

DIOCESE OF YORK PRAYER DIARY



OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2026



Marking Black History Month

Yvonne Bowling, member of the Racial Justice Task Group, reflects as we begin Black History Month.

As we mark Black History Month across the Diocese of York, we are invited into something far deeper than a calendar event. I invite you and your parishes into a holy pause a moment to reflect on how we love, how we lead, and how we build the Church together.

Theologically, to honour Black history is to honour the fullness of the Imago Dei the image of God woven into every human life. The scripture I read today reminds me that we are one body in Christ, composed of many members.

Yet a body only functions in health when every part is truly seen, cherished, and given room to flourish. When we look at the history of our nation and our Church, including the resilient faith of the Windrush generation and all who have followed, we see a rich thread of grace that has quietly sustained and renewed our common life.

For those of us serving in parish leadership, this season offers a gentle, compelling question: How are we opening our doors, our altars, and

our hearts? It asks us to reflect with kindness and honesty on how we walk alongside our brothers and sisters of colour.

True unity is not about asking others to fit into existing spaces; it is about pulling up chairs, sharing leadership, and allowing the sacred gifts, wisdom, and heritage of Black Christians to shape the very life of our worshipping communities. When we build together, the Church becomes stronger, warmer, and more reflective of the Kingdom of God.

May this Black History Month soften our hearts and broaden our vision. As we look to the future, let us pray for the grace to listen deeply, to act generously, and to build a diocese where every person knows they belong not as guests, but as equal builders of God's house. See Genesis 1:27:

Lastly, I remember listening to these words from Archbishop's Sarah Mullally at St Paul's Cathedral when she said, "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together."

Archbishop Stephen Cottrell once said, let us commit to bringing lasting change to our parishes by seeing and celebrating the image of God in one another every day.

Church of England:

Diocese of Liverpool, Interim Bishop Ruth Worsley, Bishop Simon Robinson

Church in Wales:

Diocese of Monmouth, Archbishop Cherry Vann (Archbishop of Wales)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:

Diocese of Haderslev, Bishop Marianne Christiansen

Archdeaconry of Ibongulethu,

Diocese of Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 4 **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity and Animal Welfare Sunday** *also Homelessness Sunday*
 God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Mon 5 **Pray for:** Schools within the Bridlington Deanery; Flamborough CE School; Kilham CE School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bukuru -The Church of Nigeria

Tues 6 **Calendar of Saints:** William Tyndale, Translator of the Scriptures, Reformation Martyr, 1536

Pray for: Diocese of Blackburn; Blackburn Cathedral

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

Weds 7 **Pray for:** Diocesan Lifelong Learning Team and York School of Ministry

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

Thurs 8 **Pray for:** Diocese of Liverpool; Liverpool Cathedral

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bunyoro-Kitara – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Fri 9 **Calendar of Saints:** Denys, Bishop of Paris, and his Companions, Martyrs, c. 250; Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, Philosopher, Scientist, 1253

Pray for: St Stephens, Fylingdales, All Saints, Hawsker

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Busan – The Anglican Church of Korea

Sat 10 **Calendar of Saints:** Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary, 644; Thomas Traherne, Poet, Spiritual Writer, 1674

Pray for: St Hilda, Hinderwell, St Oswald, Lythe, St Nicholas, Roxby, St Mary, Sandsend, St Peter, Staithes, Christchurch, Ugthorpe

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



To bless a cell

The Revds Mark Nash-Williams and Nicky Gladstone are Anglican chaplains at HMP Millsike, which opened in April 2025 just outside York. Here, Nicky reflects as we mark Prisons Week.

“Have you got any rosemary beads?”

The role of a prison chaplain is varied and unpredictable. Working closely alongside colleagues of other faiths, we balance pastoral care of prisoners and staff with running Bible studies and other groups, preparing and taking services, and carrying out statutory duties – these are tasks which the chaplaincy department are required by law to perform each day. Chaplains visit all prisoners new to the establishment, all those held in the Care and Separation Unit (often called Segregation), all who are considered to be at particular risk of suicide and self-harm, and, if applicable, all in the residential healthcare unit.

A typical day in chaplaincy will combine these statutory duties with general pastoral visits, maybe a request to bless a cell or to give advice, and the inevitable request for “rosemary (rosary) beads” which are popular in prison with those of all faiths and none!

It’s a role which is at times frustrating and heart-breaking, but most of all it is deeply rewarding. Many prison chaplains speak of embarking upon this ministry with the intention of carrying the light of Christ into a dark place, but then discovering quickly that God is already waiting for them when they arrive. There is more hope, generosity and good humour within the prison population than one might think, and it is a great privilege to be called to serve God in this way.

Together with our brother and sister chaplains across the diocese at HMP Askham Grange, HMP Full Sutton, and HMP Kirklevington Grange, we welcome your prayers for our chaplaincy teams and the prisoners in our care.

On a practical level, you could encourage your church to sign up for the [Welcome Directory](#); a nationwide organisation which offers training and support to churches and faith groups to enable them to welcome ex-offenders upon release.

Please pray for Nicky, for Mark, and all those involved in ministry in prisons. Please pray for all those in prison, and for the staffing teams.

Church of England:

Diocese of Truro, Bishop David Williams, Bishop James Treasure

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Tönsberg, Bishop Jan Otto Myrseth

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Strängnäs, Bishop Johan Dalman

Archdeaconry of Table View,

Diocese of Saldanha Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 11 **The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity and Prisons Week begins**

Faithful Lord, whose steadfast love never ceases and whose mercies never come to an end: grant us the grace to trust you and to receive the gifts of your love, new every morning, in Jesus Christ our Lord

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of Burundi

Mon 12 **Calendar of Saints: Wilfrid of Ripon, Bishop, Missionary, 709; Elizabeth Fry, Prison Reformer, 1845; Edith Cavell, Nurse, 1915**

Pray for: St Margaret, Aislaby, St John, Sleights, St Hilda, Sneaton, All Saints, Ugglebarnby

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

Tues 13 **Calendar of Saints: Edward the Confessor, King of England, 1066**

Pray for: St Hilda, Egton, St Thomas, Glaisdale, St Mary, Goathland, St Matthew, Grosmont, St James, Lealholm

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Butare – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Weds 14 **Pray for: Calendar of Saints: Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c.862; Bonaventure, Friar, Bishop, Teacher, 1274**

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

Thurs 15 **Calendar of Saints: Teresa of Avila, Teacher, 1582**

Pray for: St Hilda, Whitby, St John, Whitby, St Mary, Whitby

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Buye - The Anglican Church of Burundi

Fri 16 **Calendar of Saints: Nicholas Ridley, Bishop of London and Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, Reformation Martyrs, 1555**

Pray for: Schools within the Whitby Deanery; Danby CE School; Egton CE School; Fylingdales CE Primary School; Hawsker-cum-Stainsacre CE School; Lythe CE Primary School; Ruswarp CE School; Sleights CE School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Byumba – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Sat 17 **Calendar of Saints: Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, Martyr, c.107**

Pray for: Diocese of Sheffield; Sheffield Cathedral

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

Pastoral Letter



A Pastoral Letter from The Most Rev. and the Rt Hon. Archbishop Stephen.

Some of the great northern Saints associated with Diocese of York have their feast days this time of year. We celebrated John of Bridlington on 9th October, Paulinus on the 10th, James the Deacon on the 11th, Wilfrid of Ripon and also Bishop of York on the 12th. We will celebrate St Cedd on the 26th and Hilda of Whitby next month on November 18th.

We are blessed to be surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses. We have so much to learn from the example of their faithfulness.

However, they would hate it if we remembered them only by looking back. Their desire was to share with others the good news about Jesus Christ that they had received and in so doing build God's kingdom in the kingdoms of the world. Hence, they shared the story of their faith, planted new communities of Faith, and devoted themselves to prayer and the service of others. They lived Christ's story and their example invites us to do the same.

At our diocesan conference back in July, we thought about this under the headings of being 'called and sent.' This is always the pattern of the Christian life, and we see this in the lives of the great saints. Paulinus was formed in Rome and sent to York. Hilda was baptised by Paulinus and became Abbess of Whitby. Cedd was formed in Holy Island and sent to Essex and Yorkshire (one of the reasons I love him!).

The Christian life is always a life of receiving and sharing; being formed and being sent. We therefore need to pay attention to how we are being formed. Our diocesan Rhythm of Life will help with this. But we must also be sent, using our gifts and resources in the service of the gospel. Then we will also discover the great gospel paradox, that it is in giving that we receive.

Stephen Cottrell
Archbishop of York

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Växjö, Bishop Fredrik Modéus

Church of England:

Diocese of Oxford, Bishop of Oxford (vacancy),
 Bishop Gavin Collins (acting Bishop of Oxford, Bishop of Dorchester),
 Bishop David Bull, Bishop Mary Gregory

Archdeaconry of

Mountain Bay,
 Diocese of False Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 18 The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity and St Luke the Evangelist*also Church Action on Poverty Sunday*

God, our light and our salvation:

illuminate our lives, that we may see the goodness in the land of the living,

and looking on your beauty may be changed into the likeness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Anglican Church of Canada**Mon 19 Calendar of Saints: Henry Martyn, Translator of the Scriptures, Missionary in India and Persia, 1812****Pray for:** All Saints, Brantingham, All Saints, Brough, St Mary, Elloughton**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of Calcutta – The Church of North India (United)**Tues 20 Pray for:** St Oswald, Hotham, All Saints, North Cave, St John, North Cliffe**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of Caledonia - The Anglican Church of Canada**Weds 21 Pray for:** Holy Trinity, Blacktoft, St Michael, Eastington, St Peter, Howden, St Peter, Laxton, St Stephen, Newport, St John of Beverley, Wressle**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of Calgary - The Anglican Church of Canada**Thurs 22 Pray for:** St Nicholas, Newbald**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of California – The Episcopal Church**Fri 23 Pray for:** St Mary, Broomfleet, St Anne, Ellerker, All Saints, South Cave**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of Northern California – The Episcopal Church**Sat 24 Pray for:** United Nations Day marking the anniversary of the United Nations Charter, 1945**Anglican Communion:** The Diocese of Cameroon – The Church of the Province of West Africa



Where wildlife can flourish

The Revd Jo Parker, Priest-in-charge in the benefices of Lower Esk, Fylingdales and Hawsker cum Stainsacre, reflects on holding a Gold Eco Church award during Creationtide.

Our little church, St Margaret's in Aislaby, became the first in the Diocese to receive the A Rocha Gold Echo Church Award. This was a fantastic achievement born from small but faithful steps by a dedicated team to make it happen.

They have now received all three (Bronze, Silver and Gold) awards, and really this began with a simple conviction that caring for creation is part of our calling as Christians. The PCC felt strongly that the beauty of the place that we are privileged to call home deserved thankfulness and protection.

A committed group of five took up the challenge, created areas in the churchyard where wildlife could flourish and allow the grounds to become a place of refuge for people and creatures alike. I cannot take any credit myself; this award belongs entirely to them.

Along the way came moments of pure joy. Our Owl box became home to nesting owls, and soon new owlets appeared. I'd like to say they were tiny and fluffy but actually now they're really quite big! This is a reminder that when we make space for nature; nature responds generously. I joked that I felt like a Grandma.

Our worship began to reflect this deepening commitment and as well as other special services; for the whole of September, we have embraced 'a season of creation'.

A highlight for us was our service of celebration, where we gathered as a community to give thanks for the award and the work behind it. We were joined by Bishop Barry whose encouragement and presence made the occasion feel even more special.

The Gold Award is a wonderful achievement, but more than that, it is a sign of who we are becoming as a church. We recognise the beauty around us and feel called to protect it. Just by taking small steps, can lead to something extraordinary.

Church of England:

Diocese of Carlisle, Bishop Robert Saner-Haigh,
Bishop Michael Leyden

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Stavanger, Bishop Anne Lise Ådnøy

Archdeaconry of Constantia,

Diocese of Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 25 **The Last Sunday after Trinity and Bible Sunday**

Merciful God, teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Mon 26 **Calendar of Saints: Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, Scholar, 899, Cedd, Abbot of Lastingham, Bishop of the East Saxons, 664**

Pray for: St Helen, Welton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of El Camino Real – The Episcopal Church

Tues 27 **Pray for:** Schools within the Howden Deanery; Howden CE Infants (Academy); North Cave CE Academy; South Cave CE School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – The Anglican Church of Australia

Weds 28 **Calendar of Saints: Simon and Jude, Apostles**

Pray for: Archdeacon of East Riding; *and especially for the Revd Dr Tim Kelly as he begins this new ministry*

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

Thurs 29 **Calendar of Saints: James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, Martyr in Uganda, 1885**

Pray for: The Diocesan Registry

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

Fri 30 **Pray for:** Diocesan Discipleship Mission, Ministry and Team

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cape Town – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Sat 31 **Calendar of Saints: Martin Luther, Reformer, 1546**

Pray for: Diocesan Board of Education and Education Team

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of North Eastern Caribbean and Aruba – The Church in the Province of the West Indies



Reflections on Harvest

'The farmer has to be an optimist, or he wouldn't still be a farmer,' so said Will Rogers the American author and humourist. In so many cases a farm is more than land and crops it is a family's heritage and future. To what extent, I wonder, is that optimism under strain in farm kitchens around our country?

Referring to the harvest, Tom Lancaster (Food and Farming Analyst at ECIU Energy and Climate Intelligence Unit) says "the record-breaking heat has left farmers facing down the barrel of a third awful harvest in a row. Farming is now the sector most exposed to climate change and the risks and damage it brings."

In this season of harvest thanksgiving what are the realities for those engaged in producing our food and what tone should we strike in framing our harvest celebrations? It may be helpful to access the harvest resources prepared by the [Arthur Rank Centre \(ARC\)](#) entitled '[A Year Like no Other](#)' and introduced as follows:

"Harvest is a time when churches traditionally give thanks for the food we eat, the land that produces it and the people whose work makes it possible. But this year,

for many farming families, that thanksgiving comes alongside uncertainty, exhaustion, and loss. Across our farming communities, changing weather, livestock disease, rising costs, and financial pressures are making an already demanding way of life harder. For some, the future of the farm itself feels uncertain."

For many farming families and rural workers, the current landscape represents huge challenges and whilst the impact on individual farms is extremely varied, understanding these is essential for any local church or community seeking to offer meaningful support."

As Autumn approaches farmers and others are giving thanks for rains across most areas enabling land work and drilling operations to proceed albeit against a backcloth of extremely high input costs.

"In seasons of deep strain for Farmers and their families, such as this year, Christian hope is grounded in presence, faithfulness, and the assurance that God brings renewal even in the unlikeliest of places. The solidarity of standing alongside the farming community can help to develop deep connections." (ARC).

Church of England:

Diocese of Winchester, Bishop Philip Mounstephen,
Bishop Rhiannon King, Bishop Kelly Betteridge

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Agder and Telemark, Bishop Stein Reinertsen

Diocese of Saldanha Bay Link Officer,

The Revd Andrew Gready

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

- Sun 1** *All Saints Day and also the International Day for Prayer for the Persecuted Church*
God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age:
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,
inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Anglican Communion: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America
- Mon 2** *Calendar of Saints: Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)*
Pray for: Diocesan Advisory Committee; Church Building and Property Teams
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Carlisle – The Church of England
- Tues 3** *Calendar of Saints: Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher, 1600, Martin of Porres, Friar, 1639*
Pray for: Diocesan Board of Finance; Finance Team
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of East Carolina – The Episcopal Church
- Weds 4** **Pray for:** Diocesan Generous Giving Team
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of North Carolina – The Episcopal Church
- Thurs 5** **Pray for:** All General Practitioners and staff working in primary and community care services
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of South Carolina – The Episcopal Church
- Fri 6** *Calendar of Saints: Leonard, Hermit, 6th century, William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher, 1944*
Pray for: Diocesan Pastoral and Synodical Team
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Upper South Carolina – The Episcopal Church
- Sat 7** *Calendar of Saints: Willibrord of York, Bishop, Apostle of Frisia, 739*
Pray for: Wydale Hall
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Western North Carolina – The Episcopal Church



A privilege to serve

The Revd Barry Worsdale, Priest-in-Charge of the Benefice of North Cave with Cliffe and the Benefice of Hotham, reflects on ministry in his rural context.

I am priest in charge at North Cave Cliff and Hotham. Over my time here which has been 13 years I have seen great answers to prayer with God working in amazing ways and seeing people come to faith. My wife and I moved here in 2013 but sadly she died in 2021. However, she was a lady of prayer and prayed on a regular basis for our church and the congregation.

We arrived in North Cave and our first Sunday service we were told that the service took place in the choir stalls due to small numbers attending. However, I asked the church warden to ensure that people gathered in the main body of the church not in the choir stalls. I have been so encouraged by the way God works and answers prayer which is such an important part of our Christian walk and life.

People are important to God and therefore important to us and so we set about being part of the community in North Cave. This involved regular visit to the local pub even though we were both teetotallers, beginning a men's group and other activities. My wife who was a lady of prayer and her prayer was that we would eventually get a regular congregation of over 30, this was quite a faith target.

As I said the service was held in the choir stores due to small numbers. This year we have seen regular congregations of above 30 and I am just so blessed that my wife's prayers have been answered. We need to be faithful to God, to be continually in prayer to him and see what amazing things he will bring about.

Now in my 13th year in this benefice I can only say that it has been a pleasure and privilege to serve the people here and continue to pray that God will meet needs, that more people will come to know him and Jesus as their personal saviour.

Church of England:

Diocese of Norwich, Bishop Graham Usher,
Bishop Ian Bishop, Bishop Jane Steen

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Luleå, Bishop Åsa Nyström

Anglican Youth of Southern Africa and Provincial Youth Council,

Anglican Church of Southern Africa (ACSA)

[Porvoo Communion](#)

[South Africa Diocesan Link](#)

Sun 8 **The Third Sunday before Advent and Remembrance Sunday, and Inter Faith Week begins**

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Mon 9 **Calendar of Saints: Margery Kempe, Mystic, c. 1440**

Pray for: Dulverton Hall, Scarborough

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cashel, Ferns and Ossory – The Church of Ireland

Tues 10 **Calendar of Saints: Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher 461**

Pray for: Diocesan Communications Team

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

Weds 11 **Calendar of Saints: Martin, Bishop of Tours, c. 397**

Pray for: Armistice Day

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

Thurs 12 **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: Diocesan Mustard Seed Programme

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

Fri 13 **Calendar of Saints: Charles Simeon. Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836**

Pray for: Diocesan Safeguarding Team

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

Sat 14 **Calendar of Saints: Samuel Seabury, first Anglican Bishop in North America, 1796**

Pray for: IME2 Team, Curates, and Training Incumbents across the Diocese

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Chicago – The Episcopal Church

Safeguarding Week 2026

Called to Care

16th - 20th November

Marking Safeguarding Week 2026: 'Called to Care'

This year, Safeguarding Week takes place between 16th – 20th November 2026.

Safeguarding Week provides an important opportunity for our churches, communities and individuals to reflect on how we create safer environments for everyone. It is a time to raise awareness, share good practice, and reaffirm our collective commitment to protecting children, young people, and vulnerable adults from harm.

This year the Safeguarding Sunday theme is "Love Protects." Drawing on the words of 1 Corinthians 13, the campaign is a reminder that safeguarding is not separate from our faith and ministry but is an expression of God's love in action.

By creating safe environments, listening well, responding to concerns, and supporting those who have experienced harm, we demonstrate a love that protects and values every person.

The Diocese places safeguarding at the heart of all it does, with a commitment to ensuring that children, young people, vulnerable adults, and those experiencing abuse find safety, know that they are valued, and are supported well.

Through our resources, training programmes, safer recruitment processes, and parish support, the diocese helps churches embed safeguarding into everyday ministry and community life. During safeguarding week there will be lots of opportunities for additional learning and development through the team and our events. We will also be recognising and thanking parish safeguarding officers, clergy, volunteers, and all those who work tirelessly behind the scenes to protect others and this year on Safeguarding Sunday a special service of thanksgiving will be led by Archbishop Stephen Cottrell for PSOs. Importantly this year there will also be a Candlelit Walk of Hope and Reflection, this walk will be an opportunity to stand alongside those affected by abuse, to acknowledge the reality and impact of harm, and to affirm that no one should have to carry their experiences alone. Together, we will create a space for quiet reflection, remembrance and hope, recognising the courage of those who have been harmed and honouring each person's journey.

Inspired by the message that "Love Protects," we continue working together to build safer and more welcoming communities for all.

Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Archbishop Urmas Viilma, Bishop Ove Sander (Northern Estonia), Bishop Marko Tiitus (Southern Estonia), Bishop Anti Toplaan (Western Estonia and the Islands)

Church of England:

Diocese of Rochester, Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, Bishop Simon Burton-Jones

Archdeaconry of Overberg,

Diocese of False Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 15 The Second Sunday before Advent and Safeguarding Sunday

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation:

stir us from our apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope
that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Mon 16 Calendar of Saints: Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Philanthropist, Reformer of the Church, 1093, Edmund Rich of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1240

Pray for: Inauguration of General Synod commences meeting until Wednesday 18th;
Safeguarding Week in York Diocese

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

Tues 17 Calendar of Saints: Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200

Pray for: The Community of the Holy Name, Hessle

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

Weds 18 Calendar of Saints: Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, Philanthropist, 1231

Pray for: St Botolph, Allertorpe, St Catherine, Barmby Moor, St Martin, Fangfoss, St Michael, Thornton, St Mary, Yapham

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Christ the King – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

Thurs 19 Calendar of Saints: Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680, Mechtilde, Béguine of Magdeburg, Mystic, 1280

Pray for: St Edith, Bishop Wilton, St Andrew, Bugthorpe, St Mary, Full Sutton, All Saints, Kirby Underdale, St Mary, Skirpenbeck

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Christ the King – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Fri 20 Calendar of Saints: Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr, 870, Priscilla Lydia Sellon, a Restorer of the Religious Life in the Church of England, 1876

Pray for: All Hallows, Goodmanham, All Saints, Londesborough, All Saints, Market Weighton, All Saints, Sancton, All Saints, Shiptonthorpe

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Christchurch – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Sat 21 Pray for: St Giles, Bielby, Bursea Chapel, St Everilda, Everingham, St Peter, Harswell, All Saints, Holme, St Edmund, Seaton Ross

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Chubu – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai



Pastoral Letter



A Pastoral Letter from The Venerable Liz Hassall, Archdeacon of York.

We hear frequently about the importance of your five a day: the tedious reality that eating fresh fruit and vegetables will do more for your health in the long run than pizza and ice cream. Day by day, it may be difficult to see the impact of eating your five a day. In the long run, however, the difference may be considerable.

This got me wondering about what the spiritual equivalent of your five a day is. What are the small choices you can make day by day which have a long term impact on your spiritual health? Given that this letter is going in the prayer diary, it isn't much of a surprise that praying would be a large part of that. The daily offices of morning and evening prayer give us that structure of engaging with scripture, reminding us of the words that generations of people have found helpful in worship, and directing us outwards in intercessory prayer for the church and the world.

That's three aspects of your spiritual five a day. For a fourth, I'd add silence of some sort, whether sitting still and quietly or walking and paying attention to the world around. I suspect a fifth aspect of a spiritual five a day will vary depending on your circumstances. For some, the daily Eucharist may be essential.

For me, creativity of some sort is an essential part of the day. In particular, the type of creativity that brings me closer to God, that occupies the active bit of the brain so I can hear the deeper messages. It might be writing, or drawing, knitting or sewing, making music. To be made in the image of God is to have the capacity to create, to be a sub-creator. Exercising that in some small way has become part of my spiritual five a day.

What, then, forms your spiritual five a day? The essential ingredients that you need in order to be spiritually nourished and able to act in the world as a child of God?

Liz Hassall
Archdeacon of York

Church of England:

Diocese of Edmundsbury and Ipswich,
Bishop Joanne Grenfell, Bishop of Dunwich (vacancy)

Scottish Episcopal Church:

Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney, Bishop Anne Dyer

Archdeaconry of Waterfront,

Diocese of Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 22 Christ the King and the Sunday next before Advent

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

Anglican Communion: The Church of England

Mon 23 Calendar of Saints: Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c 100

Pray for: St Giles, Burnby, St Ethelburga, Great Givendale, St Martin, Hayton, St Mary, Huggate, St Margaret, Millington, St James, Nunburnholme, All Saints, Pocklington

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

Tues 24 Pray for: All Saints, Catton, St Peter and St Paul, Scrayingham, St John the Baptist, Stamford Bridge

Anglican Communion: The Diocese on the Coast – The Church of Nigeria

Weds 25 Calendar of Saints: Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, 4th century, Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748

Pray for: International Day for the elimination of violence against women

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cochin – The Church of South India (United)

Thurs 26 Pray for: St John the Baptist, Wilberfoss

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Coimbatore – The Church of South India (United)

Fri 27 Pray for: Schools within the South Wold Deanery; Barmby Moor CE Primary School; Bishop Wilton CE School; Bugthorpe CE Primary School; Fangfoss St Martin's CE School; Mount Pleasant CE Junior School; Pocklington CE Infant School; Warter CE Primary School; Wilberfoss CE Primary Academy; Pocklington School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Colombia – The Episcopal Church

Sat 28 Pray for: York Diocesan Synod Meeting; and The Church of England Childrens' Society

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Colombo – The Church of Ceylon (Extra Provincial)



Thirteen new lay ministers licensed

Thirteen new lay ministers have been licensed during a Service on Saturday 12th September in York Minster.

This service celebrated the breadth of lay ministries across the diocese, and included the authorisation of Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs), the admission and licensing of Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) and Licensed Lay Workers, as well as a recognition of those who are taking on other forms of Lay Ministry. There was also an acknowledgement of the LLMs who have given long service.

The service included the admission and licensing of new Licensed Lay Ministers, and LLMs transferring into the diocese from elsewhere. Long Service Awards were presented to LLMs whose ministry has continued for many years. Licensed Lay Ministers are lay people who represent the church in a public, representative and leadership role. Expressed in a wide variety of ways, their ministry is focused in three main areas: Teaching the Faith, Enabling People in Mission, and Being Leaders in Church and Society.

Tracy Carr says, "Mothering Sunday 2018 was the first time I set foot in my local church. I was made very welcome and just felt like I belonged, I couldn't explain what was happening to me.

The overwhelming feeling of love and the urge to do more grew stronger, and I was asked if I would like to be licensed as a Reader. I did not think I would be suitable, but I have really surprised myself regarding my capabilities. I may have found my faith late in life, but what a journey!"

David Norman says, "Having grown up in a different church context, it was discovering Evensong and the Book of Common Prayer as a university student that drew me into the Church of England. I was confirmed in my final year of university, and about that time I started to sense some sort of calling to ministry. I felt especially drawn to the preaching and teaching aspects of LLM (Reader) ministry, as well as the leading of Morning and Evening Prayer. I am very excited to be licensed for this public ministry, but above all I am thankful to God for giving me the opportunity to assist in the proclamation of the Good News."

Please pray for all those who have been licensed as LLMs across the diocese, all those in forms of lay ministry across the diocese, and the parishes in which they serve.

Scottish Episcopal Church:

Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, Bishop Ian Paton

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Porvoo, Bishop Bo-Göran Åstrand

Archdeaconry of Elsie's River,

Diocese of Saldanha Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 29 The First Sunday of Advent

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.
Anglican Communion: Hong Kong Sheung Kung Hui

Mon 30 Calendar of Saints: Andrew the Apostle

Pray for: Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham; Southwell Cathedral
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Colorado – The Episcopal Church

Tues 1 Calendar of Saints: Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916

Pray for: World Aids Day
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Congo Brazzaville – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Weds 2 Prayer for: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Connecticut – The Episcopal Church

Thurs 3 Calendar of Saints: Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552

Pray for: St Nicholas, Butterwick, All Saints, Great Driffield, St Peter, Langtoft, St Mary, Little Driffield, All Saints, Thwing
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Connor – The Church of Ireland

Fri 4 Calendar of Saints: John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher c. 749, Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637

Pray for: St Margaret, Beswick, St Peter, Hutton Cranswick, St Leonard, Skerne, St Mary, Watton
Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross – The Church of Ireland

Sat 5 Pray for: All Saints, Nafferton, St Mary, Wansford

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Costa Rica – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

RECOGNISE – Celebrating Children and Youth Work Ministry 2026

RECOGNISE is a national, annual event providing an opportunity to celebrate those people involved in ministry with children and young people. Here, our Diocesan Children and Youth Advisers Emma Anderton and Angela Brymer give thanks for this year's Regonise event, and all those who are involved in youth work across our family of churches.

In July, there is dedicated week to celebrate, including a tea party hosted by the Archbishops and resources to host your own event at your church with a Sunday, to recognise those in your community who work with children and young people. People willing to work with children, young people and families are vital to the growth of our churches, not least because most Christians would say they became a Christian before the age of 18 years or that an experience or encounter in their childhood stayed with them into adulthood.

RECOGNISE presents a wonderful opportunity to highlight the work with children, families and young people that can often go unseen. Churches can use this celebration time to share stories of the ministry and to pray for those who lead this work.

This year, the diocese invited churches to nominate people working with children and young people in their church community for an opportunity to be chosen to attend the tea party at Bishopthorpe. We were overwhelmed by the number of nominations and enjoyed reading about the incredible work people are doing in churches, schools and local community – some of which we had no idea is happening. Whether it's running a toddler group for many years, starting a church choir, starting up and running a family focussed service or ministry with the local school, the creativity, care and dedication to ministry with children, young people and families shines through all of the nominees.

We will be running the nominations again in 2027 and we would love to hear from you about the people in your church who you would like to nominate – so please do look out for the forms, and, to ensure you don't miss out, sign up to the [Children and Youth newsletter](#). You can find out more about RECOGNISE here: [RECOGNISE | The Church of England](#)

Please give thanks for and pray for all our children and young people across the diocese, for everyone involved in children and youth work.

Church of England:

Diocese of Chester, Bishop Mark Tanner, Bishop Julie Conalty,

Bishop Sam Corley

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Kuopio, Bishop Jari Jolkkonen

Anglican Women's Fellowship (ACSA)

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 6 The Second Sunday of Advent

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.

Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Mon 7 Calendar of Saints: Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher, 397

Pray for: St Martin, Burton Agnes, St John of Beverley, Harpham, St Martin, Lowthorpe,
St Nicholas, Ruston Parva

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

Tues 8 Calendar of Saints: The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Pray for: St Mary, Cowlam, St Mary, Fimber, St Mary, Fridaythorpe, St Mary,
Sledmere, St Mary, Thixendale, St Nicholas, Wetwang

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cuba – The Episcopal Church

Weds 9 Ember Day

Pray for: St Andrew, Bainton, All Saints, Kilnwick, St Mary, Kirkburn, St Andrew,
Middleton-on-the-Wolds, All Saints, North Dalton

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

Thurs 10 Pray for: Human Rights Day, which commemorates the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cuernavaca – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Fri 11 Ember Day

Pray for: Schools within the Harthill Deanery; Beswick and Watton CE School; Burton
Agnes CE School; Drifffield CE Infant School; Garton-on-the-Wolds CE School;
Middleton-on-the-Wolds CE School; Sledmere CE Primary School; Wetwang CE
Primary School

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

Sat 12 Ember Day

Pray for: Beverley Minster, St John and St Martin, St Leonard, Molescroft, All
Saints, Routh, St Paul, Tickton, St Peter, Woodmansey

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cyangugu – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda



“A lively community of worship, discipleship and welcome”

The Revd Richard Parkinson, Rector of the Benefice of Cherry Burton, shares something of the ministry in his village church.

St Michael's, Cherry Burton, is in a growing East Riding ribbon village, three miles northeast of Beverley. From the outside, it resembles many rural parish churches; inside, it is home to a lively community of worship, discipleship and welcome.

Sunday worship is at the heart of our life together, complemented by a varied programme of weekday activities at the St Michael's Centre, our hall attached to the church. Each week, we host a Wednesday prayer meeting, a term-time carers and toddlers group, and the Open Door Community Café. The Centre also provides a home for Food for Thought, Friendship Circle, a craft group, and Messy Church.

We believe that church is more than a programme of events: it is people growing together as disciples of Jesus. Many members of the congregation belong to weekly small groups that build on Sunday worship and teaching. Twice-yearly in-depth teaching sessions, known as A Closer Look, prayer triplets, and a WhatsApp group for sharing requests and stories of answered prayer support these groups.

Our church family is actively involved beyond our walls. Members lead uniformed village organisations, serve on the Parish Council and local committees, and volunteer with choirs and charities across the East Riding. We are especially grateful for the success of the Open Door Community Café, which brings together volunteers from across the parish, committed Christians, and those still exploring faith, to offer friendship and practical support to people who are lonely or vulnerable. It also raises funds for local charities, including Dove House Hospice.

While our Sunday morning congregation is getting older, we are committed to becoming a younger, more intergenerational worshipping community. Messy Church is growing in both attendance and the depth of relationships formed, and we are developing further opportunities for children and parents to explore faith and grow as deliberate, missional disciples.

In a time of pressure on finances, time and energy, alongside growing needs in our communities, we ask for the prayers of the wider diocese. Pray that we will remain attentive to God's mission, recognise where he is already at work, and faithfully join in.

Church of England:

Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham,
Bishop Paul Williams, Bishop Andy Emerton

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Borg, Bishop Kari Mangrud Alfsvåg

Schools across the
Diocese of Cape Town

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 13 The Third Sunday of Advent

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.

Anglican Communion: The Church of Ireland

Mon 14 **Calendar:** John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher, 1591

Pray for: St Mary, Beverley

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf – The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

Tues 15 **Pray for:** St Nicholas, Beverley

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Daejeon – The Anglican Church of Korea

Weds 16 **Pray for:** St Michael, Cherry Burton

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of North Dakota – The Episcopal Church

Thurs 17 **O Sapientia**

Calendar of Saints: Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save the Children' 1928

Pray for: The Diocese of South Dakota – The Episcopal Church

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

Fri 18 **O Adonai**

Pray for: St Catherine, Leconfield, St Mary, Lockington, All Saints, Lund, St Leonard, Scarborough

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Dallas – The Episcopal Church

Sat 19 **O Radix Jesse**

Pray for: All Saints, Bishop Burton, St Peter, Rowley, St Michael, Skidby, All Hallows, Walkington

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

Pastoral Letter



A Pastoral Letter from The Rt Revd Flora Winfield, Bishop of Selby.

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

“There were in that same country shepherds ...” During the summer this year I had the pleasure of visiting some agricultural shows, not only the Great Yorkshire Show but also small and local events. Although there are lots colourful stalls and competitions, the heart of each show is the livestock, and I always enjoy visiting the pens, and seeing the handsome cattle, goats, pigs and, of course, the sheep. They are beautiful and wonderful in themselves, but it’s also a delight to meet the farmers and stock people, for whom their prize ewes and rams (or yows and tups) represent years, even generations, of wisdom, care, thought and investment. Just as hill sheep are hefted to their pasture, so these people are committed to their animals.

Some years, on Christmas Eve, I have the privilege of going to a village church to celebrate the first Eucharist of Christmas day, and there is the immense joy of placing the bread and wine, of the body and blood of Christ, into the hands of shepherds, which are marked by hard labour in all weathers, and who yet handle new-born lambs with such tenderness. And that makes me especially glad that the first news of the birth of Jesus was given to shepherds.

The story of the shepherds and the angels, so familiar and yet so amazing every year, is itself a meeting of the earthly and the heavenly. Nothing can be more earthy, more practical than caring for livestock, but the eyes of the shepherds were lifted by the heavenly song of the angels, who encouraged and inspired them, and drew them to the stable. There they found the child in whom earth and heaven are joined, in whom God comes to humanity, in whom all creation and God’s infinite love are focused.

This year I will celebrate the first Eucharist of Christmas in one of the prisons in the diocese. My prayer is that the great mystery and wonderful sacrament of the birth of Jesus may bring light and hope to those I meet there, just as it did to the shepherds on the hill outside Bethlehem. “Great little one, whose all-embracing birth, brings earth to heaven, stoops heaven to earth.”

Flora Winfield, Bishop of Selby

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Oslo. Bishop Sunniva Gylver

Church of England:

Diocese of Durham, Bishop Richard Simpson, Bishop Sarah Clark

Scottish Episcopal Church:

Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness, Bishop Mark Strange (Primus)

False Bay Diocese Cathedral,

All Saints, Somerset West,

Diocese of False Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 20 The Fourth Sunday of Advent; O Clavis David

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory; bring us through the birth pangs of this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

Mon 21 O Oriens

Pray for: Schools within the Beverley Deanery; Beverley Minster CE School; Cherry Burton CE School; Little Weighton Rowley CE School; Lockington CE Primary School; Skidby Primary CE School; St Mary's CE Primary School; Tickton CE Primary School; Woodmansey CE Primary School; Bishop Burton College

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Dar-es-Salaam – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Tues 22 O Rex Gentium

Pray for: Christians Against Poverty, providing free money management and debt advice

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Davao – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Weds 23 O Emmanuel

Pray for: Food banks, Baby banks, Multi banks, direct practical support with daily living needs

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of St Davids – The Church in Wales

Thurs 24 Christmas Eve

Almighty God, as we prepare with joy to celebrate the gift of the Christ-child, embrace the earth with your glory and be for us a living hope in Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Delaware – The Episcopal Church

Fri 25 Christmas Day

Lord Jesus Christ, your birth at Bethlehem draws us to kneel in wonder at heaven touching earth: accept our heartfelt praise, as we worship you, our Saviour and our eternal God.

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

Sat 26 Calendar of Saints: Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr

Pray for: Crisis at Christmas, helping people made homeless

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



A pilgrimage to celebrate St Everilda

The Revd Anne-Marie Breewood, Assistant Curate in the Holme and Seaton Ross Group, looks back at how two churches celebrated their patronal saint earlier in the year.

There are only 2 Anglican Churches dedicated to St Everilda in the UK, one in Nether Poppleton, near York, the other in Everingham, half way between York and Hull.

Not much is known for certain about St Everilda, except that she most likely came from Wessex Nobility and lived in Yorkshire in the mid 600s. We do know that her feast day is 9th July. (This is recorded in the York Breviary).

Legend has it that she was converted to Christianity by St Birinus, who also converted King Cynegils of Wessex in 635. Legend also says that Everilda ran away from a noble marriage to concentrate on a life dedicated to Christ. St Wilfrid made Everilda and her companions nuns, and granted them land at a place that became known as Everildisham, taken to be current day Everingham. It is said that this religious community had as many as 80 members.

The veneration of Everilda is very much centered on Everingham and Nether Poppleton. Some 1400 years after her life, she is still celebrated locally.

In 2026, both St Everilda Churches decided to have a joint celebration of our Saint's day. It is sad that this never seems to have happened before, but this year St Everilda's in Nether Poppleton decided to undertake a pilgrimage from their church to St Everilda's in Everingham. This stout band of people decided to split the pilgrimage into 2, so that it could be concluded over 2 days. The first part took place on Sunday 5th July. The intention was that the second part would be completed on 9th July, arriving in Everingham at 5.30pm for an afternoon Tea in the Village Hall. The weather was too hot on the day for the pilgrimage party to finish the walk, (some 11 miles) but the pilgrims came by car and after the afternoon tea, we held a joint Patronal Eucharist service in the Church, with celebratory cheese and wine afterwards.

It was a happy and joyous occasion and both churches are keen to establish a new tradition of pilgrimage between the locations.

Church of England:

Diocese of Chichester, Bishop of Chichester (vacancy), Bishop Will Hazlewood
(Acting Bishop of Chichester and Bishop of Lewes), Bishop Ruth Bushyager

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Mikkeli, Bishop Mari Parkkinen

Archdeaconry of

Namaqualand South,
Diocese of Saldanha Bay

Porvoo Communion

South Africa Diocesan Link

Sun 27 The First Sunday of Christmas or John Apostle and Evangelist

God in Trinity, eternal unity of perfect love:

gather the nations to be one family, and draw us into your holy life
through the birth of Emmanuel, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Anglican Communion: The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

Mon 28 Calendar of Saints: The Holy Innocents

Pray for: The Church Army, an evangelistic organisation and mission community

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Derry and Raphoe – The Church of England

Tues 29 Calendar of Saints: Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170

Pray for: Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland, working in disadvantaged communities

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Dhaka – The Church of Bangladesh

Weds 30 Pray for: Pioneer Ministers

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of San Diego – The Episcopal Church

Thurs 31 Calendar of Saints: John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384

Pray for: Diocese of Carlisle; Carlisle Cathedral

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Divine Hope – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

Fri 1 Calendar of Saints: The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

Pray for: St Margaret, Brookfield; St Peter, Hilton; St Peter and Paul, Stainton-in-Cleveland

Sat 2 Calendar of Saints: Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishops, Teachers, 379 and 389, Seraphim, Monk of Sarov, Spiritual Guide, 1833 Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah, Bishop in South India, Evangelist, 1945

Pray for: All Saints, Great Ayton; Christ Church, Great Ayton; St Oswald, Newton under Roseberry



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 porvoocommunion.org

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.

