

Cycle of Prayer

01 - 31 May 2023

01 May 2023

Latchford Christ Church

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Rob Icke

Lay Workers: Ian Burton-Baddeley

Anglican Communion: Sokoto, The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

02 May 2023

Latchford St James

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Rob Icke

Lay Workers: Frances Ireland

Anglican Communion: Central Solomons, The Anglican Church of Melanesia

03 May 2023

Lymm

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Beverley Jameson, Rev Jill Elston

Lay Workers: Ian Bunday, Derek Buckthorpe, Heulwen Smith

Please pray for our Rector Revd Beverley Jameson, Curate Revd Jill Elston, Lay Workers, Derek Buckthorp and Ian Bunday and our outreach to young families and children and our moves towards being Eco Friendly.

Anglican Communion: Soroti, The Church of the Province of Uganda

04 May 2023

Stockton Heath

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Michael Ridley

Lay Workers: Olu Olojugba, Christine Chapman, Claire Hutt, Julie Brown, Joanna Woodward
Father God, we ask for your blessing on Ruth Gray as she finishes her training for Ordination and prepares to come to our Parish as Curate. Give our churches the love and wisdom to offer the right environment for her to develop her own ministry among us.

Anglican Communion: Southwark, The Church of England

05 May 2023

Walton

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Anita Raggett

Lay Workers: Stephen Clague, Keith Fletcher, Ian Jerrard-Dinn, Gill Povey- Robins

As we prepare for a vacancy this summer please pray for us that God will help us to share responsibility, grow in faith, love one another, care for those in need, reach out to others, and welcome newcomers.

Lord Jesus, guard and grow our church as we prepare to serve you together in this period without a vicar.

Please guide those who are seeking the right minister for us, and those who are seeking the right church for their ministry, that together we may discover your way for the future and see your kingdom grow. Amen.

Anglican Communion: Southwell & Nottingham, The Church of England

06 May 2023

Aston by Sutton, Little Leigh and Lower Whitley

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Collette Jones

Lay Workers: Jean Davies, Joan Sears

Anglican Communion: Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain, Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury

07 May 2023

Please pray for our...

Anglican Communion: The Church in Wales,

08 May 2023

Stretton

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Alan Jewell

Lay Workers: Linda Buckley

Anglican Communion: Spokane, The Episcopal Church

09 May 2023

Thelwall

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Douglas Black

Lay Workers: Bob Lester, Pip Horne, Colin Horrabin

Anglican Communion: Springfield, The Episcopal Church

10 May 2023

Alsager St Mary Magdalene

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Michelle Goodrich, Rev Jim Britcliffe

Anglican Communion: Port Sudan, Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

11 May 2023

Alsager Christ Church

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Daran Ward, Rev Heather Kemball

Lay Workers: Andrew Warren, Dave Fidal, Keith Davies

Anglican Communion: Sul-Occidental (South Western), Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

12 May 2023

Astbury

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Anne-Marie Naylor

Please pray for our outreach into the parish and community, that many will be drawn to Christ; that all we meet will encounter Christ, and that our church community will experience a deepening in faith and joy; for the flourishing of all who work, play and learn at our church school; for our baptism, marriage preparation and discovery courses, and for establishment of house groups. Also, for those being baptised and confirmed this year; the successful completion of our building project; our licenced clergy Revd Anne-Marie Naylor and Rev Steph Morris, our Reader Andrew Bevington and our Reader in training Andrew Bailey; and for all who serve God here.

Anglican Communion: Sunyani, The Church of the Province of West Africa

13 May 2023

Barthomley

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Peter Ennion

Anglican Communion: Sur, Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

14 May 2023

Please pray for our...

Anglican Communion: The Church of the Province of West Africa,

15 May 2023

Brereton

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Sandi Fisher

Lay Workers: Roy Ashton

Anglican Communion: Swansea & Brecon, The Church in Wales

16 May 2023

Holmes Chapel

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Rob McLaren

Anglican Communion: Swaziland, The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

17 May 2023

Congleton St James

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Colin Sanderson

Anglican Communion: Sydney, The Anglican Church of Australia

18 May 2023

Ascension Day: The God who reigns

They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven. Acts 1: 10 - 11

During Thy Kingdom Come we pray for the mission of God's church in the world, that across the world Christians would be people who know, show and tell the gospel.

Over the past months we have as a diocese been looking at our vision for ourselves and the communities we serve, seeing what we treasure, what we regret, and what we long for. In our prayers we thank God for this opportunity to reflect and ask God to direct us as the process continues. The following prayer, written for the Vision Process, expresses our desire for God to work in us and through us, for the glory of the risen Jesus.

Eternal God,

whose Son Jesus called his disciples to cast the net wide:

Open our eyes to glimpse your vision,

open our ears to hear the needs of the world,

prepare our hands to do your work,

show us the gifts we have and the treasure we must seek.

Unite us as your people across the Diocese of Chester

to worship, to witness and to work

for the glory of Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Anglican Communion: Tabora, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

19 May 2023

Day 1: The God who is

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. 1 John 1: 1 – 2

As we pray we thank God for more than 80 Vision Café's and other events, for all of the conversations that took place and for the thousands of written responses in which people expressed their joys, pains, fears and dreams. There is much life in our churches and it rests on the eternal life that appeared in Jesus Christ. Our diocesan vision calls for a renewal of that life in us, that we might be a blessing to villages, towns and cities, schools, hospitals, prisons and workplaces. We pray that God would begin that renewing work in us today.

**Lift up our hearts to the heavenly places
and inspire us to serve you as a royal priesthood:
Let all peoples acknowledge your kingdom
and grant on earth the blessing of peace:
Send down upon us the gift of the Spirit
and renew your Church with power from on high:
May peace abound and righteousness flourish,
that we may vanquish injustice and wrong:
Help us to proclaim the good news of salvation,
and grant us the needful gifts of your grace:
Let us commend the world, for which Christ prays,
to the mercy and protection of God.
Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us
Church of England Common Worship**

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

20 May 2023

Day 2: The God who loves

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. 1 John 4: 7 - 8

Across the Vision Café's people spoke with great warmth about the friendship and the support that they find in their church. Human beings are made to give and receive love. We thank God for the love that we share in our church families. We pray that these bonds would deepen but also that they would widen, so that churches might be communities open to others, showing this love to many and different people. Pray that today's Vision Celebration at the cathedral and in other venues around the diocese would affirm the love of God for us in Jesus Christ and encourage us to reflect his love more widely still.

**Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Amen**

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

21 May 2023

Day 3: The God who shares

This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only son into the world that we might live through Him. 1 John 4:9

The God who is and who loves does not do so from a distance. In Jesus Christ he has walked in our shoes, and knows our pains as well as our joys. As we pray for our churches and communities, and for the work of the church across the diocese, today we pray that those who feel forgotten or unloved would know that in Jesus Christ God has come near to them. Pray that our churches would be places of welcome for the last, the least and the lost. May we who follow in the way of Christ live out the gospel in the practical care we show for those in need.

**Lord, may we respond by faith to what we hear,
and use our mouths to share who you are.
May we tell of your good deeds and love,
and inspire faith in those around us.
Help us to have compassion for those in need,
and respond in love with acts of generosity
Amen**

Methodist relief and development

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

22 May 2023

Day 4: The God who saves

This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 1 John 4: 9 - 11

The gospel is good news of restoration, of rescue by God, into God. In thinking about our vision as a Diocese we have been motivated by the 1.5 million people who do not know the forgiveness of God in Christ. Our prayer for others is that they would come to a restored relationship with the God who made them; for ourselves that we would know ourselves to be 'as one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread'.

**Almighty God,
who called your Church to witness
that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to you;
through him who was lifted up on the cross,
and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen**

**Eternal God, giver of love and power,
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:
confirm us in this mission,
and help us to live the good news we proclaim;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

Church of England – Collects for Mission and Evangelism

Anglican Communion: Taita-Taveta, The Anglican Church of Kenya

23 May 2023

Day 5: The God who gives and goes on giving

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1 John 3: 1

John's rich language reaches to express the wonder of the love of God and to help us comprehend the immense privilege of being his children. The more we grasp this privilege more able we are to live generously ourselves. The Vision Consultation showed that churches are eager to be generous to people in need around them. We pray that this would continue, that local churches across the diocese would be known for the sacrificial way they care for people in their communities, stand up against injustice and take a lead in caring well for the world we live in.

**Dear God,
send us your Holy Spirit,
that he may take the Word we have heard
and write it in our hearts,**

**so that we grasp it, believe it,
and find our joy and comfort in it forever.**

Amen.

Martin Luther

Anglican Communion: Taiwan, The Episcopal Church

24 May 2023

Day 6: The God who understands

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us. 1 John 4: 11 - 12

John knows that a loving, diverse church community is a wonderful thing. Too often, however, churches are made up of 'people like us' and fail to reflect the variety of our communities. The Vision Consultation showed that this is true regarding children and young people, but in many other ways as well. Pray that as churches of the diocese we would be increasingly welcoming to people different from ourselves. The following prayer focusses on children and young people, but you might adapt it to pray for all the people of your community.

Loving God,

We bring to you the children, young people and families of our nation.

We pray for those who already know they are your children.

Please protect them, bless them and keep them firm in their faith.

We pray for those who would like to find out more about you.

Please provide ways for them to do that and help us all to play our part.

We pray for those who know little or nothing about Christian faith.

Please stir up curiosity in them to find out more

and in your mercy give them encounters with you that transform their lives.

We pray that the goal of doubling the number of children and active young disciples across the Church of England by 2030 will be reached with joy.

Please give us courage, faith and hope as we continue to pray.

In the name of Jesus Christ,

Amen.

Church of England

Anglican Communion: Tamale, The Church of the Province of West Africa

25 May 2023

Day 7: The God who forgives

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1: 8 - 9

The gospel is good news for those who are guilty and helplessness. Many people feel these things acutely as they consider the way humanity is treating the created order, using it with little regard for its integrity or its sustainability. We pray for churches, schools and chaplaincies, that in the years ahead they would set a good example in caring for God's creation. May they inspire many others to live well in our world, and make wise use of the resources that they steward.

Eternal God,

**whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life;
by that same Spirit, renew your creation,
and restore your image in your people.**

**Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards,
that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth
may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life
and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works;
through Jesus Christ, your living Word,
in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed.**

Amen.

Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby

Anglican Communion: Tanga, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

26 May 2023

Day 8: The God who challenges

Whoever claims to live in Him must walk as Jesus did. 1 John 2: 6

As the church lives fruitfully for God in the world, living and making Jesus known, each Christian has a part to play. A key part of our vision as a Diocese is that every one of us would have a greater desire to live for Jesus Christ, and increasing confidence in doing so. God challenges us to walk as Jesus did, in our homes, workplaces and churches, wherever we are. So we pray for our lives as disciples, that we would grow in the knowledge and grace of Jesus Christ: that our minds and hearts, our bodies and our souls would more and more shaped by him, to be like him.

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

Praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.

**And now, O wonderful and holy God,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,**

**you are mine, and I am yours.
So be it.
And the covenant which I have made on earth,
Let it also be made in heaven. Amen.**

John Wesley: Covenant Prayer

Anglican Communion: Central Tanganyika, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

27 May 2023

Day 9 The God who empowers

This is how we know that we live in Him and He in us: He has given us of His Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent His Son to be the Saviour of the world. 1 John 4: 13

The Vision Consultation has shown that we aspire to be and to do great things for God. We need God's help to discern what is most needed and how we best use the resources he has given us. This is true for each local church and for the diocese as a whole. Please pray for the continuing process of discernment, that God's Spirit would continually remind us of the priority of Jesus Christ, and help us to make good plans, for the glory of God and the greater blessing of our communities.

**Breathe in us O Holy Spirit, that our thoughts may all be holy.
Act in us O Holy Spirit, that our work, too, may be holy.
Draw our hearts O Holy Spirit, that we love but what is holy.
Strengthen us O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard us, then, O Holy Spirit, that we always may be holy. Amen.**

St Augustine

God of Mission

**Who alone brings growth to your church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen**

A prayer for growth

Anglican Communion: South West Tanganyika, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

28 May 2023

Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2: 1 - 4

At Pentecost God showed himself again to be the God of the whole world, drawing to himself people from every nation under heaven. Today we pray for the completion of his universal

purposes, and we do so confident that 'the earth will be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea.'

**Holy Spirit, sent by the Father,
ignite in us your holy fire;
strengthen your children with the gift of faith,
revive your Church with the breath of love,
and renew the face of the earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Church of England Collect for Pentecost Sunday**

Anglican Communion: The Extra-Provincial Churches

29 May 2023

Congleton

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Ian Enticott

Lay Workers: Eileen Walker, Lesley Smith, Chris Downes-Ward, Mike Hutchison, Geoff Scott
our continuing growth as we work on our rebranding: designing new signage and a new website. Our development project in St Peter's as we seek to remodel the interior for a sustainable centre of worship and community space.

Anglican Communion: Western Tanganyika, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

30 May 2023

Eaton with Hulme Walfield

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Ian Arch

Lay Workers: Diane Wisener, Douglas Wisener, Howard Lawton

Anglican Communion: Tarime, The Anglican Church of Tanzania

31 May 2023

Elworth

Please pray for our...

Clergy: Rev Anthony Rigby, Rev David Page

Lay Workers: Steven Coppenhall, Kate Page, Kate Page, Michelle Walker

Anglican Communion: Tasmania, The Anglican Church of Australia