

Monthly Prayer Bulletin

December 2024

*'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth
peace to those on whom his favour rests.'*

~Luke 2:14



Give Thanks

Christmas is often described as the season of 'peace and goodwill'. These familiar words are taken from Luke's gospel, when the sky lit up and the heavenly hosts appeared to shepherds watching their sheep. The heavenly hosts praised God as they proclaimed the wonderful news of the birth of Jesus. As we celebrate Christmas, may we be faithful in prayer for those who face affliction around the world rather than 'peace and goodwill'.

Tearfund Family: We thank God for the Tearfund Family. This autumn we worked with Tearfund New Zealand on a peer review of our policies and procedures. We engaged in this process to learn and to ensure that the highest standards of governance are maintained across the Tearfund Family of organisations. The process was reassuring and an opportunity for learning and strengthening how we work.

Join us in giving thanks for the visit of international speaker Dr. Kate Van Doore from Australia to mark World Children's Day in November. Kate spent an evening with us sharing about her journey from orphanage founder to global advocate for family-based care for orphaned and vulnerable children. Kate also met with representatives of volunteer sending agencies and civil society organisations.

Give thanks that our partners in Cambodia were invited to contribute to a devotional for orphan Sunday in November reflecting on the joy that children bring and challenging us to protect that joy.

World News

Cambodia: Our partners in Cambodia have been very busy with an external evaluation of their programme work this autumn. They have also been updating their strategy for the next two years. Please pray for rest for the team over the Christmas period and a refreshed start in 2025

Ethiopia: We have submitted our proposal for funding from Irish Aid for the next few years. Please join us in praying that the application is read with favour and that we will be successful.

Lebanon: Thank God for the ceasefire announced in late November. Pray for safety as people return to their homes in affected areas. There may be some people who will be unable to return to their homes in the short term, pray for them, particularly as the colder winter weather begins. Pray that peace will last and that our partners will get some rest and refreshment with their families over the Christmas period. Please continue to pray for peace to come across the wider region.

Ireland

Please pray that people will hear about Tearfund Ireland's Living Gift options this Christmas. Pray also that our sports jersey auction will raise much needed funds. You can find out more about Living Gifts on the Tearfund Ireland website [HERE](#).

Thank God for the opportunity to record a Sunday Worship Service to be broadcast on RTÉ 1 on the morning of Sunday 29th December. Please pray that the service will be a blessing to all who watch it and that it will inspire people to support Tearfund Ireland.

Please continue to pray for the team as we submit a funding application for global justice themed work with young people, church groups and others in Ireland. Please pray for favour as grant applications are assessed.

Please pray for the team as we plan for events, activities and partner visits to Ireland in 2025. If you would like a Tearfund Ireland speaker or an interactive workshop at your church or small group on a global justice theme, please contact us [HERE](#).

Please pray for Tearfund Ireland team members taking time off over the Christmas and New Year period. Pray for rest, refreshment, and time to reflect on the joy and wonder of Jesus birth.