



Diocese of Canterbury  
CHANGED LIVES © CHANGING LIVES

# CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



April 2021

**1 APRIL**

**THE BENEFICE OF TENTERDEN, ROTHER AND OXNEY**

Clergy: Lindsay Hammond, Patricia Fogden, Judy Darkins, Chris Hodgkins

Assistant curate: Jeanette Kennett

Readers: Alison Gilbert, Judy Vinson

Schools: St Michael's CE Primary School, Tenterden CE Junior School, Wittersham CE Primary School

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bath & Wells - The Church of England*

**2 APRIL**

**PRAYING TOGETHER: GOOD FRIDAY**



Jesus, your open hands are stretched out on the cross. Darkness falls as your life ebbs away. Violence, hatred and fear have distorted your human features. So much in our hurting world is broken. Yet you are there, not abandoning us. You bear our pain. You make our distress and confusion your own. May the cruel wood of your cross become the living tree that bears fruit for our healing. Renew our lives by the blood and water that flow from your side. Breathe that last breath of your Spirit into our

lives.

(Prayer request written by Christopher Chapman - Discipleship and Spirituality Consultant)

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bathurst - The Anglican Church of Australia*

**3 APRIL**

**PRAYING TOGETHER: HOLY SATURDAY**



Today we wait in the darkness of the tomb where your broken body lies. The wheat grain lies buried in the earth. We feel the loss of what has ended, and the absence of what has not yet begun. Be with those whose lives are suspended in long days of grieving. In this sleep of your death, Lord Jesus, hold those who can see no meaning to the day ahead.

(Prayer request written by Christopher Chapman - Discipleship and Spirituality Consultant)

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bauchi - The Church of Nigeria (Jos Province)*

**4 APRIL**

**PRAYING TOGETHER: EASTER SUNDAY**



Risen Lord, in that early morning, while it is still dark, and we fear we have lost everything, call us by our name. Surprise us with your joy. Though – like Mary in the garden – we cannot hold on to you – you will always be there. May the bright dawning of this new day shine hope and purpose into wherever doubt and fear have lingered. May our lives become alleluias, forever sharing your life and singing your song.

(Prayer request written by Christopher Chapman - Discipleship and Spirituality Consultant)

*Anglican Communion: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem*

**5 APRIL**

**THE SAXON SHORELINE**

Clergy: Graham Halsall

Reader: Anne Loat

Give thanks for the appointment of a new Rector, in post since the middle of January: a real answer to prayer.

Thanks for the ways in which the Zoom services are bringing the parishes together.

We pray for those who are fearful and for all those who have succumbed to the virus. Bring healing and hope.

We pray for evangelism in the rural communities. We pray that young adults and families will be touched by the good news of the gospel.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Belize - The Church of the Province of the West Indies*

**6 APRIL**

**PRAYING WITH THE SANDWICH DEANERY, ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE**

Area Dean: Chris Spencer

Lay Chair: Don Martin

Secretary: Christine Taylor

Treasurer: Trevor Longman

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bendigo - The Anglican Church of Australia (Victoria Province)*

**7 APRIL**

**SANDWICH DEANERY: CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE**

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

Martin Cleeve, Anthony Fletcher, Robert Lunnon, David Willis, Martin Clark, Peter Hambrook, Roger Marsh, Nigel Genders, Jennifer Pilcher, John Winn, Toby Marchand, Christopher Dent, Jasmine Roberts, Rob Mackintosh, Frank Kent, Patricia Wright, Jeanne Males, Wendy Jackson-Hill, Jean Kerr, Michael Morris, Howard Pashley

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Benin - The Church of Nigeria (Bendel Province)*

**8 APRIL**

**SANDWICH DEANERY: CHAPLAINS**

Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work wherever they go.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bentiu - The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Upper Nile Province)*

**9 APRIL**

**DEAL: ST ANDREW**

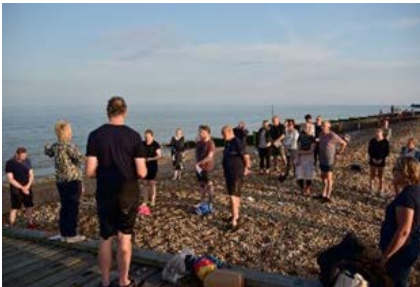
Clergy: Paul Blanch

Please pray for St Andrew's as it enters a new and exciting chapter of its worship, witness and mission to the people of Deal. We pray that God will guide and direct us in our new partnership with Holy Trinity Church Ramsgate as parishes of the Society of St Wilfrid and St Hilda. Please pray for Fr Paul's ministry to both our regular congregations and the wider communities we serve.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bermuda - Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury)*

**10 APRIL**

**DEAL: ST GEORGE THE MARTYR**



Clergy: Shiela Porter, Chris Spencer

Assistant Curate: Ben Forbes

Pray with us that we will continue to creatively plan for a new 'normal.'

Pray for our youth and children, that we will continue to build connections and nurture engagement, as we share the Good News. We

give thanks today for signs that God continues to be at work.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bethlehem - The Episcopal Church (III Province)*

**11 APRIL DEAL: ST GEORGE'S FRESH EXPRESSIONS**



Please pray for our St. George's network of lay leaders of Missional Communities and Micro-Churches - as they live the vision in the current circumstances. Pray for a continued raising up of pioneers amongst us who will take the gospel to the yet unreached places. Pray for Sheila Porter and Chris Spencer as they coach and train pioneering lay leaders and planters.

Give thanks for the opportunities which Covid has given us to connect with others in the neighbourhood. Pray today for opportunities to inspire others, diocesan-wide and nationally, in micro-church planting. And pray for our young adults as we support them in their dreams and visions.

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

**12 APRIL DEAL: ST LEONARD WITH ST RICHARD SHOLDEN: ST NICHOLAS WITH GREAT MONGEHAM: ST MARTIN**

Clergy: Vacant

Self-Supporting Minister: Patrick Kavanagh

Readers: James Sullivan, Nicholas Tomaszewski

Schools: Sholden CE Primary School, Deal Parochial CE Primary School

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bhopal - The (united) Church of North India*

**13 APRIL EASTRY AND WOODNESBOROUGH**

Clergy: David Ridley

Curates: Sandra Marsh, Robert Stevenson

Reader: Hilary Baldwin

Schools: Eastry CE Primary School, Northbourne CE Primary School

Please pray for the Eastry and Woodnesborough Benefice as we begin to return to our churches for communal worship; we give thanks for the ways we have been enriched and grown, and for all we have gained and learnt during this enforced lockdown. Please pray also for Sandra Marsh, whose Curacy in the Benefice draws to a close, as she prepares for her new ministry in the Calehill and Westwell Benefice.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bida - The Church of Nigeria (Lokoja Province)*

**14 APRIL SANDWICH AND WORTH**

Clergy: Mark Roberts

Assistant Curate: Robin Bendall

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Biharamulo - The Anglican Church of Tanzania*

**15 APRIL**    **WALMER AND CORNILO**

Clergy: Seth Cooper, Carolyn Wood

Assistant Curate: Stephen O'Connor

Reader: Malcolm Sawyer

Schools: The Downs CEPS, Kingsdown & Ringwold CE Primary School

We give thanks for the amazing ability of our church communities to adapt to online audio, video, and remote-meeting. To be able to worship and pray together throughout the pandemic has encouraged and strengthened our faith.

We rejoice that we have kept in pastoral contact both within and beyond our churches; but we are challenged by financial burdens.

Please pray as we start to re-open our churches for public worship and develop a Mission Action Plan for the Cornilo churches, that God will guide and bless us every step of the way.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Birmingham - The Church of England*

**16 APRIL**    **CANTERBURY DEANERY: ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE**



Area Dean: Mark Griffin

Lay Chairs: Janet Bentley, Liz Morrison

Secretary: Harry Macdonald

Treasurer: John Morrison

We give thanks for the gift of our mission plan, for all that has been accomplished in its first year, for new things happening and for the continuing prompting of the spirit as our priorities develop.

Please pray for our leadership team and the DMMC in this time of change. Pray, too, for the commitment of our parishes to work together and share resources so that we may flourish in a time of difficulty and uncertainty in the country and the church.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Blackburn - The Church of England*

**17 APRIL**

**CANTERBURY DEANERY: CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE**



Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

Grahame Whittlesea, Iain Taylor, Peter Freeman, John Arnold, John Barton, Julia Butterworth, Peter Jacobs, David Naumann, Jean Taylor, Paul Wilton, Reg Humphriss, Thomas Collett-White, Derek Mottershead, Sara Bimson, Geoff Pearson, Clive Barlow, Perry Butler, Eileen Routh, Peter Ould, Juliet Woollcombe, Bill Hornsby, Richard Owen, Simon Stocks, Brian Kelly, Norman Woods, Ted Hurst, Michael Stace, Helen Connoll, Jonathan Gledhill, Bob Key, David Cawley, Alan Gregory, Roy Kilford, William Campen, Brian McHenry, Mark Blamey, Nina Coulthard, Ian Harker, Ken Wilkin, John Spriggs, Richard Llewelin, Sue White, Peter Richmond, Mark Ball, Martin Burrell, Michael Reeve

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bo - The Church of the Province of West Africa (West Africa Province)*

**18 APRIL**

**CANTERBURY DEANERY: CHAPLAINS**



Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work wherever they go!

*Steve Bennett, Lindsay Collins, Paul Glass, Stephen Laird, Jeremy Law, Martin Robbins, Dave Stroud, Alanna-Jayne Williams, Kevin Maddy, Helen Connoll, Ted Hurst, Geoff Pearson, Jo Richards*

*Anglican Communion: The Church of Ireland*

**19 APRIL**

**LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY**



As the church remembers today the witness and martyrdom of the 10th century archbishop St Alphege at the hands of Viking marauders, let us take notice of the national church's vision to be churches that are simpler, humbler and bolder. During the current deanery exercises to become more sustainable, flourishing communities for mission we pray for our desire and increased capacity to be turned inside out with more outward facing compassion.

Give us holy wisdom o God, to be wise as serpents, and innocent as doves.

May we be attentive to your voice, refusing knee-jerk reactions in favour of deeper listening. Strengthen our hearts as we open them to trust one another more fully, unafraid of where we go, because we journey in fellowship with you. Amen

(Prayer request written by the Changing Lives Prayer Network Team)

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

**20 APRIL**

**BLEAN: ST COSMUS & ST DAMIAN**



Clergy: Stephen Laird

Reader: Peter Clough

Give thanks that the congregation have been meeting successfully on Zoom for Sunday worship, with the majority of the 'regulars' in attendance. The online format enabled a higher than usual 'turnout' for Ash Wednesday, and there are plans to host Good Friday online. Please pray for the congregation and ministers at Blean Church as we re-establish a pattern

of worship in our building, and as we seek to engage constructively with Area Deanery planning. In 2021 we are pursuing plans to renovate our small church hall and continue to maintain and enhance our active link with our friend Revd Olivier and his parishes and communities in Madagascar.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bolivia - The Anglican Church of South America*





St Anselm is remembered today as an 11th century archbishop and a scholar of intellectual and spiritual depth. As deaneries and parishes identify their need to deepen their discipleship and their embrace of God's love in prayer, may we rekindle the wisdom and humility of discernment, admitting what we don't know, and being eager to learn together and take risks, never veering from our commitment to the love of God for all.

O Lord our God,  
 Grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart;  
 that, so desiring, we may seek, and, seeking, find you;  
 and so finding you, may love you;  
 and loving you, may hate those sins  
 from which you have redeemed us. Amen

(A prayer of St Anselm)

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bondo - The Anglican Church of Kenya*

Clergy: Phil Greig

Assistant Curate: Lucy Henderson

Reader: Gavin Netherton

School: St John's Church of England Primary School

Give thanks that we have been meeting in person for church services every week since the beginning of March, please pray with us as we prepare to restart Street Club. Pray too as we continue with our building project to replace All Saints roof with solar tiles and plan other green initiatives. Pray today for our church family as we begin to reconnect and as we look forward to our 'Christmas party' on June 25th.

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

**23 APRIL**

**LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY**



St George as patron saint of England has accumulated many stories around his life and martyrdom in the 5th century. As the church of England struggles to establish a missional identity in 21st century Britain, we pray for a reinvigorated willingness to serve our communities, fully conscious that Jesus' kingdom values are not of this world, and are most truly embodied in selfless sacrifice.

Jesus Lord of all,

We pray for patience as we seek to embody your presence,  
in our homes, families, workplaces and communities.

Restore our confidence in your grace and power to heal,

May the narrative of changed lives shine through who we are,

And may the pride we share in your ever-present love free us from fear,

May we never fail to give you thanks and praise. Amen

(Prayer request written by the Changing Lives Prayer Network Team)

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Botswana - The Church of the Province of Central Africa*

**24 APRIL**

**LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY**



St Mellitus, who we remember today, was a 7th century archbishop of Canterbury who modelled engagement with local customs and peoples, listening and fostering connections. May our churches be more than echo chambers fixated on our own needs and preferences. May we passionately reach out within the love of Christ, and witness faithfully to him.

Lord of life,

As we engage with our communities, gift us with vulnerability, help us to find direction as to what a kingdom community really looks like,

Give us the courage to reorient our lives towards your presence in the world, prepared to abandon everything that gets in the way of heart-filled service to you and our neighbour. For you are our Lord and our God. Amen

(Prayer request written by the Changing Lives Prayer Network Team)

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brandon - The Anglican Church of Canada (Rupert's Land Province)*

**25 APRIL** **CANTERBURY: ST MARTIN & ST PAUL**

Clergy: Mark Griffin

Assistant Curate: Hannah Thomson

Readers: Samuel Keeler-Walker, Chris Robinson, Rosemary Walters

Please pray with thanksgiving for the way in which worship has been maintained live in our churches and in zoom services over the last few months.

Please pray in these days of spring for our community partnerships beginning to reopen and for church organisations as they start to run again after the lockdown.

We value your prayers as we look to the future, for new ventures and opportunities to meet together.

*Anglican Communion: The Nippon Sei Ko Kai*

**26 APRIL** **CANTERBURY: ST MARY BREDIN**

Clergy: Barney De Berry, Stephen Carter

Assistant Curate: Charmaine Muir

Reader: Martin Collings

Pray with us as we prepare to draw the church together post-Covid restrictions, there's much to be mindful of, isn't there? Pray for us as staff are recruited, ministries restart and teams come back together. We give thanks that we're able to provide a debt counselling service once again through Christians Against Poverty. Whilst some things will be returning to the building, we're excited that another Alpha Online will be starting soon. Please pray for those coming with questions, that they'd meet Jesus.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brasilia - Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil*

**27 APRIL** **CANTERBURY: ST STEPHEN**

Clergy: Kevin Maddy, Stephen Laird

Readers: Peter Toon, Sally Walters

School: The Archbishop's School

We thank God for all those involved in our musical life and theological enquiry; for those who are making our churchyard more beautiful and visitor friendly; for those supporting our Christian Aid appeal from Lent to Pentecost; and for our Parish Church Council as it plans for the future. We ask your prayers for the resumption of our mission activities with the elderly and the very young in September – the Acorn Café, We'll Meet Again Club, and the Toddler Group sponsored by the Mothers' Union. Please pray for our schools and especially the chaplaincy to The Archbishop's School.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brazzaville - Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo*

**28 APRIL HARBLEDOWN: ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS**

Clergy: Peter Harnden

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brechin - The Scottish Episcopal Church*

**29 APRIL THE ST DUNSTAN, ST MILDRED & ST PETER CANTERBURY BENEFICE**



Clergy: Jo Richards

Readers: Jane Gledhill, John Morrison, Tessa Taylor, Margaret Wells

Please pray with us as we reopen our buildings for public worship, alongside our online worship and ministry. We pray also for God's guidance as we take the next steps in two significant projects, one at St Peter's and one at St Dunstan's, to enhance community engagement and further God's mission, to grow the kingdom of God in our local community.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Brisbane - The Anglican Church of Australia (Queensland Province)*

**30 APRIL STURRY: ST NICHOLAS WITH FORDWICH: ST MARY THE VIRGIN & WESTBERE: ALL SAINTS WITH HERSDEN**

Clergy: Peter Cornish

School: Sturry Church of England Primary School

Pray with us as discussions regarding the future shape of ministry in the villages take place, over the past year a lot of work has gone into keeping people connected to each other and to God – but the church needs to grow a new congregation. Virtual? In-person? Hybrid?

Over the coming years we are expecting around 2,400 new homes to be built: how will the churches (including our ecumenical partners in the RC parish and Broad Oak Chapel) reach out to them? In the aftermath of the pandemic connections will need to be re-established with local schools and the local care home. Pray that we will be able to reach people at their point of need and share the gospel.

*Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bristol - The Church of England*



# THY KINGDOM COME 2021

Our 'Keep Praying Easter' season culminates in the Thy Kingdom Come Novena – the 9 days of prayer leading up to Pentecost.

Whilst large gatherings in person still won't be possible, there will be several ways to connect across the diocese in prayer, all inspired by our 'Jesus meets us in the garden' theme.

## DAILY ZOOM GATHERINGS

Join us for 15 minutes each day at 12pm throughout the Novena (Friday 14 to Saturday 22 May) for a time of prayer and 'daily waiting', engaging with the Thy Kingdom Come theme for that day. We're delighted that some of these Zooms will be led by the Cathedral canons, in the beautiful surroundings of the Cathedral grounds.

## 'JESUS MEETS US IN THE GARDEN' DAILY VIDEOS FROM ASCENSION TO PENTECOST

Our 'garden of England' diocese has so many different kinds of outdoor spaces, and our Keep Praying Easter prayer practice is simply to pray outdoors, so we've invited groups of people from all around the diocese to lead us in prayer in their favourite outside space. We'll publish one video a day on our website and social media feeds from Ascension (Thursday 13) to Pentecost (Sunday 23).

## PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE CALENDAR OF PRAYER

You'll see those same outside spaces in our calendar because we've asked each group making a video to give us a photo of their location and to write us a prayer. We may not all be able to get out and tour the diocese, but we can appreciate the beauty of creation and keep praying with and for one another through the pages of this fantastic resource.

There will be more information on all the above in the coming weeks. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Lyndall Bywater: [lbywater@diocant.org](mailto:lbywater@diocant.org)



# LIVING IN LOVE & FAITH

## **BISHOP'S DAY FOR MINISTERS:**

### Living in Love and Faith

22 April, 9:30am - 3:30pm

How do questions about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage fit within the bigger picture of the good news of Jesus Christ? What does it mean to live in love and faith together as a Church? Led by Eeva John, this event is an opportunity to learn about the vision and purpose of the Living in Love and Faith project and to explore some of the resources.

Register here or go to [www.canterburydiocese.org](http://www.canterburydiocese.org) to find out more.

## **EASTER - JESUS MEETS US IN THE GARDEN**

God of creation, we thank you for gardens and  
outside spaces,

Help us make time to enjoy them and to look  
after them well.

You are the gardener who plants within us seeds  
of love, joy and peace;

Free us from the weeds of unfairness and  
unkindness,

So that we might grow beautifully into the people  
you intend us to be.

Amen.