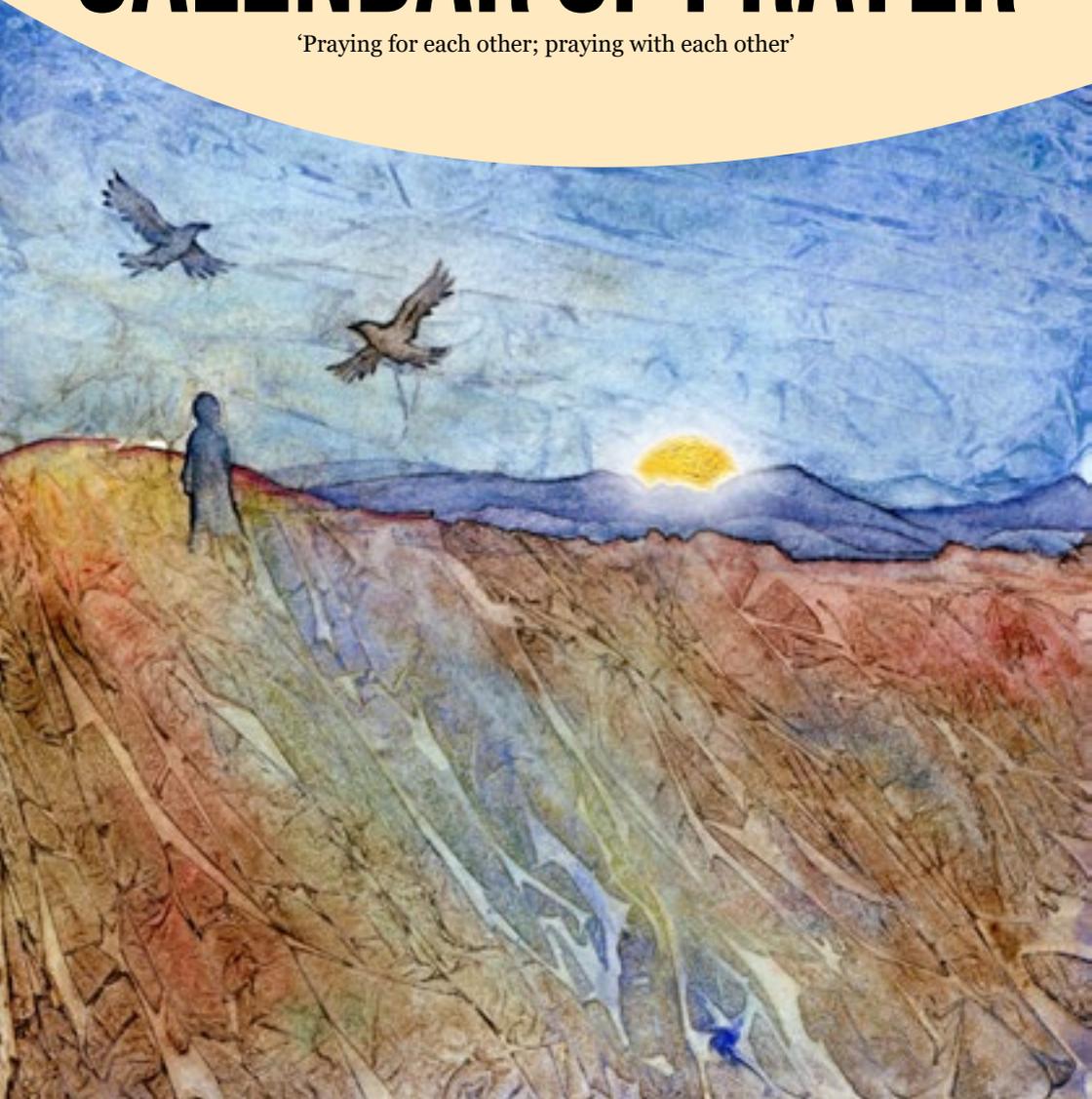




Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES © CHANGING LIVES

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



March 2021



READ...1 Kings 19:1-8.

Elijah endures the wilderness of depression and exhaustion and receives tender, sustaining care for both body and soul.

LOOK...at the picture, noticing what catches your attention.

REFLECT...What are the most challenging aspects of this pandemic season for you now? Where have you encountered God's sustaining provision?

God our sustainer,

Draw near when fatigue leaves us weak,

Draw near when depression saps our hope,

Draw near, bringing nourishment for body and soul.

As you draw near to us, help us draw near to others,

That we might share your gracious provision.

Amen.

1 MARCH LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY



‘God is showing us that we encounter him through people and relationships.’

(Taken from the Listening and Discerning on the Way feedback report)

When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you....” Luke 1.41 – 2

Lord, in these desperately difficult days, tune us into the movement of your Spirit – especially among those who do not yet know you. Help us to notice where you are moving in compassion or love or gentleness. And when we spot what you are up to, help us to flag it up, get it out there and put it into words, like Elizabeth, so that others may notice it too.

(Prayer request written by Steve Coneys - Mission and Growth Advisor)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Armidale - The Anglican Church of Australia (New South Wales Province)

2 MARCH ST MARGARET-AT-CLIFFE WITH WESTCLIFFE & EAST LANGDON WITH WEST LANGDON

Clergy: Kaz Reeves (Licensed 17th March)

Readers: Barbara Broughton, Anthony Hyde

Churchwardens: Norman Liggins, Anthony Hyde, Barbara Wells, John Plommer, Brenda Lester, Gill Cubitt

Lord Jesus Christ, journey with us through Lent and gift us with joy in spite of the challenges that lie ahead. In early March we feel the days lengthening and lightening, and after twelve months living with coronavirus and managing the emptiness of absence from loved ones, may we feel a renewal of hope. Help us to remember, (because it is easy to forget), that your love endures; you are always here and you never ask the impossible of us.

Be with us at this pivotal time. Give us wisdom, patience and perseverance to continue our journey towards your light. Amen

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Arochukuw / Ohafia - The Church of Nigeria (Aba Province)

3 MARCH

TEMPLE EWELL: ST PETER & ST PAUL WITH LYDDEN: ST MARY THE VIRGIN



Clergy: Ian Parrish

Schools: Temple Ewell CE Primary School

Please pray: that God will bless the continued development of the Mission Learning Community in our Diocese. That the Changed Lives, Changing Lives initiatives will be embraced by all and that we will become a Missional Learning Community using the Six Missional Practices and Holy Habits that will help us to flourish in God's kingdom.

Also, please pray for all the parishes in our Deanery, as we respond to the call from Bishop Rose and her senior leadership team: to Dwell with God and find the best ways to look, listen and see where God is active in the Dover Deanery and join in.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Aru - Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

4 MARCH

ST MARY-IN-CASTRO



Clergy: Jonathan Russell, Bob Coles, Peter Sherred, Polly Mason, Kevin Jacobs

Reader: John Morrison.

Pray with us today, as we give heartfelt thanks for the support and goodwill of English Heritage and it's staff, especially during lockdown. Without the burden of maintaining a building we are grateful to be still able to support Dover Deanery, a range of charities, and offer help to different church-led projects in Dover.

We ask for prayers that when the Castle re-opens after the restrictions our faithful members will swiftly return to the Sunday services to witness to the thousands of castle visitors that St Mary-in-Castro is a living, active and holy place of Christian worship.

Anglican Communion:

The Missionary Diocese of Aru - The Church of Nigeria (Bendel Province)

5 MARCH

PRAYING FOR FRONT-LINE WORKERS



Lord we pray for your peace into troubled lives, and for strength and support for those ministering to those injured; especially when trying to support those who see the church as part of the problem, not part of the solution. Brexit, Covid and Migration have made life very difficult for some on the coastal front-line of the diocese, chaplains, clergy and laity, caught between the desire to help, legislation and the concerns of local people who have been hurt in the various situations.

(Prayer Request written by David Slater - Joint Lead for Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Asante-Mampong - The Church of the Province of West Africa (Ghana Province)

6 MARCH

PRAYING WITH THE ELHAM DEANERY, ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE

Area Dean: Jane Weeks

Lay Chair: David Donald

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Laurie Maxfield

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Saint Asaph - The Church in Wales



READ...Jonah 4:5-11

Jonah feels the burn of bitter disappointment, frustration and anger with a God who doesn't do things the way Jonah likes them done.

LOOK...at the picture, noticing what catches your attention.

REFLECT...What “unthinkable things” have you had to come to terms with recently, and how have these things challenged your understanding of God?

God of all mysteries,

Hear our cries of bewilderment when nothing makes sense;

Receive our shouts of frustration when life is unfair;

Tend to the wounds of disappointment which stop us trusting you;

Embrace us as we seek to embrace the mysteries of this wilderness,

Welcoming its challenges and rejoicing in its possibilities.

Amen.

7 MARCH

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:

Ted Clark, David Ratcliff, John Wright, Janet Thornby, Martin Jewitt, Pam Clark, David Goodburn, Richard Pamplin, Barry Preece, Charles Hill, David Makepeace, Bruce Bridgewood, John Tomlinson, Eileen Webb, Peter Ashman, Alan Davis, Ronald Herbert

Anglican Communion:

The Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

8 MARCH

LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY



'God has been changing us, and stretching our capacity to change.'

(Taken from the Listening and Discerning on the Way feedback report)

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Luke 1.38

Father, can it be true that you are stretching our capacity to change, as so many have sensed? Help us to embrace your preferred and promised future so that it becomes part of us, takes root in us, grows in us. Help us to recognise anything we need to let go of – to name it, lament it, grieve it. Then let us see your 'new thing' and embrace it, in the confidence that you are the One who brings new worlds into being.

(Prayer request written by Steve Coneys - Mission and Growth Advisor)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Athabasca - The Anglican Church of Canada (Rupert's Land Province)

9 MARCH

ELHAM 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.

Malcolm Sawyer, Tricia Hill, David Slater

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Athooch - The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

10 MARCH MISSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY



Please pray today for the Missional Learning community gathering, worshipping, praying and witnessing in our deanery. Pray that signs of a living faith will spring up in unexpected places. Pray that we will dare to join with God in creating a caring, sustainable and growing Christian presence. Teach us to listen to the voice of God, and to follow where he leads us. May we be a means by which the love God has for the world is shared. Through our acts of

loving service and discipleship, may we share the good news.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Atlanta - The Episcopal Church (IV (4) Province)

11 MARCH CHERITON WITH NEWINGTON



Clergy: Vacant

Retired Clergy: Jo Robertson, Eileen Webb

Readers: Stephen Brown, Frank Conley, Jenny Hoyle

Churchwardens: Florence Goldsmith, Stephen Ind, Helen Vincent, Keith Barber, Geoff Long

Deputy Warden: Vincent Williams

Schools: All Souls CE Primary School, Seabrook

CE Primary School, St Martin's CE Primary School

We thank God for the close uniting of our churches and we continue to pray that a priest will come to us and lead us in our mission and service within our community.

May God grant us wisdom to recognise new opportunities and discernment to meet the challenges of mission in lockdown. Please pray for our PCC's and all those who lead us during a long interregnum.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Auckland - The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Pakeha Tikanga)

12 MARCH PRAYING FOR THE KENT EMERGENCY CHAPLAINS SCHEME

Lord, in recent years faith groups have been excluded from humanitarian help in Kent. We give you thanks for the good and surprising ways you guided us as we offered help during the Covid/Border disruption over Christmas, and the fact that this has helped put the church back into the thoughts of civic contingency planners. Strengthen and develop the work of the Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme so that your church can be employed and fulfil its role caring for humanity when disasters happen, especially close to home.

(Prayer Request written by David Slater - Joint Lead for Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of North West Australia - The Anglican Church of Australia (Western Australia Province)

13 MARCH ELHAM VALLEY GROUP OF CHURCHES

Clergy: Jane Weeks

Assistant Curate: Stephen Dougal

Licensed Lay Worker: Deb Scoble

Readers: Diana Baldwin, Paul Jarvis, Bill Meakin, Sharon Paine

Schools: Elham CE Primary School, Selsted CE Primary School, School: Lyminge CE Primary School

Please pray blessing on our Zoom services and pray that others will be encouraged to join so we might reach a diverse network of people. Give thanks for our Ministry Team, for all they do. Pray that God will help us develop a 'Benefice Prayer Chain,' and for the development of a Pastoral Care Team. Pray for the Children's/Youth Team and their continued outreach to families in lockdown, remembering in particular those families struggling with home schooling and lack of money. We give thanks for those who have donated to our local food bank and school.

Give thanks for the awakening of Spring, vaccinations, new births, and this amazing Valley we live, walk and breathe in.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Aweil - The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Northern Bahr el Ghazal Province)



READ...Psalm 23:1-6

‘Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me; your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.’ (Verse 4, NKJV)

LOOK...at the picture, noticing what catches your attention.

REFLECT...Who have you noticed walking more closely with you lately, and who might God be inviting you to walk alongside?

Jesus our good shepherd,
 Walk with us through the valley of loss and grief;
 Walk with us the precarious paths of change,
 Walk with us as we learn to walk humbly and faithfully with one another;
 Climb with us out of shadow and into sunshine,
 Leading us out of what has been and into what can be.
 Amen.

14 MARCH FOLKESTONE: ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

Clergy: Adam Denley

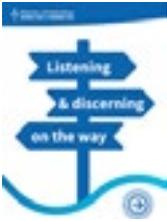
Assistant Curate: Jo Purle

Readers: Robert Grieve, Frances Morgan, Alex Finlow, Joan Herbert

Anglican Communion:

Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

15 MARCH LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY



‘God is helping us to notice him (and others) more.’

(Taken from the Listening and Discerning on the Way feedback report)

“He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.” Luke 1.52

God, we thought you worked through strength, intelligence, wealth, status. Even as followers of Jesus, we still seem to think in these ways!

But in this pandemic you have slowed us down, stopped us in our tracks, and given us gifts of simplicity and stillness. We have been noticing you more, and others, and you in them. And often it has surprised us and humbled us.

Turn us upside down, O God, and lift high the humble, in the name of the one who humbled himself for our sake. Amen.

(Prayer request written by Steve Coneys - Mission and Growth Advisor)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Aerial - The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province)

16 MARCH FOLKESTONE: ST MARY, ST EANSWYTHE AND ST SAVIOUR

Clergy: John Walker

Schools: Folkestone St Mary’s CE Primary Academy, St Eanswythe’s CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Awgu / Aninri - The Church of Nigeria (Enugu Province)

17 MARCH FOLKESTONE: ST PETER

Clergy: Mark Haldon-Jones

School: St Peter’s CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Awka - The Church of Nigeria (Niger Province)

18 MARCH FOLKESTONE: HOLY TRINITY BENEFICE



Clergy: Bob Weldon, Roger Smith, Kate McNeice

Readers: Hilary Richter, Barry Lock, Heather Tapsell, Charles Lewis, Janette Smith

School: Christ Church CE Primary Academy

Pray with us as we continue to pray for our many Care Homes here in Folkestone, for residents, for staff and for family members: they have had tough times. We long to visit. We pray that they (and we) will be blest with courage and strength as we place our trust in God.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Awori - The Church of Nigeria (Lagos Province)

19 MARCH HAWKINGE BENEFICE

Clergy: Rob Grinsell

Please pray for the Hawkinge Benefice as we look to expand our on-line ministry to both our congregation and community. The challenges we have faced this year have been ones shared by many parishes. Through phone calls, online ministry and gift bags we provide continued support to those in the church and community who are isolated and alone. Our online schools and children's ministry reaches nearly 870 children a week and we also give thanks for our community food parcel project which has touched the hearts of many within the Hawkinge community. We continue to thank the Lord for the faithfulness and compassion of our church community.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Ayod - The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

20 MARCH HYPHE: ST LEONARD

Clergy: Vacant

Reader: Mike Cox

Churchwardens: Gillian Cox, John Wren

School: Hythe Bay CE Primary School

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Badagry - The Church of Nigeria (Lagos Province)



READ...John 4:4-24

A woman goes to collect water in the heat of the day and comes face to face with the truth about herself and the promise of a deeper refreshing.

LOOK...at the picture, noticing what catches your attention.

REFLECT...What have been the most uncomfortable truths you've learnt about yourself in this season, and how might God be inviting you to live differently.?

Spirit of life and liberty,

Rest on us, that we might rest from our strivings;

Shine on us, that we might see ourselves in the light of your truth;

Provoke us, that we might work for justice and reconciliation;

Reconnect us, that we might know again the joy of community;

Flow through us, that we might bear life-giving good news to the world.

Amen.

21 MARCH ST PETER & ST PAUL, SALTWOOD AND ST STEPHEN, LYMPNE

Clergy: Barry Knott

Hospital Chaplain: Tricia Hill

Readers: William Fittall, Bob White

Schools: Lympe CE Primary School, Saltwood CE Primary School

We thank God for the technology to broadcast live from this remote place, reaching so many we have not seen for so long. Lord bless those in our community who do so much to help those in need.

Please bless the Pastoral Group for their love and kindness, our Ministry Team for their commitment and energy and all in our parishes who do what they do, sharing the load and making our commitment a joy.

May we give thanks to you O Lord,
for so many blessings.

Though we are being tried and tested,
you keep us reminded of your presence.

Jesus, Thank you!

Anglican Communion:

The Church of England

22 MARCH LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY



‘God is helping us to grow as people and disciples.’

(Taken from the Listening and Discerning on the Way feedback report)

‘Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.”
Luke 1.46 – 48

Lord, Mary never planned this! And she didn't say ‘But.’ Dare we say to you, here and now: ‘All those prayers we pray asking you to bless things we came up with, we now set aside?’ That from now on we are open to what you are doing, no matter how inconvenient or interruptive?

Just give us humility and enough curiosity not to miss your surprising, creative and deep work in us, our churches and our communities.

(Prayer request written by Steve Coneys - Mission and Growth Advisor)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of the Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands - The Church in the Province of the West Indies

23 MARCH PRAYING WITH THE ROMNEY AND TENTERDEN DEANERY, ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE

Area Dean: Vacant

Assistant Area Dean: Chris Hodgkins

Assistant Lay Chair: Ian Bentley

Secretary: Meriel Bailes

Treasurer: David Macaulay

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Bakru - The Church of Nigeria (Jos Province)

24 MARCH ROMNEY AND TENTERDEN 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:

Gill Calver, Dick Dengate, Tom Unsworth, Peter Brett, John Emmott, Michael Gooch, Richard Orchard, Rosemary Kobus van Wengen, Keith Fazzani, Sheila McLachlan, David Stuart-Smith, Margaret Roylance, Joy Rapley, John Saunders, Michael Rose

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Ballarat - The Anglican Church of Australia (Victoria Province)

25 MARCH ROMNEY AND TENTERDEN 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 Bangor - The Church in Wales

26 MARCH PRAYING FOR KENT WORKPLACE MISSION

Dear Lord, a year of Covid restrictions has been difficult for workers, whether now unemployed, furloughed, working from home or working at risk in public. It has been difficult for workplace chaplains who have been unable to visit at the very time when some of their flock are in greatest need. Refresh and renew the KWM chaplains – from ports to power stations, retail to councils – to be able to get back to work, to re-establish relations with staff and managers, and to be your Intentional Presence in workplaces old and new.

(Prayer Request written by David Slater - Joint Lead for Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Banks & Torres - The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Clergy: Sue Rose

Readers: Vera Hopkinson, Barbara Lunn

Schools: High Halden CE Primary School, Woodchurch CE Primary School

Please give thanks for the way our parishes and people have come together to connect and support one another at this difficult time.

And pray for our new incumbent Reverend Sue, and her husband Reverend Mike as they minister in our villages. Pray that we will find ways to develop our mission to Know God, Show His Love and Spread His Word.

We pray too for our primary schools as they support families with home learning, and teach the children of key workers at school.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Barbados - The Church in the Province of the West Indies



READ...Luke 19:28-40

‘He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”’ (Verse 40, NRSV)

LOOK...at the picture, noticing what catches your attention.

REFLECT...Who would be lining the streets of your community to meet Jesus if he rode in today? How might you start a conversation with those people?

Jesus our servant king,

As we pass through the wilderness with you,

Open our eyes to see the beauty and fragility of your world;

Open our ears to hear the voices of those in need;

Give us courage to confront injustice and challenge power.

Give us confidence to shout with the stones and to tell your story wherever we go.

Amen.

28 MARCH BIDDENDEN: ALL SAINTS AND SMARDEN: ST MICHAEL

Clergy: Vacant

School: The John Mayne CE Primary School

Anglican Communion: Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

29 MARCH LISTENING AND DISCERNING ON THE WAY

‘God is reshaping our priorities.’



(Taken from the Listening and Discerning on the Way feedback report)

“And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;

for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him.” Luke 1.76

Are you winnowing your Church, Lord? Is it true that you are asking us to become less concerned with our agendas, our wants, our ways – and more with the world you so passionately love? We would much rather be ‘gently remoulded’ than winnowed, if that’s OK! But if it needs to be so, help us to allow Good Friday to come towards us, that we may wait on Saturday and be surprised on Sunday, by your ways in the wilderness and your streams in the deserts.

(Prayer request written by Steve Coneys - Mission and Growth Advisor)

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Bari - The Church of Nigeria (Kaduna Province)

30 MARCH THE BENEFICE OF ROMNEY MARSH

Clergy: Chris Maclean, John Richardson, Shuna Body

Assistant Curate: Jacky Darling

Readers: Les Carter, Penny Lowe, George Faulks, David Gillies, June Noakes

Schools: Brenzett CE Primary School, Brookland CE Primary School, School: St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Baringo - The Anglican Church of Kenya

31 MARCH FRESH EXPRESSIONS



Please pray today for our Open Church team who are a group of adults and young people who have successfully taken their monthly service online, producing high quality services of music, drama, prayer and worship which have been watched by over 200 people. (Their recordings can be found on our Youtube channel.). Lord, we ask you to bless their incredible ministry, blessing them and also blessing all those who participate in worship by watching in their homes.

(Prayer request written by Sue Rose, Rector of Bethersden with High Halden and Woodchurch Benefice)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Barrackpore - The (united) Church of North India

#LIVE LENT



God's Story
Our Story

The Church of England's Lent resources for 2021,

#LiveLent: God's Story, Our Story,

are available by visiting

www.churchofengland.org



Cover image, and all the weekly Lent reflection paintings, by: Primrose Northrop,
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