

November

- Fri 1st **IHQ Staff and Departments.** Peter Rouch, Sec Gen
Pray for a bit of a break around Christmas after a very busy first few months with the Mission. Pray for family who are adjusting to seeing far less of me than ever before
Pray for an alert heart and mind as I try to grow in my knowledge and understanding of the Mission and those we serve.
- Sat 2nd **IHQ Staff and Departments.** Office Manager. My elderly mother (overseas in Sweden) is not very well, she has long Covid. Please pray for her recovery.
- Sun 3rd *Thank you Lord for watching over us all or our lives. Even when life is difficult you walk with us, as you do with our families far away. Help us to keep watch with others, with our families, with our colleagues, and even with those we find hard to like. For such is the love and care to which you call us for Jesus sake. Amen*
- Mon 4th **IHQ Staff and Departments.** Director of Development - Jan Webber - Responsible for a team of 10, who cover global fundraising, communications and marketing.
- Tue 5th **IHQ Staff and Departments.** From Matthew Moran-Ellis - **For the Volunteers:**
Strength and Endurance: Pray that God grants volunteers physical, emotional, and spiritual strength as they serve seafarers, ensuring they remain steadfast and energised throughout their work.
- Wed 6th **Compassion and Understanding:** Ask for the Lord to fill our volunteers with empathy and a heart of compassion to truly understand the challenges seafarers face, allowing them to provide the right kind of support and care.
- Thu 7th **Safety and Protection:** Pray for God's protection over the volunteers as they travel and serve, guarding them from any harm or danger and giving them peace of mind.
- Fri 8th **IHQ Staff and Departments. For the Supporting Churches:**
Generosity and Sacrifice: Pray that God continues to inspire churches to support the mission generously, both in resources and prayer, with a heart of sacrificial giving for His kingdom work.
- Sat 9th **Revival and Renewal:** Pray that as the churches support this mission, God would bring revival in their own congregations, renewing their passion for missions and outreach both locally and globally
- Sun 10th *Heavenly Father we pray for those who feel lonely at sea. Help those who are lonely to know that while they might feel alone, you are with them. In Christ you have known our loneliness and can come alongside us and be our comforter and friend. Thank you for being wherever we are. Amen.*
- Mon 11th **Encouragement and Joy:** Pray that the churches will be encouraged by the testimonies of the mission's impact, and they will experience joy in seeing God's work among the seafarers and in the hearts of volunteers.
- Tue 12th **From the East Asia Region:** Prayer for a successful finish of Mariners' Club

Redevelopment. Pray that may the Lord see the Mariners' Club redevelopment to a successful completion of our new hotel which we have been building for since 2018 and we schedule to move in by June 2025. That will be able to acquire a good club house and hotel facilities that we have been dreaming of and may the Grace of God be with us. We will never lack of anything as we move in as long as our faith is founded upon God

- Wed 13th **From the East Asia Region:** Prayer for Seafarers: Lord God, we depend on you for life itself. We depend on seafarers for many of our daily needs. Watch over them, keep them from danger, befriend them in loneliness and bring them safely home to those they love.
- Thu 14th **From the East Asia Region:** Prayer for Myanmar: Lord, we pray, resurrection life to the nation and people of Myanmar that sadness may turn into joy, aggression into amity, despair into hope and anxiety into calm that the people may be reconciled.
- Fri 15th **Prayer for Hong Kong:** God of justice and mercy, in Christ You break down the dividing wall of hostility and in your Spirit you guide us to the paths that lead to peace; bless the people of Hong Kong, that as they seek their true identity they may discover truer belonging, as they long for greater security they may find deeper understanding, and as they face an unknown future they may be renewed in larger hope; through him who is our identity, our security and our one and only hope. In Jesus name Amen.
- Sat 16th **Prayer for Kobe, Japan:** We ask for prayer for our new building which should be coming online around then: that God blesses and inspires its use and that MtS in Kobe may use it well together with all the blessings we have to serve seafarers in the name of Jesus. We'd also like to give thanks for our team in Kobe (Rika, Guy & Paul) and those who support us in the local churches and especially at Christmas time with donations and gifts to distribute to seafarers.
- Sun 17th *We pray for those who are at sea and feeling tired and worn out through hard work and lack of sleep. Please grant rest, sleep and renewed strength to those who are struggling, knowing that their safety and the safety of all those who sail with them requires all on board to be well enough to do their jobs. We ask this in Jesus name. Amen.*
- Mon 18th **From Africa Region:** 25 Nov: Durban Seafarers Mission – volunteers and chaplains will wrap gifts for seafarers. 13 Dec: Durban – Chaplains will distribute gifts to ships in Port. 23 Dec: Durban – Chaplains will distribute gifts to ships at outer anchorage. 24 Dec: Most chaplains will distribute gifts in their respective ports. 25 Dec: Richards bay chaplain will distribute gifts in port.
- Tue 19th **Scotland:** Please pray for seafarers a long way from home this Christmas. Especially those wondering about their loved ones in Ukraine.
- Wed 20th **South Tees:** We give thanks to God the Father for integrated working with Deacon Peter Barrigan, Stella Maris Chaplain, and our colleagues Aidan and Allan; we worship our Lord Jesus Christ for His continuing presence in our service and for His grace in guiding our team in the path of justice; we pray continually for the power of the Holy Spirit to strengthen those who lead our work - Jerry, Christina, Peter and Luke.
- Thu 21st **Halifax, Nova Scotia:** Two ships, The Connector and the Symphony are staying in

Halifax into January now due to delays. The agent is arranging a Christmas tree for their ship and I told him we would love to support them over the season. He will reach out as he makes plans to support his crew. I pray that the captain and crew find ways to maintain their morale and high spirits over the season. I also pray our Mission will have opportunities to bring them joy and comfort.

- Fri 22nd **From USA Region:** Baltimore International Seafarers' Centre: For MtS Chaplain the Revd Josh Messick as he ministers to and supports the crew of the MV Dali, the vessel which tragically struck the Francis Key Bridge.
- Sat 23rd **From USA Region:** For Thomas Morrow and all at the Houston International Seafarers Centre for their Christmas ditty bag programme.
- Sun 24th **A prayer for chaplains/ship visitors:** *Rise with me, Lord to face the new day. Walk with me Lord, up each gangway. Be in me, oh Lord, as I meet each one. Help me, oh Lord, to see in them, Your Son. Give me courage, oh Lord, to do what is right. For justice, oh Lord stand with me and fight. Give me peace, oh Lord, at the end of each day watch over them, Lord while they are away. Amen*
- Mon 25th **From USA Region:** For Sharon Emerson and the Corpus Christi Seafarers' Centre, that MtS will be able to find a suitable port chaplain.
- Tue 26th **From USA Region:** For Rhonda Cummins, Tom Wise and the Point Comfort Seafarers Centre in Calhoun County, Texas.
- Wed 27th **From USA Region:** For the Seattle Seafarers' Centre and their Christmas cruise ship ministry.
- Thu 28th **Prayer for Israel and Gaza:** Lord, we worship You. In the midst of the storm, we raise our eyes to you. Please speak peace into the crisis in Israel and Gaza. We raise all the innocent children that have been affected by this crisis to You, Lord. You said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." You have created each of them — You love them deeply and profoundly. Lord, protect them, heal them, and provide for them and their families.
- Fri 29th **In Cyprus** we are collecting Christmas boxes filled with gifts for the seafarers... Prayers of thanks to the Anglican Churches on the Island who have generously donated towards these. Also a ship management company are donating to this incentive as well.
- Sat 30th **Humber Ports, UK, Europe Region:** Please pray for our Christmas plans across the Humber ports. We will be working with local partners to prepare and distribute Christmas gifts to ships during the first half of December. This will include our own volunteers and volunteers from partner organisations. There will be three packing days, one each in Hull, Grimsby and Goole. Please pray that the funding all comes through, we all work well together, and that we can be a blessing to many seafarers this Christmas.

December

- Sun 1st **Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**
- Mon 2nd **For the Australia and PNG Region:** For Seafarers: Pray for the safety and well-being of all seafarers, especially those who will be away from their families during Christmas. Ask for strength and comfort for them as they navigate the challenges of life at sea.
- Tue 3rd **For the Australia and PNG Region:** For Mission Staff and Volunteers: Pray for the staff and volunteers of the Mission to Seafarers who work tirelessly to support seafarers. Ask for energy, compassion, and perseverance as they prepare and distribute Christmas gift packs and provide emotional and spiritual support for those struggling at this time.
- Wed 4th **For the Australia and PNG Region:** For Families of Seafarers: Pray for the families of seafarers who will be missing their loved ones during the holiday season. Ask for peace and comfort for them, and that they feel connected despite the distance.
- Thu 5th **For the Australia and PNG Region** For the Mission's Outreach Efforts: Pray for the success of the Mission's outreach programs, including their efforts to expand into new regions and strengthen relationships within the maritime community
- Fri 6th **For the staff and departments at IHQ in London:** The Finance Team, who as well as managing the central finances support and advise local teams and committees.
- Sat 7th **For the staff and departments at IHQ in London:** The Programmes Team, who expand our work, especially to new ports overseas. This also includes the Family Support Networks in the Philippines and India, SafeTALK and ASIST suicide alertness training.
- Sun 8th **For the staff and departments at IHQ in London:** *The Operations team, covering numerous administrative and technical matters, including governance, data, and HR:*
- Mon 9th **Aqaba** - Raeid our Welfare manager will be handing out dates and chocolate to the ships and seafarers coming in over Christmas
- Tue 10th **Bahrain** - There will be a sponsored Ice Skate that raises funds to go towards Christmas packages
- Wed 11th **India** - we are trying to raise local funds to go towards presents and goodies
- Thu 12th **Tuticorin** - there hopefully will be a Christmas Party for the Families and Children
- Fri 13th **Colombo** - will be making Christmas packages to hand out over the Christmas period.
- Sat 14th **Suape, Brazil:** Greetings in Christ. I am immensely grateful for the initiative of having a list of reasons to pray for this time of Nativity. I have contacted several

- crews of ships that operate coastal shipping along the Brazilian coast and have arranged to hold Christmas celebrations on board these vessels that are in the Port of Suape. I ask for prayers so that we can carry out this project. I thank God for giving us this opportunity to be of service to the Seafarers. Praise be to God. Fraternally in Christ. Rt Rvd Filadelfo Oliveira Neto. Chaplain in Suape Port. Mission to Seafarers.
- Sun 15th *God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*
- Mon 16th **Vila Do Conde, Brazil:** As with other Christmases over the years, this year we want to pray on board the ships together with the sailors in the days leading up to Christmas. The main requests I would like to make are for your travels, for your families and for peace in the world. In Christ. Revdo. Elias Barata.
- Tue 17th Panama: We in Panamá will undertake our now established tradition of visiting vessels to distribute Christmas parcels. These contain chocolates, nougat, dried figs, walnuts, Christmas cake, items for exercise (elastic bands, hand grip strengtheners, skipping ropes), playing cards, chess sets, battery powered Christmas lights, traditional Panamanian Christmas tree decorations, and cards from a local school.
- Wed 18th **Panama:** We will also offer to celebrate Christmas services on vessels that request a time of prayer or Eucharist. Our Christmas campaign will get underway on the 1st of December and will conclude at the Feast of the Epiphany. We would ask special prayers for Alvaro, a Colombian seafarer who suffered severe burns on a shipboard accident. His recovery is slow, and his employers have not paid his wages in full, so he is stuck here (since May) and unable to get home to his family.
- Thu 19th **Panama:** Pray to for Fr. Jesus Sta. Iglesia, our Filipino colleague who has been awaiting his Panamanian visa since December 2023. We desperately need him here in Panamá to assist us with developing our ministry. We also want to give thanks for the approval of our application for membership of the City of Knowledge. This is a special “zone” in Panama City where most of the UN agencies and other NGOs are located. This will enable our strategic lobbying for seafarers’ rights as well as offering us a place for meetings. Membership comes with helpful tax exemptions, which, God knows we need in Panamá (an expensive country).
- Fri 20th **Falmouth – Christmas gift delivery day** Please remember and pray for all seafarers who will be in Port over Christmas. Falmouth Mission will be delivering hampers and individual gifts to all those who will be away from their loved ones at this special and important time. We think of them as they miss all the family Christmas celebrations but give thanks that their mobile phones will keep them in touch with loved ones from a distance. We join in prayer for all seafarers caught in storms this Christmas to make it to Port safely and be given a very warm Mission welcome when they arrive.
- Sat 21st Please join **Falmouth Mission** in this prayer for seafarers: Dear Lord, as our seafarers embark on their journeys, we humbly implore you to guide them through treacherous waters and turbulent storms. Grant them safe passage and may your divine light shine brightly upon their vessels. Keep them shielded from harm’s way so that they may return to their loves ones who eagerly await their safe return. Their safe return is not only a source of joy but also a beacon of hope, inspiring all of us. Amen.
- Sun 22nd *Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God. Amen*
- Mon 23rd **Puerto Limon, Costa Rica:** Prayers for Christmas (Fr. George Watts – Hon. Chaplain) Dear God. Thank you for this special day, Christmas. We are happy and excited. We remember that today is about celebrating the birth of Jesus, your son. Thank you for sending him to bring us love, joy, peace, and hope.
- Tue 24th **Puerto Limon** Through the prophet Isaiah, you assured us that you will keep us in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on you (Isaiah 26:3). Bless our family and friend as we come together help us to be kind and share with others, just like you taught us through Jesus.
- Wed 25th **Puerto Limon** Dear God, thank you that you promise to give to us, those who feel worried, pressured, and stressed, deep rest and peace for our souls. Thank you for your reminder that we don’t have to carry it all. Forgive us for the time we try to be self-sufficient, thank you for the refreshment that comes from your spirit, filling us with joy.
- Thu 26th **Puerto Limon** Put into the hearts of men, and women this peace for which they sometimes seek so desperately and which you alone can give them. Grant that we may share with all our hearts in this profound mystery of Christmas. Amen.
- Fri 27th **Puerto Limon** Prayer for the Reopen of a new cruise season. Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. My name is George Leroy Watts. I am a retired teacher in secondary education, also a retired priest of the Episcopal Anglican communion. Since 2019, I have been working as a Honorary Port Chaplain in Limon Ports: cruise terminal, Japdeva cargo ships terminal, and APM Terminal (cargo ships) in Moin.
- Sat 28th **Puerto Limon** Let us Pray: Almighty God, our heavenly father. We thank you for gathering us once again in your presence. We beseech thee to guide and protect all who travel by land. By Air, and by sea, especially those who sale in ships, surround them with thy loving care protect them from every danger, and take them safety to their journey end. Pray for God’s blessings on all seafarers, for sailors very far from home and family. Comfort them in times of Loneliness and need. Remind them that, in you, they are never alone, particularly when they are struggling with bad weather conditions or illness.
- Sun 29th *Please pray for seafarers suffering ill-health and old-age, for those who have been injured whilst carrying out their duties, and for all who care for them. Amen*
- Mon 30th **Puerto Limon** We beseech the father to help us to continue providing care to seafarers in need, and Pastoral Support, regardless of your religious faith, nationality, and origin. We pray for the families of the sailors who stay at home, while a loved one is away at sea. We thank you for the sailor’s society staff involved in supporting the families of sailors by sharing your love, as an ongoing partner. Finally, we pray for all ship-owners, shipping agents, and all who care about those who crew their ships. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen
- Tue 31st As one year ends and another begins, seafarers around the globe will see in the New Year at sea. Some will be mourning losses, some will be facing another year of uncertainty. Some will have lives deeply affected by conflict, others will know that

they have provided for their loved ones. There is much to be thankful for, and much that needs our continued intercession. In the year ahead may we be bringers of good news in all its forms to seafarers around the world.

November and December 2024

Christmas Projects and IHQ

Secretary General: Peter Rouch

Welcome to the November & December 2024 edition of the Mission to Seafarers Monthly Prayer Diary.



Secretary General: Peter Rouch

Welcome to this double month edition of the prayer diary. Our prayer focus will be on Christmas projects throughout the world and on the work of the staff at IHQ. Thanks to all who have sent in prayer requests. Please pray especially for the IHQ staff. Much of their work is unseen but they provide essential leadership and support for all that happens in the ports.

The Christmas effort in ports is typically a major undertaking. Please pray that in the busy nature of this season, we would take the light of Christ with us in all we do.