

# The Watford Word

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)

## What's on

**Sunday 15th Dec:** 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking  
**Sunday 22nd Dec:** 10:30 AM. Carol service  
**Sunday 29th Dec:** 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking. Pot-luck lunch. Bring and share.

### January Theme - Worship and the Lord's Supper

**Sunday 5th Jan:** 10:30 AM. Church service  
**Sunday 12th Jan:** 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking  
**Sunday 19th Jan:** 10:30 AM. Daniel Miller & Emma Whitworth are our visiting speakers from the East London international church of Christ  
**Sunday 26th Jan:** 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking  
**Sunday 02 Feb:** 10:30 AM. Toby Agerbak is our visiting speaker from the North West region of the London ICOC.

## Knowing who and what to pray for

When the congregation was smaller, it was easier to know who and what to pray for. Now that God has added to our number (praise Him!), some prayer needs are being missed.

Paul urged the Ephesians to pray for one another.

“...pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.”  
 Ephesians 6:18



The New Testament frequently encourages Christians not to cease from prayer (e.g. Luke 18:1; Rom. 12:12; Phil. 4:6; Col. 4:2; 1 Thess. 5:17).

I believe we like to pray for one another. However, doing so meaningfully is difficult if we don't know who and what to pray for.

Therefore, I am looking for someone to be our 'prayer deacon'. What does this mean? It does *not* mean you have to be a prayer warrior or a prayer expert. What it does mean is being the person we can send prayer request to, and, periodically, you will send a compiled list out to the congregation. Additionally, you would make sure that whoever is praying on Sunday knows about significant prayer requests.

Let me illustrate using this Sunday as an example. Pete is recovering from his operation, Douglas Jacoby is having a knee replacement operation, Niyi and others need a sponsor for visas, Chris is recovering from his back problems, Amanda has a shoulder operation in January... and I am sure there are more. While we cannot pray for everyone and everything every Sunday, it would be good to know about the needs and pray for at least some.

Could you become our prayer deacon? Please speak to me and let's talk about the details.

Malcolm

## Christmastide Encouragement



<https://douglasjacoby.com/connecting-with-christ-through-carols-advent-2024/>

---

## New Year / Loose Ends

---



This material is inspired by a Patreon post from Kyle Spears. He is a treasure trove of spiritual refreshment: <https://www.truthtraumatheology.com/>

### Tie Up Loose Ends for a Fresh Start

As the year approaches its end, it's time to prepare for a fresh start. Creating a "loose ends list" can help clear the way for progress. "Loose ends have a way of keeping the past alive," and unfinished business can hinder your future. The small things can cause major problems:

*"Catch for us the foxes, the little foxes that ruin the vineyards, our vineyards that are in bloom."* (Song 2:15)

Here are some sample areas to consider:

- **Procrastination:** Tasks you've delayed (Proverbs 6:6-8).
- **Finances:** Bills, debts, or retirement plans (Romans 13:8).
- **Relationships:** Resolve conflicts and seek reconciliation (Matthew 5:23-24).
- **Clutter:** Clear physical and digital spaces (1 Corinthians 14:40).
- **Health:** Prioritise self-care and overdue appointments (1 Corinthians 6:19-20).
- **Commitments:** Trim overcommitments and fulfil promises (Ecclesiastes 5:4-5).
- **Spiritual Growth:** Confess sins, join a small group, or seek a transformation partner (1 John 1:9).

Creating this list helps untangle life's knots and builds resilience. Trust that as you work through

your list, God is preparing you to run into next year with a healthy Christ-focus:

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."* (Hebrews 12:1-3)

God bless, Malcolm

---

## Watford Contribution Details

---

**Church bank account:** Three Counties churches of Christ HSBC

**Sort Code:** 401915

**Account Number:** 04759613

---

## Watford Media

---

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watfordchurchofchrist6708>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-1aef90>

