

## Prayers of the week, January 2014

### 5 January

*Based on Matthew 2.1-12*

The wise men followed the star to find the King.  
Help us to be willing to search and find you.

The wise men found Jesus in a small house in a small town.  
Help us to look for you in unexpected places.

The wise men knew that Jesus was special.  
Help us know that you are special today too.

The wise men brought gifts for the baby.  
Help us to offer what we have as worship to you.

### 12 January

*Based on Psalm 29 (using v11 as a response)*

We pray for people who live in areas affected by war  
For peace, stability, resolution and hope

**God makes his people strong**  
**God gives his people peace**

We pray for people who live without homes  
For warmth, shelter, protection and comfort

**God makes his people strong**  
**God gives his people peace**

We pray for families who struggle to make ends meet  
For provision, relief, comfort and joy

**God makes his people strong**  
**God gives his people peace**

We pray for those who struggle with illness  
For healing and wholeness

**God makes his people strong**  
**God gives his people peace**

We pray for all of us

To know God's love, provision and peace in all circumstances

**God makes his people strong**

**God gives his people peace**

## **19 January**

When the TV is loud and there is lots to see

Show us who you are.

When the decisions are hard

Show us how to choose.

When we see people in need

Show us how to love and serve.

When things don't seem to go our way

Show us how to trust.

When we can't see where you are

Teach us faith.

## **26 January**

*Based on Isaiah 9 (and Matthew 4)*

Some of our friends are 'walking in darkness'

Where darkness is not knowing you

Your presence in the world is like a great light switched on

We pray for our friends to see your light

Some of our friends are 'living in the land of shadows'

With shadows of despair, difficulty and struggle

Your dawning light drives out the darkness

We pray for our friends to know your deep peace