportunities to support communities and share Jesus' love with them.

Tuesday 20

Burns Night. Remember the Burns Supper organised by The Guild this evening. Pray that it will be an enjoyable evening for all those involved. Remember all those involved in the planning and preparation for the Evening that everything will go smoothly. Pray for The Bearsden

Fiddlers who will be providing a programme of entertainment. Pray that the engendered spirit of togetherness and harmony will further deepen the unity and love of the fellowship of the congregation.

Wednesday 21

Warm Space/Connect. Loving Heavenly Father, we thank you for the regular weekly opportunity to offer a warm space and caring support to the community at Hillhead Halls. We thank you for the opportunity to partner with Kirkintilloch Baptist Church in this and pray that you would grow and strengthen the team. We praise you for the encouraging start to the new arrangements, for the way in way the soup and roll format is going well. We especially pray for the 'Food for Thought' slot at 1.45pm that it will be well-received and give thanks for the help and support available from Christians Against Poverty.

We pray too for the Connect Group for children that meets 3 till 4 on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for all the children who attend. We pray that they would enjoy their time at Connect and be able to engage with and understand the weekly Bible stories.

We thank you for the recent Christmas events held at Hillhead Halls – for the Pizza Party for some of the children from Hillhead SU

Group/Warm Welcome, and for the 'Carol Time' evening. Thank you for the opportunity these events provided for relationships to be strengthened and deepened and for the significance of Jesus' birth to be discussed and considered.

We pray for your continued leading and guiding as the ministries of Warm Welcome and Connect continue to develop.

Thursday 22

Children & Family Worker. Dear Father God, we continue to give thanks for Cassie's presence with us and her involvement in the regular programme of services and events such as Little Fishes, Busy Bees and Noah's Ark. We pray for Cassie as she builds relationships with young families and furthering already-established relationships and groups. We ask you for Cassie to know wisdom and discernment as she plans and prepares for activities and becomes more involved in congregational life and the community, especially in the life of the Young People's and SU groups at schools that she will be a great ambassador for the Lord in her work and witness.

Friday 23

National and Local Government. Bring before the Lord all those in

positions of authority across the United Kingdom across the political spectrum. Remember especially our Prime Minister and First Minister of Scotland and the members of their Government that they may seek to exercise integrity and wisdom in their life and work. Pray that policy-makers will be thoughtful and discerning as they make decisions and draft new policy. Especially pray for Christians in political life. Pray that they will be able to live out their faith in their life and work and influence political decisions for good. Pray that the Lord may give strength to them especially when times are difficult and pressure is on them because of their faith.

Saturday 24

Ukraine. Continue to remember and pray for the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and in other areas of the world, especially in a time of heightened tension and escalation of the war of words and actions of nation leaders. Pray that a just and lasting solution will be found to end the wars and bring much-needed peace and stability for all, especially for those who suffered under the devastation, loss of life and security for living. Remember world leaders especially through whom much of the resolution will rest. Pray for a mutual understanding and respect,

with a desire to end the conflict and live in, and for, peace.

Sunday 25

Leprosy Mission. Pray for the Leprosy Mission worldwide on this Leprosy Sunday. Pray that our service today at St Columba's Hillhead, with an expected visit from the Leprosy Mission UK, would help us learn more about the leprosy and its impact around the world and help us understand what we can do as church to help.

Pray for all those affected by leprosy today with the many impacts it has on people's lives, livelihoods, and relationships. Pray that many would find hope in Jesus who touched and healed those whom others ignored.

Monday 26

Luwero Christian Ministries. Almighty God, we give thanks for all the work being done in your name at Luwero in Uganda. We pray for all the different areas of this significant ministry- for the junior and senior school, for the clinic, for the farm, for new developing land with its demanding physical work, and for helping to teach young people to survive amidst the loss of parents through HIV and AIDS. We praise you for the way in which many are being brought close to you in faith through the work of your Spirit and we delight in

sharing partnership of the Gospel with Gabriel, Deborah and his family and the people of Luwero. We pray for Gabriel and Deborah in their leadership of the ministry at Luwero that they would be kept safe from harm by the powers of darkness which surround them. We thank you for Gabriel's recent visit to the UK and that he is getting stronger in health after his earlier illness. We pray for his continuing recovery.

Tuesday 27

5th Kirkintilloch Brownies. Give thanks for the local Brownie Pack which meets on Tuesday evenings in Hillhead Building and remember Lynn Semple as Brownie Leader in her encouragement of the young folks. Pray that the young ones will grow in wisdom as they learn about life and develop life skills for maturity. Pray that they will know and care for one another and honour the Brownie Guide Code in practice. Pray that they will know the love and support of the Church fellowship.

Wednesday 28

Those who are Vulnerable. Give thanks for the work of The Lodging House Mission, Bethany Christian Trust and The Salvation Army who seek to draw near and support those who are vulnerable, especially in these cold and dark days of winter. Remember the

Management and Staff of all these agencies that they will be shining lights of hope and compassion and that all the services they provide will be adequately resourced.

Thursday 29

Scripture Union. Father God, we give thanks for SU Group leaders who generously give up their time to lead SU groups. We pray that they foster good relationships with their local schools and are encouraged by the response of the children to what they hear of Jesus. We remember all SU Scotland ministry as it seeks to prioritise young people at the margins. We give thanks for a new partnership between SU Scotland and Home for Good and Safe Families to deliver Chosen, a new weekend event at Alltnacriche for families with adopted children. We pray for Elaine Watt as she leads, and that it will help those who attend to unwind and connect.

Friday 30

Bible Society Scotland (SBS). As we have entered into 2026, please pray for all the new plans and projects that SBS and their colleagues around the world will be undertaking this year. Pray that their mission to share the Bible will be increased and that more ways of sharing the Bible together will be created.

Saturday 31

Operation Christmas Child: Give thanks for all the shoe boxes and other items collected and sent from St Columba's Hillhead for the 2025 Christmas Shoe Box Appeal for Operation Christmas Child. Pray that these and all the other gifts given worldwide might make a real difference in the lives of many children who have very little. Pray that as these gifts are given in Jesus' name, that his love might be shared by all those who distribute shoe boxes.