

Prayer Diary: those in danger at Christmas

25-31 December 2022



**A time for gathering together in community,
For giving gifts and singing carols,
For decorating homes and sharing meals...
For some of us.**

**A time to spend with the people we love,
For retelling the story of God with us,
For celebrating traditions and anticipating the new year...
For some of us.**

**For others,
A time of increased fear and looming danger.
Of feeling even more isolated and alone.
Of missing loved ones desperately.
And longing for freedom more than ever before...**

**Yet for all of us, wherever we are,
Christmas holds a hope that no-one can snatch away.
A time to remember the light shining in the darkness –
A light that the darkness shall never overcome.**

This week, we remember all those around the world who are facing any form of injustice for their faith, especially Christian communities who will find themselves at particular risk during the Christmas season. Pray that they would experience afresh the hope, joy, light and peace of this season, whatever their present circumstances.

Use the following verses from the Christmas story to inspire your prayers for their safety and freedom:

‘Do not be afraid.’ (Matt 1:20; Luke 1:30; Luke 2:10)

‘For nothing will be impossible with God.’ (Luke 1:37 ESV)

‘I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.’ (Luke 2:10)

‘His kingdom will never end.’ (Luke 1:33)