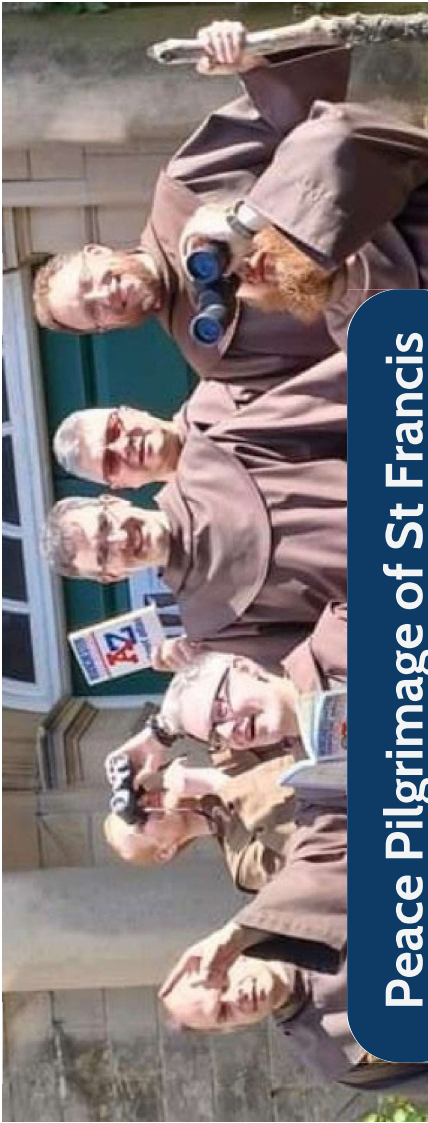


DIOCESE OF YORK PRAYER DIARY

JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026



www.dioceseofyork.org.uk



Peace Pilgrimage of St Francis

Margaret Cooper, TSSF and LLM St Peter's Church Redcar, reflects ahead of an extraordinary pilgrimage happening during the summer.

Can you believe it! 800 years after St Francis of Assisi was taken up to glory we continue to be inspired by his life and devotion to Christ. The Society of St Francis are Anglican followers of St Francis, committed to continuing the Franciscan charism by devoting their lives to the way of St Francis.

St Francis of Assisi began life at the end of the twelfth century, as the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. After early years of parties and celebrations, he grew weary of his lifestyle, and made a pilgrimage to Rome.

On his return to Assisi, he became known as a man of simple living, following hearing verses from Matthew 10 that had changed his heart. He formed a group of followers, which quickly grew into a religious order.

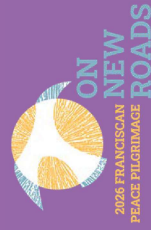
As the order spread, Francis wrote a 'Rule of Life', which has inspired many ways of Christian living across subsequent centuries, including our own Rhythm of Life in the Diocese of York. By the time of his death, there were orders for men, women, and lay people.

To this day, Francis is known as a gentle and generous man, who radically altered his life in response to God, and shaped his life around humility and action.

To celebrate the 800 year anniversary, a Peace Pilgrimage is happening this summer. Starting from Alnmouth Friary in Northumberland pilgrims will travel through England via Hilfield Friary in Dorset to arrive in London on October 4th, which is the Feast Day of St Francis.

Excitingly they plan to pass through the Diocese of York, going from Middlesbrough to Tadcaster via York between 27th July and 2nd August.

As a Franciscan tertiary (Third order of the Society of St Francis) I plan to join them from Middlesbrough to York. I hope we can offer a welcoming and supportive hospitality as the pilgrimage passes through our parishes.



Please pray as preparations for this pilgrimage take place. You can find out more on:

www.spiritoffrancis.com/2026-franciscan-peace-pilgrimage/

Church of England:
Diocese of St Albans,
Bishop designate Andrew Rumsey, Bishop Richard Atkinson,
Bishop Jane Mainwaring

Church of Sweden:
Diocese of Linköping, Bishop Marika Markovits

Church Lads and Girls Brigades
across Southern Africa

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 5

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, send down upon your Church the riches of your Spirit, and kindle in all who minister the gospel your countless gifts of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of South America

Mon 6

Calendar of Saints: Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535

Pray for: St Wilfrid, Brayton; St Francis of Assisi, Thorpe Willoughby

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Andaman and Car Nicobar Islands – The Church of North India (United)

Tues 7

Pray for: St Mary, Carlton; St Peter and St Paul, Drax

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Saint Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane – The Scottish Episcopal Church

Weds 8

Pray for: All Saints, Cawood; All Saints, Ryther; All Saints, Wistow

Anglican Communion: The Missionary Diocese of Central and South Angola – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

Thurs 9

Pray for: St Mary, Birkin; St John the Baptist, Haddlesey; St Mary, Hambleton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Ankole – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Fri 10

Pray for: General Synod commences meeting in York until Tuesday 14

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of North Ankole – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Sat 11

Calendar of Saints: Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, c. 550

Pray for: St James, Fairburn; All Saints, Ledsham; also the FIFA World Cup begins until the 19th hosted by Canada, USA and Mexico

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Northwest Ankole – The Church of the Province of Uganda



Churches join with Christians at Pride

The Revd Anika Gardener, Vicar of St Luke's Church in York, reflects on this year's Christians at Pride.

Saturday 30th May saw thousands of people take to the streets and participate in York Pride. Sponsors, community groups, charities, schools and individuals walked from the centre to the Knavesmire, with CaPiY (Christians at Pride in York) in the midst of it.

There has been a Christian presence at Pride for a number of years now and it was brilliant to see Christians from different churches and denominations from York and beyond take part. As well as carrying the big banner during the parade, we once again had a stall at the Knavesmire.

The idea behind it is to have a positive Christian presence at Pride, talking to people, listening and generally being part of this important celebration. There was an art project where people could add their names to it at the stall which hundreds of people did, as well as some 'God loves you' pins for people to take. Those involved with the stall had some meaningful conversations with people.

One conversation I was told about which stood out to me was about someone who had been so hurt by Christians in the past, that upon learning that our stall was run by Christians walked off. We had plenty of positive reactions and people genuinely appreciative of us being there, but this story broke my heart and is precisely why we are doing this.

Obviously we'd love to be able to say that we had a chat with the person and they left happier. That's not what happened. As Christians, we have a part to play, to be an ally to stand in solidarity with our siblings and to celebrate together so that hopefully those heartbreaking stories will be stories of the past, and instead we hear stories of radical welcome.

In the meantime, we continue to be a joyful, positive presence to share the love of God.



To find out more about Christians at Pride, please visit:
www.christiansatpride.com

Anglican Communion

The Anglican Communion is a family of 42 autonomous and independent-yet-interdependent national, pan-national and regional churches in communion with the See of Canterbury. Through the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, Anglicans around the world have been united in praying on the same day for the same dioceses. Day by day, Monday to Saturday, we join in prayer for particular dioceses. And on Sundays, we pray mainly for provinces - and occasionally for other specific prayer biddings. Find out more at anglicancommunion.org.

Ember Days

An Ember Day is a day on which we pray for those who serve the Church in its various ministries, both ordained and lay, and for vocations.

Praying for Children and Young People

The Church of England invites everyone to join a weekly twenty-minute online prayer gathering for doubling the number of children and young active disciples in the Church of England by 2030. The weekly Zoom prayer gathering takes place every Tuesday for 20 minutes from 13:00-13:20 GMT. It isn't primarily about numbers – it's about young lives being won and shaped by the goodness, beauty and truth of Jesus. Find out more and join the prayer:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/children-and-young-people/praying-doubling-number-children-and-young-active-disciples-church>



Stories

The news pages in this prayer diary celebrate how we are Living Christ's Story across our diocesan family, and are there to help us to pray for and with one another. If you have any stories you'd like to share for future editions of the Prayer Diary, please contact our Diocesan Discipleship Adviser on sammi.tooze@yorkdiocese.org.

Useful Links

Archbishop of York: archbishopofyork.org

The Church of England: churchofengland.org

Contact

If you have any questions or comments, please email us at prayerdiary@yorkdiocese.org

The contribution of Avril Rhodes in compiling this diary is gratefully acknowledged.

Follow us on social media @DioceseOfYork and on our website: dioceseofyork.org.uk/diocesan-prayer-diary.



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About the Prayer Diary

How to use this Prayer Diary

This Prayer Diary is for everyone across the Diocese of York. You are welcome to use it in whatever way suits you best - as a personal pattern of prayer, as part of your church community or prayer group, within Intercessions, or through storytelling and social media. We'd love to hear how you use this prayer diary - do get in touch if there's any feedback you'd like to share!

Praying for the Whole People of God

In our Prayer Diary, we pray each day for churches, schools and other communities across our diocese. When we do this, we pray for the whole people of God in that place - all those who lead and serve, those who worship, and those in the wider community.

Diocesan South African Link

The Diocese of York is twinned with three dioceses in South Africa - Cape Town, False Bay and Saldanha Bay. The Diocese of Saldanha Bay is linked with the Archdeaconry of York, False Bay with the Archdeaconry of Cleveland, and the Diocese of Cape Town with the Archdeaconry of East Riding. The purpose of the link is to encourage one another, in a mutual concern to help each other in our mission to make Christ's love known. We are committing to pray for communities in South Africa each week in our Diocesan Prayer Diary.

Porvoo Communion

The Porvoo Communion is a communion of 15 Anglican and Evangelical Lutheran churches in Europe. The communion was established in 1992 by a theological agreement entitled the Porvoo Common Statement which establishes full communion between and among these churches. The Porvoo Declaration commits the churches which have signed it 'to share a common life' and 'to pray for and with one another'. An important way of doing this is to pray through the year for the Porvoo churches and their Dioceses. Find out more at porvoo communion.org

Church of England:

Diocese of Newcastle,

Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop Mark Wroe

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Møre, Bishop Ingeborg Midttømme

Anglican Youth of Southern Africa (AYSA)

AYSA is administered and coordinated by the

Provincial Youth Council (PYC) who ensures

that there is a vibrant and effective youth

ministry in each Diocese.

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 12

The Sixth Sunday after Trinity,

Glastonbury Pilgrimage, Sea Sunday and Disability Awareness

Creator God, you made us all in your image:

may we discern you in all that we see and serve you in all that we do;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Mon 13

Pray for: Bishop of Beverley

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of South Ankoale – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Tues 14

Calendar of Saints: John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866

Pray for: St Wilfrid of Ripon, Monk Fryston; St Mary, South Milford

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of West Ankoale – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Weds 15

Calendar of Saints: Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c.862; Bonaventure, Friar, Bishop, Teacher, 1274

Pray for: St Thomas a Becket Chapel, Ledston Hall

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Antananarivo – The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Thurs 16

Calendar of Saints: Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, 1099

Pray for: St James, Selby

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Antsirananana – The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Fri 17

Pray for: Selby Abbey – St Mary and St Germain

Anglican Communion: Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Sat 18

Calendar of Saints: Elizabeth Ferard, first deaconess of the Church of England, Founder of the Community of St Andrew, 1883

Pray for: Holy Trinity, Barkston Ash; All Saints, Saxton; All Saints, Sherburn in Elmet

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Araucanía – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile



Pastoral Letter

A Pastoral Letter from The Revd Canon Mark Carey, Director of Mission and Ministry.

Comedy writer Dennis Norden once observed, "Confidence is that feeling you get just before you fall flat on your face!" It's a remark that may feel uncomfortably familiar. Many of us have an uncertain relationship with confidence - longing for it, yet wary of where it may lead. So how do we grow, not in self-made assurance, but in a Christ-like confidence that endures?

At the heart of our diocesan vision is a simple yet profound invitation: to live Christ's story. This is far more than a slogan. It is a way of seeing our lives, our churches, and our communities through the lens of Jesus' life and purpose.

Christ's story is where everything begins. In him we see God's loving purpose unfold - creation, redemption, and new creation. Through his life, death, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus has defeated sin and death, revealed God's kingdom, and opened the way for all to share in his new life. To live Christ's story is to follow him with growing confidence, to become more like him, and to join in his mission through the Holy Spirit.

Yet this story is not distant from us; it meets us in our own story. Each of us is being shaped by God's gracious work, often long before we recognise it. As disciples, we learn to notice his presence in our daily lives and to trust his guidance. Christ-like confidence grows as we recognise and share how God is at work in us today.

And we are not alone. God is already at work in the stories of others - our neighbours, communities, and places. We are called to listen well, to serve generously, and to discern where the good news of Jesus speaks into real lives. In doing so, we help others discover how their story finds hope and meaning within God's greater story.

Our prayer is that, together, we may become a diocesan community increasingly confident in following Jesus, sharing his good news, and faithfully living Christ's story in every place.

Church in Wales:

Diocese of Swansea and Brecon, Bishop John Lomas

Church of England:

Diocese of Leicester, Bishop Martyn Snow, Bishop Saju Mathalaly

Archdeaconry of Helderberg,
Diocese of False Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 27

The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life: deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Church of Bangladesh

Mon 28

Pray for: Bridlington Priory Church (St Mary)

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Central Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Tues 29

Calendar of Saints: Michael and All Angels

Pray for: All Saints, Barmston, Emmanuel, Bridlington

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of West Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Weds 30

Calendar: Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, Teacher, 420

Pray for: St Andrew, Boynton, St Cuthbert, Burton Fleming, St John the Baptist, Carnaby, St James, Fordon, St Nicholas, Grindale, All Saints, Kilham, All Saints, Rudston, All Saints, Wold Newton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Buhiga – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Thurs 1

Calendar of Saints: Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, Apostle of the Franks, 533; Anthony

Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, Social Reformer, 1885

Pray for: Black History Month

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bujumbura – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Fri 2

Pray for: Church of England's Racial Justice Unit

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bukavu – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Sat 3

Calendar of Saints: George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, Ecumenist, Peacemaker, 1958

Pray for: St Michael, Bempton, St Oswald, Flamborough, St Peter, Reighton, St John, Sewerby, St Leonard, Speeton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bukedi – The Church of the Province of Uganda



The Revd Simon Biddlestone and the Revd Mairi Taylor-Gibson, at Holy Redeemer Church in Acomb, share how their church is becoming more accessible for those who are neurodivergent.

It became apparent that neurodiversity and disability are a potential barrier in our congregation and parish, so we spent time trying to make church as accessible as possible to those with additional needs. As part of this we have been working to make our services and activities easy to access for neurodiverse people.

In services, we use Makaton (a language support system) on our PowerPoint to explain what the section is, and create a handout that shows the order of the sections; this can be coloured in as we go along. We have made a large children's area at the front of church, allowing children to be close to the action and engage them but allowing them to zone in and out as needed; and then can easily re-engage through clear line of sight and hearing. We also have an open area at the back of church to allow space for movement for all during the service. We have a large assortment of quiet toys, books and colouring to calm busy minds whilst listening. It is made clear to all that moving around and making noise in the service is fine; being with us is far more important

We also run Connect, which is a monthly service for children with any additional needs (neurodivergent or physical). This group contributed to the York Minster York Inspirational Kids Christmas service.

We found a need for a social space for teenagers and young adults with additional needs, and therefore, we run a half-termly disco. We have neurodivergent young people help run this, and although it is social, we always invite members to other church events.

For all of this, we have had to listen to our congregation's needs and work with individuals. We also spend time communicating to our congregation about why we do things. Not everything has gone as expected and we have had to be flexible. As one of our congregation members said about an adaptation we needed: "it is important because it matters to you" and as everyone is welcome in God's house, we want to honour that with how we work.

What's happening today...			
1		song	
2		welcome	
3		notices	

July

19th - 25th July

Church of Sweden:
Diocese of Skara, Bishop Ulrica Fritzson

Church of England:
Diocese of Leeds; Bishopric of Leeds currently in vacancy, Bishop Toby Howarth (Acting); Bishop Malcolm Chamberlain, Bishop Anna Eltringham, Bishop Smitha Prasadam, Bishop Arun Arora

Archdeaconry of
Breede Valley,
Diocese of False Bay

South Africa Diocesan Link

- Sun 19

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord

Anglican Communion: Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
- Mon 20

Calendar of Saints: Margaret of Antioch, Martyr, 4th century, Bartolomé de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566

Pray for: Schools within the Selby Deanery: Aberford CE Primary School, Barlow CE School, Brayton CE School, Cawood CE School, Chapel Haddlesley CE School, Hambleton CE School, Lady E. Hastings CE School, Ledston, Micklefield CE Primary School, Monk Fryston CE Primary School, Saxton CE Primary School, Selby Abbey CE Primary School, Wistow Parochial CE School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of the Arctic – The Anglican Church of Canada
- Tues 21

Pray for: HMP Hull, HMP Humber & HMP Full Sutton, Chaplaincy staff and all in their care

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Argentina – The Anglican Church of South America
- Weds 22

Calendar of Saints: Mary Magdalene

Pray for: Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust: including Hull Royal Infirmary and Castle Hill Hospital. Dove House Hospice, Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Northern Argentina – The Anglican Church of South America
- Thurs 23

Calendar of Saints: Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373

Pray for: Start of Diocesan Conference which takes place until 25 July also, Commonwealth Games begin in Glasgow until 2 August

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Argyll and The Isles – The Scottish Episcopal Church
- Fri 24

Pray for: St Mark, Anlabay Common; St Peter, Anlabay

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Arizona – The Episcopal Church
- Sat 25

Calendar of Saints: James the Apostle

Pray for: St Peter, Bilton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Arkansas – The Episcopal Church



Children's voices woven into worship through new diocesan cope

A new cope, created from artwork by children and young people across the Diocese of York's schools, brings their faith and experience into the heart of worship and reflects what we see God doing so often in the scriptures.

The York Diocesan Board of Education (YDBE) invited students from our Church of England schools across the diocese to create artwork showing how they see God at work in their school. These individual pieces have now been carefully brought together into a beautifully crafted cope by textile artist Yvonne Bell. Each panel reflects a glimpse of faith lived out in daily school life – in friendship, kindness, prayer, and learning.

This project reflects something we see throughout scripture – that God speaks and works through people of all ages. By placing children's voices at the centre of worship, the cope is a visible reminder that young people are not just part of the Church's future, but its present.

The Bishop of Whitby, Barry Hill, who champions the ministry of growing younger, comments, "Throughout the scriptures we are reminded that God places the voices of children and young people at the heart of vocation and discipleship.

"This schools' cope seeks to literally embody the voices of children and young people from across our 122 diocesan schools at the heart of our worship, as they reflect how they see God at work in their school."

The cope will travel across the diocese, worn by bishops during school visits and at special services. This includes an Evensong for school governors at York Minster in June. It will also be available for schools and parishes to borrow.

Find out more about our diocesan work with schools here:
www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/support/for-schools

September

20th - 26th September

Church of England:

Diocese of Sheffield: Bishop Pete Wilcox; Bishop Leah Vasey-Saunders

Church of Greenland:

(Diocese of Greenland with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark)
Bishop Paneeraq Siegstad Munk

Anglican Church of
Southern Africa (ACSA)
The Church Men's Society

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 20

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of creation, whose glory is around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of Australia

Mon 21

Calendar of Saints: *Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist*

Pray for: International Day of Peace; also Fairtrade Fortnight begins until Sunday 4th October
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Botswana – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Tues 22

Pray for: St Helen, Bilton, St John the Baptist, Healaugh, St John the Baptist, Hessay, All Saints, Moor Monkton, All Saints, Wighill

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brandon – The Anglican Church of Canada

Weds 23

Ember Day

Pray for: St Mary, Church Fenton, St John the Baptist, Kirkby Wharfe, St Andrew, Newton Kyme, St Mary, Tadcaster

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brechin – The Scottish Episcopal Church

Thurs 24

Pray for: Schools in the New Ainsty Deanery: Archbishop of York CE School; Boston Spa CE Primary School; Kirk Fenton Parochial CE School; Lady E Hastings CE School, Thorp Arch; Long Marston CE Primary School; St Mary's CE Primary School, Tockwith CE Primary School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brisbane – The Anglican Church of Australia

Fri 25

Calendar of Saints: *Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester, Spiritual Writer, 1626, Sergei of Radonezh, Russian Monastic Reformer, Teacher, 1392*

Ember Day

Pray for: St Magnus, Bessingby; St Mark, Bessingby; Christ Church, Bridlington Quay; Holy Trinity, Bridlington; St Andrew, Ulrome

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bristol – The Church of England

Sat 26

Calendar of Saints: *Wilson Cartile, Founder of the Church Army, 1942*

Ember Day

Pray for: Archdeacon of York

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of British Columbia – The Anglican Church of Canada

25



Bible Conversations

Bible Society plans £400,000 investment in Teesside

The Bible Society is planning to invest £400,000 in Teesside in a major effort to increase biblical literacy in local churches and to help more people explore the Bible and the Christian faith.

The custom-printed Bible conversations resource is intended not only to strengthen confidence in Scripture among Christians but also to equip them to engage in bible conversations with people they know. Churches will also create opportunities for those who are curious, questioning and wanting to understand more about Jesus and the message of the Bible.

The Bible Society's wider mission is to invite people to discover the Bible for themselves, and this Teesside investment reflects that aim in a practical and focused way. Churches across the area will be running The Bible Course and Alpha in the autumn. These courses are designed to help people engage with the Christian story in an open, structured and conversational setting. The Bible Course gives a broad overview of Scripture and helps participants see how the different parts of the Bible fit together, while Alpha creates space for discussion about life, faith and meaning.

As part of the project, more than 10,000 copies of Luke and Acts will also be printed and given away free of charge. This large-scale distribution is intended to put the Bible directly into people's hands, making it easier for individuals, families and seekers to read the story of Jesus and the growth of the early Church for themselves. Following a series of summer training events for churches to increase their confidence in having bible conversations, a major advertising campaign utilising buses, radio, social media, posters, and billboards will flood Teesside.

Church leaders across Teesside expect the investment to lead to lasting spiritual impact, equipping congregations, encouraging conversations about faith and opening doors for many who may never previously have engaged seriously with the Bible. Local churches are already seeing people come to church who have read the bible but do not understand it. This investment will increase Bible confidence across Teesside.

Please pray for Teesside, the work of The Bible Society, and this upcoming missional project working with local churches.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania:

Bishop Mindaugas Sabutis

Church of Ireland:

Diocese of Derry and Raphoe: Bishop Andrew Forster

Growing the Church (GtC)

GtC is a church growth institute that serves the Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA), which includes seven countries and 25 dioceses

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 26

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Mon 27

Calendar of Saints: Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher, 1901

Pray for: St John, Bransholme

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Armagh – The Church of Ireland

Tues 28

Pray for: St Mary, Cottingham

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Armidale – The Anglican Church of Australia

Weds 29

Calendar of Saints: Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord

Pray for: St Thomas, Hull; The Ascension, Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Arochuku/Ohafia – The Church of Nigeria

Thurs 30

Calendar of Saints: William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson, Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846

Pray for: St Columba, Drypool; St John, Drypool; Victoria Dock, Drypool

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Aru – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Fri 31

Calendar of Saints: Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556

Pray for: All Saints, Hessele

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Asaba – The Church of Nigeria

Sat 1

Pray for: Hull Minster

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Asante-Mampong – The Church of the Province of West Africa



New deanery team ministries celebrated

Pentecost marked the beginning of two new team ministries in the Mowbray Deanery.

Two special Pentecost services marked the beginning of new team ministries in the Mowbray Deanery, following the completion of a two-year process of deanery reorganisation.

The reorganisation, which was formally completed by the Church Commissioners in February, creates two geographical teams within the deanery: North Mowbray and South Mowbray. The new structure will support informal team ministry, encourage and grow lay ministry, and help churches share resources, gifts, and experience more effectively across the deanery.

Both celebration services were led by The Rt Revd Barry Hill, Bishop of Whitby, and The Ven Amanda Bloor, Archdeacon of Cleveland. They included the commissioning of lay ministers, as well as the licensing of incumbents.

The first service took place on 24th May at All Saints, Northallerton, celebrating the new North Mowbray Team Ministry. During the service, the Revd David Johnson was licensed at All Saints. A second service followed at St Oswald's, Sowerby, celebrating the new South Mowbray Team Ministry. This service included the licensing of the Revd David Biggs at St Oswald's.

The Revd Mary Rolls, Rector of the Benefice of Thirsk and Area Dean of Mowbray, comments,

"I think one of the most powerful things that seems to be being fed back from the celebration services was the sharing of ministry. Instead of the symbols of ministry being given to the priest being licensed, they were presented and received by different people representing different aspects of our shared ministry. Each person then laid their symbol on the altar, so a tableau visual of multiple people being involved in our shared ministry was built up.

"This relates to the key things we are praying for as a result of the reorganisation, that the teams are truly able to resource each other, share ministry, bring out everyone's God-given gifts and provide space that the whole people of God can be confident in stepping into serving out of the love and gifts we receive from the Holy Spirit."

The celebrations offered a moment of thanksgiving for the ministry already shared across the deanery, and a hopeful step into a new season of working together in living Christ's story.

Please pray for Mowbray Deanery in this new phase of ministry.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:
Diocese of Ribe, Bishop Elob Westergaard
Church of England:
Diocese of Bath and Wells,
Bishop Michael Beasley, Bishop Fiona Gibson

Archdeaconry of Belville,
Diocese of Saldanha Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 13

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity; also Education Sunday
Lord God, defend your Church from all false teaching and give to your people knowledge of your truth, that we may enjoy eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Mon 14

Calendar: *Holy Cross Day*

Pray for: Chaplaincy of HMP/YOI Askham Grange

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Blackburn – The Church of England

Tues 15

Calendar of Saints: *Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*

Pray for: Holy Trinity, Acaster Malbis, St John, Acaster Selby, All Saints, Appleton Roebuck, St Andrew, Bishopthorpe

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bo – The Church of the Province of West Africa

Weds 16

Calendar of Saints: *Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the Picts, c.452*

Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, Tractarian, 1882

Pray for: St Nicholas, Askham Bryan, All Saints, Bolton Percy, St Paul, Colton, St Giles, Copmanthorpe

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Boga – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Thurs 17

Calendar of Saints: *Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179*

Pray for: St Mary the Virgin, Boston Spa, All Saints, Bramham, All Saints, Thorp Arch, St Peter, Walton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bolivia – The Anglican Church of South America

Fri 18

Pray for: St Luke, Clifford

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bongo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Sat 19

Calendar of Saints: *Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690*

Pray for: St Mary, Askham Richard, St James, Bilbrough, All Saints, Long Marston, All Saints, Rufforth, The Epiphany, Tockwith

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bor – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan



To be a pilgrim

The Revd Canon Richard Carew, Vicar of the Benefice of Dringhouses, recently led a pilgrimage across the benefice's family of churches. Here, he reflects with us something of that journey.

If you hear the word 'Pilgrimage', I wonder what images come to your mind? Possibly someone going to see the sights of the Holy Land; maybe a rainswept hiker on their way to Lindisfarne; or even someone in shorts and a t-shirt with a backpack travelling in the Spanish sunshine on the Camino de Santiago.

In his famous book, Pilgrim's Progress, John Bunyan pictured the life of faith as a literal Pilgrim journey, a journey towards God, but one littered with joys and challenges along the way. There are almost as many ways of being a Pilgrim as there are people of faith.

On 28th March, more than 65 people from four South York churches joined together for a Pilgrimage Day. We started with a welcome from the Archbishop of York at Bishopthorpe Palace, where a brief service was shared. We then variously walked, cycled, or drove the five-mile route which took us to St Andrew's Bishopthorpe, St Chad's on South Bank,

James the Deacon, Woodthorpe and finally St Edward's Dringhouses where we closed with a Eucharist service.

The seeds of this Pilgrimage Day began in retreat by one of our PCC in a Carmelite Monastery. The PCC at St Edward's had already decided that prayer would be a focal point as a parish in 2026. Prayer then became linked to Pilgrimage, following interest and experience of the Camino de Santiago by another two PCC members. The Revd Canon Maggie McLean from York Minster then came to tell us about her sabbatical exploring Pilgrimage and walking part of the Camino, and so the scene was set for us to plan out a local Pilgrimage where all could join in, whether walking, cycling or driving.

Pilgrimage is more than just going for a walk. It is a chance to slow down to the pace of God (to borrow a phrase from Archbishop Stephen), and to be refreshed in spirit as well as body and mind. A chance for our own Emmaus Road in the hope that we too might catch a glimpse of Jesus walking with us on the way.

August

2nd - 8th August

Church of England:

Bishopric of Bristol currently in vacancy,
Bishop Neil Warwick (Acting)

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:
Diocese of Helsinki: Bishop Teemu Laajasalo

Archdeaconry of Athlone,
Diocese of Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 2 The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of Uganda

Mon 3 Pray for: St Cuthbert, Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Saint Asaph – The Church in Wales

Tues 4

Calendar of Saints: John-Baptiste Vianney, Curé d'Ars, [Spiritual Guide, 1859](#)
Pray for: St John, Newland
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Athabasca – The Anglican Church of Canada

Weds 5

Calendar of Saints: Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642
Pray for: St Martin, Hull
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Atlanta – The Episcopal Church

Thurs 6

Calendar of Saints: The Transfiguration of Our Lord
Pray for: St Mary, Lowgate, Hull
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Attooch – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Fri 7

Calendar of Saints: John Mason Neale, Priest, Hymn Writer, 1866
Pray for: St Mary, Sculcoates; St Paul, Sculcoates
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Auckland – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Sat 8

Calendar of Saints: Dominic, Priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221
Pray for: St Michael and All Angels, North Hull
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of North West Australia – The Anglican Church of Australia



A day in the life of a Curate

The Revd Rosie Evans, Curate in the Benefice of Hornsea, shares her reflections on a day in the life of a Curate.

For me, being a curate is all about learning and finding our feet as newly-ordained ministers in the Church of England and within the communities in which we are serving.

One of my favourite services of the year in my benefice is an annual pet blessing service, at which last year, we welcomed seven horses, two donkeys, many dogs and two tortoises and, of course, their owners! I have also loved introducing a Taizé service, giving us all time and space to simply 'be'.

These are just two examples of the many things I have found myself doing as a Curate; the more time I spend in ministry, the more I am realising that there is not a 'typical' day. However, during most of my days, I walk alongside others as they encounter the ups and downs that life brings. One moment, I will find myself simply sitting with and listening to someone whose life has been turned upside down. In the next moment, I might find myself singing the song 'Big Red Combine Harvester' as I lead a harvest assembly at a local primary school.

Walking alongside people each day is a joy and a blessing, and it's something that I love doing, but it can also be a challenge. It's in those challenging moments when I think back to what led me to being a curate in the first place – sensing a call from God to walk with those most in need.

One of the hymns that has stayed with me through my journey to ordination is the hymn 'Here I am, Lord', which talks of the Lord of sea and sky calling us to go out and meet with others. Every time I remember this hymn, I remember that God walks with us as Curates, and even more simply, as disciples of Christ.

I am, of course, one of many curates in our diocese, and we would all be grateful for your prayers for the communities we serve and for our ministries as we continue to learn and grow as people of God.

Please pray for Rosie, for all our Curates across the Diocese of York, and the communities they serve, as we all grow in living Christ's story.

Church of England:

Diocese of Salisbury, Bishop Stephen Lake, Bishop Karen Gorham,
Bishop Andrew Rummey (Bishop designate of St Albans)

Church in Wales:

Diocese of St Asaph, Bishop Gregory Cameron

Diocese of False Bay Link

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 6 The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria

Mon 7

Pray for: All Saints, Easington (ER), St Nicholas, Keyingham, St Wilfrid, Ottringham, St Patrick, Patrington, St Mary, Welwick, St Germain, Winestead

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bermuda (Extra Provincial)

Tues 8

Pray for: The Accession of King Charles III (2022)

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bethlehem – The Episcopal Church

Weds 9

Calendar of Saints: Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880

Pray for: St Augustine, Hedon, St Andrew and St Mary, Paull, All Saints, Preston, St Swithin, Sproatley

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bhopal – The Church of North India (United)

Thurs 10

Pray for: St Michael, Garton in Holderness, St Margaret, Hilston, St Nicholas, Hollym, St Nicholas, Holmpton, All Saints, Roos, All Saints, Tunstall, St Matthew, Withernsea

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bida – The Church of Nigeria

Fri 11

Pray for: Schools in the South Holderness Deanery; Easington CE Primary School; Patrington CE Primary School; Roos CE Primary School; Sproatley Endowed CE School

and the 25th anniversary of the September 11 attacks in the USA

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Biharamulo – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Sat 12

Pray for: Celebration of Lay Ministries Service at York Minster; for all Authorised Lay Ministers and Licensed Lay Ministers including those with PTO

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Birmingham – The Church of England



Pastoral Letter

A Pastoral Letter from The Rt Revd Barry Bill, Bishop of Whitby.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

This Sunday (13th September) is Education Sunday. This annual occasion invites us to join in prayer, not only for the more than 20,000 students across 122 Church of England schools in the diocese, but also for staff, parents, Governors, Trustees and volunteers across the community and church schools of the diocese and those that struggle to access education.

As the largest provider of education in England, the responsibilities which rest upon us as churches, diocese and nationally are considerable and so it is perhaps understandable that sometimes we might be tempted with a reductionist understanding of faith in schools, where the place of faith is restricted to RE or collective worship. Education Sunday instead gives us opportunity to embody an expansive vision for church-led education.

In a world struggling with immigration and identity, why do we learn languages? Is it so when 'we' go abroad and 'they' don't speak what 'we' do, 'we' can get what 'we' want, or instead to practice the Christian habit of radical hospitality to the person who is new in a place? In a world where young people often feel overlooked, how do we encourage young people to be leaders from a young age in the way we see God doing on page after page throughout the scriptures? In a world where God created biology by presenting animals in front of humans and inviting us to name them, where the heavens declare the glory of God, where the beauty of physics or mathematics is intrinsic to all God has made, how do we help curious minds consider the 'why' behind the 'what' or 'how'?

In short, how as Christians do we see and reflect God Monday through Sunday, recognising that just as the font has a direct line to the altar, so the altar leads us to the street and shop, the office and the home. A Monday to Sunday faith for a Monday to Sunday world.

Barry, Bishop of Whitby and Chair of the Board of Education

Church of England:

Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop Jonathan Frost

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Stockholm, Bishop Andreas Holmberg

Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA)
St Mary Magdalene Guild Executive
Named in honour of St. Mary Magdalene, the guild focuses on empowering women and fostering a strong sense of community

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 9

The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Lord of heaven and earth, as Jesus taught his disciples to be persistent in prayer, give us patience and courage never to lose hope, but always to bring our prayers before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Also *Mary Summer Day*, founder of the Mothers' Union

Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church

Mon 10

Calendar of Saints: Laurence, Deacon at Rome, Martyr, 258

Pray for: St Aidan, Southcoates, Kingston upon Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Aweii – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tues 11

Calendar of Saints: Clare of Assisi, Founder of the Minoreesses (Poor Clares), 1253.

John Henry Newman, Priest, Tractarian, 1890

Pray for: St Alban, Kingston upon Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Awerial – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Weds 12

Pray for: St Nicholas, Kingston upon Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Awgu/Aninri – The Church of Nigeria

Thurs 13

Calendar of Saints: Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher, 1667.

Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910; Octavia Hill, Social Reformer, 1912

Pray for: St Michael, Sutton; St Margaret, Longhill

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Awka – The Church of Nigeria

Fri 14

Calendar of Saints: Maximilian Kolbe, Friar, Martyr, 1941

Pray for: St Andrew, Kirk Ella; St Luke, Willerby

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Awori – The Church of Nigeria

Sat 15

Calendar of Saints: The Blessed Virgin Mary

Pray for: St Giles, Marfleet; St Hilda, Marfleet; St Philip, Bilton Grange

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Ayod – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan



Pastoral Letter

A Pastoral Letter from The Venerable Amanda Bloor, Archdeacon of Cleveland.

One of my favourite books is a novel by Salley Vickers called Mr Golightly's Holiday. It tells the story of the mysterious Mr Golightly, who has decided to escape from the pressures of his working life by renting a house for a few months. Determined to find peace and quiet in order to update the bestseller he wrote many years ago, he discovers quite quickly that village life intrudes into his refuge and he becomes entangled with the lives of his new neighbours. In the process, he's forced to re-examine some of the incidents in his own life, including a family tragedy.

I don't want to spoil the plot – do find a copy and read it! – but it's a reminder for me of two things: firstly, that having a break is always a good thing, and secondly, that holidays are not always what we might have expected.

Not many of us will be able to take a few months off, of course, but I think that the summer is a good time to try to have a bit of a break, whether that's a week away, a day out in the sunshine or simply taking a cup of tea into the garden. God gave us this beautiful earth to enjoy and to care for, so taking time to enjoy it is a sign of respect and gratitude. We all know that the concept of sabbath – that one day of rest every week – is important, but in increasingly busy lives, it can get squeezed out.

I wonder how many of us check our emails on what is supposed to be a day off, or find ourselves doing a bit of preparation for the next working day? Somehow, if the sun shines, or the temperature rises even a little bit, it's easier to stop doing and begin being. And who knows, with a change of view, we might find ourselves – like Mr Golightly – thinking differently too.

Amanda Bloor
Archdeacon of Cleveland

September

30th August - 5th September

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Turku, Archbishop Tapio Luoma, Bishop Mari Leppänen

Church of England:

Diocese of York, Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, Bishop Barry Hill, Bishop Flora Winfield, Bishop Eleanor Sanderson, Bishop Stephen Race

St George's Cathedral,
Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 30

The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, you search us and know us:

may we rely on you in strength and rest on you in weakness, now and in all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Mon 31

Calendar of Saints: Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651

Pray for: St Mary, Strensall

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bauchi – The Church of Nigeria

Tues 1

Calendar of Saints: Giles of Provence, Hermit, c. 710

Pray for: St Helen and the Holy Cross, Sheriff Hutton, St Nicholas, Stillington, All Hallows, Sutton-on-the-Forest, St Leonard, Farlington; St Mary, Marton in the Forest
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Belize – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Weds 2

Calendar of Saints: The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942

Prayer for: Schools in the Easingwold Deanery: Crayke CE School; Forest of Galtres School; Huby CE Primary School; Hustwaite CE Primary School; St Peter's CE School (Brafferton); Sutton-on-the-Forest CE School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bendigo – The Anglican Church of Australia

Thurs 3

Calendar of Saints: Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher, 604

Pray for: University of York, University of York St John, City of York; for the chaplaincy, students, and staff

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Beni – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Fri 4

Calendar of Saints: Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of Wessex, 650

Pray for: Bishop of Hull

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Benin – The Church of Nigeria

Sat 5

Pray for: St Peter, Pidsea, St Lawrence, Elsternwick, All Saints, Halsham, St Peter, Humbleton, St Mary, Thorngumbald

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bentui – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan



Blessed by gardens

The Revd David Messer, Area Dean of North Holderness, shares his reflections on a rural context as we enjoy the blessings that gardens bring.

As I watch my new garden change colour and watch my wife working in the garden preparing it for new plants, pruning others to encourage them to grow, I was reminded that gardens are a significant metaphor for our faith and life as we journey from death to life.

For a start tending a garden is in itself an act of faith. Gardeners regularly witness daily miracles as new life asserts itself and barren wastelands are transformed with water and sun and care into areas of flowers and colours—they are indeed witnesses of transformation in sometimes the most unpromising of circumstances. There are many images of gardens in our Christian story.

In our rural landscape we are blessed by the scenes of colourful change brought by farmers working on the land – they like our gardeners tending the soil, sow it and manage the variety of crops that we benefit from. As I drive round the Benefice I see a variety of colours from the land itself, to the crops as they grow and the animals that live on the land.

It is also at the time we start reflecting on the coming Harvest and I have to start thinking about Harvest Services in September and October.

Harvest has surely been celebrated ever since human beings first planted seeds, cut the heads of grain and stored them to use through the times of scarcity. Coming closer to our own time, when the children of Israel entered the Promised Land, they adapted the agricultural festivals being kept there and these have come down to us today: Lammas was when we used to celebrate the Harvest. The first loaf being brought to church for use in the Eucharist. Now more recognised as Yorkshire Day!

Harvest Festival is still one of the most popular celebrations, both in town and country. It may seem strange that we bring tinned goods to decorate our place of worship, but these can be a modern way of acknowledging our dependence on God. On the other hand, lumps of coal or sheaves of wheat may evoke memories in older people of harvests of the past, when life was harder and the celebrations more poignant. For all generations a reminder is appropriate of the basic humble elements of soil, water and grain, on which we all depend, and the fruits of which we should share with the poor at this time.

Church of Ireland:

Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh: Bishop Ferran Glenfield
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:
Diocese of Aarhus, Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen

Bishop of Saldanha Bay,
Bishop Raphael Hess

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 16

The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Anglican Communion: The Church in Wales

Mon 17

Pray for: St John the Baptist, Newington

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Badagry – The Church of Nigeria

Tues 18

Pray for: All Saints, North Ferriby

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Weds 19

Pray for: St Andrew, Sutton Park, St Peter, Wawne

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Ballarat – The Anglican Church of Australia

Thurs 20

Calendar of Saints: Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, Teacher, 1153; William and Catherine Booth, Founders of the Salvation Army, 1912 and 1890

Pray for: St James, Sutton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bangor – The Church in Wales

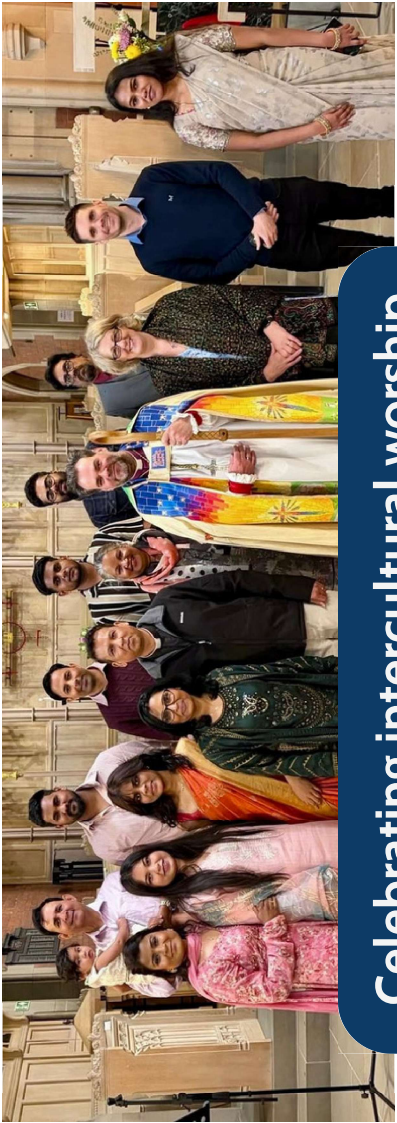
Fri 21

Pray for: St Barnabas, Swanland

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Banks and Torres – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Sat 22

Pray for: Schools within the Hull Deanery; Alderman Cogan's CE School; Hessele All Saints CE Infant School; Hessele All Saints CE Junior School; Liberty CE School; Newland St John CE Primary School; North Ferriby CE School; St Andrew CE Primary School; St James CE Primary School; The Hull Charterhouse
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Barbados – The Church in the Province of the West Indies



Celebrating intercultural worship

On Saturday 6th June, St Barnabas Church, Middlesbrough, held its first intercultural celebration service in Urdu, Hindi, and Punjabi. The service brought people together across languages and cultures to worship Jesus and share in God's love. Here, Lubna Simon reflects on this new worshipping community.

The Revd Simon John and I (Lubna Simon) have two children, and we often say with great joy that this intercultural worshipping community is our third baby! Intercultural worship is important because it reflects the beauty and diversity of God's Kingdom. It brings people from different languages, cultures, and backgrounds together in unity while allowing them to worship faithfully in their own language, through their own traditions, music, prayers, and expressions of faith.

We wanted our children to know their roots, language, and culture, and to experience worship in our language too. And the other Asian families connected with us for the same reason. When we gather once a month for worship, we celebrate both faith and culture together. We worship with traditional music in Urdu/Hindi/Punjabi, including the harmonium and dhol, saying the Lord's prayer in the language that comes most naturally, wear cultural clothing, and share homemade traditional food that everyone lovingly brings.

These gatherings create a strong sense of belonging, joy, fellowship, and unity within the community.

In January 2025, we started a Bible study group at our home with three families that gradually grew in God's love. Our vicar, David Goodhew, and Bishop Barry faithfully supported us through prayer,

encouragement and all the possible help to start this worshipping community at St.

Barnabas Church, Middlesbrough. My fellow student, Mussarat Iqbal from Faith in North, generously shared practical advice on how intercultural community worship is nurtured in her own church. As an ordinand, in my training at St Hild, I studied the module on church planting with my tutor, Christian Selvaratnam; I gained a much deeper understanding of the theological and biblical foundations of what we were doing. It helped me and Simon see this ministry not simply as an idea or fellowship, but as part of God's mission and calling.

Most importantly, this community exists because of the families who joined with their prayers, presence, participation, and love. It beautifully reflects the Great Commission and the diversity of God's Kingdom. This has never been one person's vision, but a shared journey and team effort, built by God's grace.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:
Diocese of Espoo, Bishop Kaisamari Hintikka
Scottish Episcopal Church:
Diocese of Edinburgh, Bishop Dagmar Winter

College of the Transfiguration,
Theological College located in Grahamstown. It is a college that serves the Anglican Church of Southern Africa made up of the following countries: South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Mozambique, Angola and the Island of St Helena

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 23

The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity
Slavery Remembrance

God of constant mercy, who sent your Son to save us: remind us of your goodness, increase your grace within us, that our thankfulness may grow, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of West Africa

Mon 24

Calendar of Saints: Bartholomew the Apostle

Pray for: all people engaging with pilgrimages, and the further development and extension of pilgrimage routes and places across the Diocese of York
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bari – The Church of Nigeria

Tues 25

Pray for: St Stephen, Aldwark, St Mary, Alne, St Michael, Tollerton
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Baringo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Weds 26

Pray for: St Peter, Brafferton, St Mary, Myton-on-Swale, St Mary Magdalene, Thormanby
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Barisal – The Church of Bangladesh

Thurs 27

Calendar of Saints: Monica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387

Pray for: All Saints, Brandsby, St Mary, Carlton Husthwaite, St Michael, Coxwold, St Cuthbert, Crayke, St Nicholas, Husthwaite, St Thomas, Wass, Holy Trinity, Yearsley
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Barrackpore – The Church of North India (United)

Fri 28

Calendar of Saints: Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher, 430

Pray for: St John the Baptist and All Saints, Easingwold, St Mary, Raskelf
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bath and Wells – The Church of England

Sat 29

Calendar of Saints: The Beheading of John the Baptist

Pray for: All Saints, Newton-on-Ouse, Holy Evangelist, Shipton, St Giles, Skelton
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bathurst – The Anglican Church of Australia