



Together in Prayer for Sheffield
and
Sheffield Prayer Link
Working together to encourage citywide prayer

Every month a free bulletin is issued with prayer points for the City. To get your monthly copy register with SPL today.
Email: prayer@sheffieldcrosslinks.co.uk. Tel: 0114 2493956

DEC 2008/JAN 2009

"GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY, that will be for all the people."(Luke.2:10)

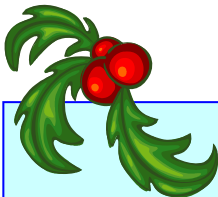
That was how the angel announced the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I suspect that in the world into which that message came, good news that brought great joy was not, generally speaking, in great supply! Nor is it in our day as on a daily basis we are being reminded of the danger of global recession, along with the threat of international terrorism and the so called affects of global warning on the environment.

However, *"Good news of great joy "* was and still is God's word to a fallen world. *"A Saviour has been born"*, bringing a salvation that will ultimately lead to a *"new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness"* (2 Peter 3:13), where *"there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the former things have passed away"* (Rev.21:4). What a hope!

"Good news of great joy". "A Saviour has been born".

Let us pray that Christians in Sheffield will be so filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy" [1 Peter 1:8) in their believing in the Saviour and in their experience of His saving power, that in all the opportunities that the Christmas season still opens up, the *"good news of great joy"* will flow out from them throughout the city and as a result Sheffield will know that a Saviour has indeed been born **"Christ the Lord"**.

John Beyer - Sheffield Prayer Team



**HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW
YEAR TO YOU ALL!**

Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."
Isaiah 40: 31

OLDER PEOPLE IN CHURCH AND SOCIETY

The number of people over 60 years of age now outweighs the number under 20. It is time that we put evangelism among older people and care for their spiritual growth higher on our agenda.

PLEASE PRAY: that churches make provision for appropriate pastoral care, affirming fellowship, meaningful worship, and relevant ministry for their older members.

PLEASE PRAY: for the contribution older people make within the life of your church and society; that they will be used in the life and mission of each church in ways that are appropriate, and that they will not be marginalised because of age.

PLEASE PRAY: that they will be committed to sharing their Christian faith with other people as God gives them opportunity to do so, and that the years to come will be more fruitful than the former.

Matt 24: 14—And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Bringing God's Hope to Sheffield in 2009

24/7
WEEK OF PRAYER
31 Dec - 7 Jan

DEC 31ST 9PM
Celebration Launch: See the New Year in with food, fellowship, praise & prayer. Bring some food and drink to share.

JAN 1ST-7TH
Pray for an hour - sign up at www.sheffieldhope08.co.uk to pray for an hour day or night at Rock Christian Centre.
Worship and prayer 8-10pm each evening - led by different Sheffield Churches.

Rock Christian Centre
75 Carlisle St., Burngreave,
Sheffield S4 7LJ
Tel: 0114 2767630
E-mail:
Info@RockChristianCentre.org
www.rockchristiancentre.org

www.sheffieldhope08.co.uk
Supported by the Sheffield Leaders Network



CHURCH WORLDWIDE

Prayer transcends culture, race and gender. It is where heaven touches earth and the means by which we can have a profound effect on the lives of our persecuted Christian brothers and sisters. Many Christians are under severe persecution for their faith.

PLEASE PRAY: for the trouble spots of the Earth, and Christians in the midst of persecution.

PLEASE PRAY: for Christians imprisoned for their faith; for new converts and their families; for missionaries and aid workers.

Sheffield Prayer Team meet regularly to pray. You are invited to join us For further information, or if you have prayer points for your area please ring the SCL office: 0114 2493956.

Bathing An Area in Prayer For a Month

Each month we focus on a segment of the city. Starting NORTH, and working clockwise, we will cover every area of Sheffield.

This month please pray for the churches in: S5, S35 S1
FIRTH PARK. SHIRECLIFFE. SHIRE GREEN. SOUTHEY
GREEN.PARSONS CROSS. LONGLEY.ECCLESFIELD. GRENOSIDE
SHEFFIELD CITY CENTRE

- Pray for church leaders; for the wisdom and power of God in their lives and in their preaching of the Gospel.
- Pray that the people of God in these areas will be brighter lights and stronger salt; greater witnesses for the Gospel
- Pray for unity among the brothers. No matter what denomination, tribe or stream, pray that God will unite together His children.

So let us all pray knowing that we have been raised with Christ, setting our hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. [Col3:1](#)

Let us pray with a heavenly perspective and calling for a divine strategy for those we are bringing before God.

PLEASE PRAY: for Pastor Peter Furnell, minister of Rother Valley Community Church, who is to have treatment at Weston Park Hospital. Pray for him and others in a similar position who are in need of a healing touch from the Lord.

PLEASE PRAY for all those working in hospitals over Christmas.

PLEASE PRAY: that God would raise up a strong ministry of healing within Sheffield. Pray for people involved in Healing Rooms at Darnall and Woodseats. www.woodseatshealingrooms.org

PLEASE PRAY: for the Sheffield International Mission Church as they send evangelists onto the Moor on the 13th December, and for all those engaged in outreach through Christmas and New year; for nativity plays and Carol services planned at your church, that they would touch the hearts of the lost, bringing them closer to God



PLEASE PRAY: for the SheffieldHope team as they look at ways to continue the good work begun through Hope08, for the teams of people who were involved in Hope on the Streets, and for the people affected by the Church in Action.

PLEASE PRAY that the Church in Sheffield will open their eyes wide to our communities, seeing how to engage incarnationally, bringing faith and action together.

PLEASE COME TO THE PRAYER NIGHT ON THE 3RD DECEMBER AT 7.30PM AT THE SALVATION ARMY CITADEL ON PSALTER LANE. A TIME OF PRAISE & PRAYER FOR SHEFFIELD

What is an Intercessor? : Clues from the Word.

Over the past ten months we have looked at Enoch, Abram, Abraham, Moses, Aaron, and St Paul for clues about what an intercessor is.

This month we will look again at Isaiah, from chapter 63: 7-14

Isaiah says that he is one who acknowledges and proclaims God's mighty works and faithfulness towards His People so as to return our hearts and wills to His Ways, showing us how to pray :- Isaiah 63:15 - 64:3

15 Look down from heaven and see from your lofty throne, holy and glorious.

Where are your zeal and your might?

Your tenderness and compassion are withheld from us.

16 But you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us
or Israel acknowledge us;

You, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your Name.

17 Why, O LORD, do you leave us to wander from your ways
and harden our hearts so we do not revere you?

Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your inheritance.

18 For a little while your people possessed your holy place,
but now our enemies have trampled down your sanctuary.

19 We are yours from of old; for You have not ruled over them,
they have not been called by your name.

Ch64:1 Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
that the mountains would tremble before you!

2 As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil,
come down to make your name known to your enemies
and cause the nations to quake before you!

3 For when you did awe-inspiring things that we did not expect,
You came down, and the mountains trembled before You.

Very often, when we see Isaiah praying, he is leading his hearers in acts of repentance as he recalls the divine history- God's great works for His people. As you pray through these verses make this combination of Repentance and intercession your own.

Verse 16 is tragic, "*though Abraham does not know us (recognize us); or Israel (Jacob) acknowledge us...*" Would Jesus recognize today's churches? -this thought came upon me as I considered this Word. Are there not times when He might question my personal discipleship.

Verses 17 & 18 are prophetic of the coming years of exile in Babylon but surely the Holy Spirit convicts us that this land of ours deserves that name, especially now as we see where our greed and self-pleasing has brought us. May I encourage you, having worked through these verses to continue to the end of chapter 64.

Happy Christmas and my love to you all. Noël