

## We pray:

**For the church around the world:** Especially those who are persecuted for their faith. We pray for compassion and kindness, inclusion and love for all. We pray for all who have not yet let Jesus into their lives. For peace & reconciliation.

**For our world:** All the casualties of war and conflict; victims of natural or manmade disasters; those who are living in poverty or under oppressive regimes; for all who have no safe place to live in. For the earth and all the damage done to it by humankind. For more empathy and compassion.

**For our local community:** [29: Other Faith Groups in the parish][30: 10th Southend [St Mark's Own], Southend Street Pastors][31: All those who use our hall/church] [1: Hamlet Rd, Princes St] [2: Ashburnham Rd, Gordon Pl][3: Gordon Rd, Napier Av] [4: Elmer Av, Elmer Approach]

## For those who are sick or in need:

Margaret Jones, Terry, Maff, Ken, Valerie, Brogan, Tony, Kat, Violette, Judith, Mark, Diana, Audrey, Chris Binks, Louis, Natasha & family, Rosetta, Doreen, Janet, Nick

## And all on our long term list.

Prayers for all sick in hospitals, hospices, care homes and at home. For those who are caring for them.

## For the recently departed:

### In Memoriam: December

5/12; Ronald Rouse, 12/12 Helen Sandover, 24/12 Patricia Swinford, 27/12 Flora Sleebush and Ginny Savory

All who have died with no-one to pray for them.

**NOTE: Words for final prayer for the departed and for Hail Mary is in Mass Book**

**BMY!**  
Youth Group  
Ages 11-16

Be More You : St Mark's Youth Group  
1st Saturday every month 12-2pm  
Games, Food, Chat and Stuff

Scan QR code for location/contact details

## Parish of St Alban. Westcliff & ST MARK, SOUTHEND

### 29 December

### I Sunday of Christmas



Carl Bloch **Jesus is Found in the Temple** [c1840]

Have you ever lost a child in a busy shop or playground and felt that awful feeling of panic? I know that I have and on finding her I was torn between wanting to shout at her and feeling so relieved that I hugged her instead. Of course, she did not give me the same answer as Jesus gave his parents. And I **definitely** did not find her teaching in the temple! But I love how Luke gives us these little moments of human life mixed with the divine. Bloch, the artist has also tried to convey something of that, The haloed teen, lit with a divine light is presented as if he is already moving away from the earthly. And his parents can only look on in wonder and, I am guessing, a touch of sadness, knowing as they do he has important work ahead of him. Work that they cannot protect him from. [Blessings, Mother Cherry](#)

As we look towards the New Year please remember to pray for all our outreach projects we are working on. **Diddies, Create/Space and Be More You.** And also that we are able to appoint our **LGBTQ+** Chaplain by the end of January

#### Contact Details

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St Mark's Website: <https://www.stmarkschurchsouthend.org/>

St Alban's Website: [Saint Alban the Martyr, Westcliff-on-Sea - A Church Near You](#)



Our parish is a member of Inclusive Church. This means that we are committed to work towards being a church which celebrates and affirms every person.

