

23 December. Church Volunteers

Servant Lord, thank you for Session Clerks, Convenors, Elders, Bible readers, musicians, young church helpers, bakers, door duty welcomers, coffee makers and tidy-uppers. Refresh every one of our helpers in our church with joy. Remind them that we can only share the news of God's love to others because of their dedication to the work of our church.

24 December. Christmas Eve

Jesus, as we gather by candle and manger, fill us with Your light and peace. May every child who attends the Christingle service leave with a sense of wonder and may every heart make room for you.

25 December. Christmas Day

Emmanuel, God with us! Thank you for your coming in humility and love. As we celebrate Your coming, we lift in prayer to you today all those who find themselves alone.

26 December. Boxing Day (St Stephen)

God of mercy, teach us Stephen's courage and compassion. Turn our rest today into readiness to serve You in the New Year here in our church at the Crossroads.

27 December. Those Working Through the Christmas period.

Lord, bless hospital staff, transport workers, hospitality teams and all those who work shifts. Let kindness meet them in every corridor. We lift in prayer all those working at Marie Curie where our Minister is a volunteer chaplain.

28 December. Our troubled world

God of all nations, as our end of year draws close, our world is still aching with conflict, fear, and loss. Where hatred divides, sow peace; where greed destroys, plant generosity; where despair takes root, shine hope. Help us to live as bearers of Your light, gentle in word, courageous in love, steadfast in faith that

even in dark times, Your healing may begin through us.

29 December. Creation of Good Work

God who crafts and calls, open opportunities for those who have spent this year seeking jobs. Give fair employers and pathways to meaningful work. Pray for our paid staff who are enjoying a well-earned rest.

30 December. Gratitude for the Year

Faithful God, as we near the end of the year we give You thanks for all You have done for us this year, for blessings seen and unseen. We thank you for those joining our church family this year for the faith, friendship and gifts they bring to our shared life in Christ. Bless them as they find their place among us and help us grow together in love, service, and joy.

31 December. Hogmanay

As the bells ring out tonight at midnight, we ask You to bless our city's gatherings with safety and joy and lead us in your light into the new year. Bless our church with new beginnings in the year ahead. May His Spirit fill our worship with joy, our fellowship with love, and our service with compassion. May this be a year where faith grows deeper, hope shines brighter, and Christ's light is seen through all we do. May the weary find rest here, the searching find welcome, and the broken find healing. May we be bold in mission, generous in grace, and united in heart. As we step forward into the unknown of 2026, may we trust the One who goes before us, walks beside us and holds us in His everlasting arms.

Fairmilehead Parish Church

1a Frogston Road West

Edinburgh EH10 7AA

07484 070128

office@fhpc.org.uk

www.fhpc.org.uk

Scottish Charity SC015967



Prayer Diary for December 2025

Fairmilehead Parish Church

1 December. Advent

God of hope, teach us to wait with open hands and open hearts. As Advent begins, help us and our homes here in our parish, to glow with kindness.

2 December. Teachers and Young People.

Lord, bless all the schools across our city here in Edinburgh, from nursery to university. Give energy to tired teachers and peace to students heading into winter assessments. Give thanks for all the ways our Minister and Buckstone Primary School work together.

3 December. Neighbours

Welcoming God, help us notice those in our parish who may be dreading the festive period. Make us brave to say hello and take time to listen.

4 December. Those in need of prayer

Compassionate Healer, draw near to all waiting for appointments or results at this time. Strengthen NHS staff across Lothian; renew their courage and rest. Give thanks for the new prayer group that gathers each Sunday and the quiet strength, faith and hope that flow from hearts lifted to You.

5 December. Local Workers and Small Businesses

Give thanks for the Edinburgh Christmas market stalls and for all those who visit our city from afar at this

time. Remember all staff who work throughout the Christmas period in the hospitality and retail sector.

6 December. Creation Care

Creator of the Pentlands, Arthur's Seat and the Forth, teach us to tread lightly. Show us small, daily ways to cherish your world in winter.

7 December. Families Under Pressure

God of gentleness, hold families who are juggling bills, shifts, exams and care. Grow patience, forgiveness and laughter around every table. May no child go hungry this Christmas.

8 December. Those in Debt or Fear

God our refuge, steady all those who are anxious about money or housing. Open doors to wise help and fair systems. Calm the worried hearts of parents who find the cost of Christmas too hard. Help us all to remember that love, not money, is the greatest gift our children and grandchildren receive.

9 December. Those Who Grieve

God of all comfort, remember those missing someone dear to them this season. Keep their memories bright and their nights restful. Pray those who might appreciate our Blue Christmas Service, will hear about it.

10 December. Prayer for our Pop-Up Café

Loving God, thank You for this warm and welcoming space. Bless every volunteer and pray every visitor may find friendship, rest and joy here. Give thanks for the kind and encouraging conversations and for the connections made. As we celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, may His love shine through all we do. Amen.

11 December. Carers and Care Homes

God of tender love, strengthen carers paid and unpaid.

Let every Edinburgh care home be a place of dignity, good care and safety.

12 December. Hospitality and Welcome

Lord, as we prepare for our busy Christmas services bless us with warm welcoming halls and hearts. May our church gatherings on Sundays and during the week be true havens. Give thanks for all those who are part of our welcome teams.

13 December. Musicians at Christmas

Creator Spirit, inspire those who bring light through words, images and music. Bless our organists Louise, David and John and all those who play and sing each week in our praise band.

14 December. Our Youth and Children

Jesus, friend of the young, bless our children today here in church as they celebrate their nativity and enjoy their Christmas Party. May it be a day filled with joy for them all.

15 December. Our work in the community.

God of compassion, thank You for our volunteers at the Fairmile Project. Bless every person who comes, that they may find friendship, connection and a sense of belonging. Be with them in their conversations and activities and let this be a place where Your love is felt and shared. Amen.

16 December. The Foodbank and Ciaran's House. Our chosen charities this year.

God who feeds the hungry, bless our retiring collections this Christmas. Bless the Foodbank volunteers, donors and recipients of our food, gifts and monetary donation. Multiply resources, remove stigma and let every food parcel and gift carry hope. Sheltering God, watch over Ciaran's House, its residents, staff and supporters. May our donations help

both our charities in some small way.

17 December. Students and Young Adults

God of guidance, be near to those as they travel home back to our parish from university. Grant them good rest over Christmas and a desire to return to our church over the Christmas season.

18 December. Emergency Services

God of protection, we lift in prayer to you this festive season, the paramedics, firefighters, police, coastguard and lifeboat crews here in Edinburgh. Keep them safe as they keep us safe.

19 December. Those Struggling with Addiction

God of freedom, bring light where cravings feel stronger than hope. Surround those in need with doors which open to them offering a way to recovery.

20 December. Isolated and Housebound

Ever present God, be a close companion to those who cannot get out. Be near to those in our church family no longer able to attend worship services. Give thanks for our Pastoral Visitors who look after our church members throughout the year.

21 December. Longest Night

Light of the world, on our Sunday of Lessons and Carols, shine Your light which is coming into December's deepest darkness. Where depression or loneliness lingers in homes here in our parish, kindle a small, steady flame of hope.

22 December. Healing of Memories

Yesterday we held our Blue Christmas Service. We pray for all those who attended the service. May those who find Christmas difficult this year continue to find comfort and healing.