

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER

# Prayer Diary

November 2022 to March 2023



## Foreword from Bishop John



In her Christmas message every year, Her Late Majesty the Queen spoke movingly of her Christian faith. I shall miss those messages but remain hugely grateful for them. They brought hope: hope that derived from her deep commitment to the Lord Jesus and her reliance on the Holy Spirit. It was that faith which enabled her to love her people in God's name and so offer them hope.

In these uncertain times, we need more than ever to take to heart the good news of God's love in the Lord Jesus's birth. The period covered by this prayer calendar includes Plough Sunday, Church Action on Poverty Sunday and Fuel Poverty Awareness Day on which we pray for sufficient food and energy for all and remember those facing fuel and food poverty. It includes Racial Justice Sunday and Holocaust Memorial Day when we pray for all those - made in the image of God - suffering racial discrimination and persecution in our own society and abroad.

We offer these and all our prayers, in the name of the Lord Jesus and in the power of the Holy Spirit, asking that we may be agents of hope in a broken world.

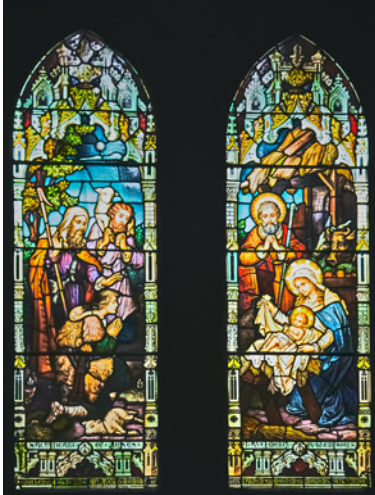
God bless you as you pray.

*John*

We try to pray for those with a licence from the Bishop by name, but please do remember all who minister and witness with them in each parish.

On Sundays we are offering a monthly prayer for you to pray for your baptism families and we also continue to pray for dioceses around the world through the Poorvoo prayer calendar \*(Sundays) and the Anglican Cycle of Prayer. These are all placed in a column, on the side edge of each page.

\*Unfortunately the Poorvoo prayers from January onwards had not been received at the time of going to press.



## Calling Young Disciples

The Calling Young Disciples (CYD) Project will come to an end in July next year. The project aimed to see a significant and sustained increase in the capacity of churches to engage with children and young people - so they respond to God's call to be disciples of Jesus.

CYD, which began in 2017, was 40% funded by the Church Commissioners as a time-limited project. Some of the project team will finish at the end of November with two Mission Enablers, Helen Laird and Sian Morgan, continuing until July to do some specific work with parishes where there is potential to reach a greater number of children, young people and families.

Earlier in November an event was held to celebrate all that has been achieved, say thank you to those involved, hear about the Church of England's national vision and outline the support for children and youth work going forward - including launching a new suite of resources to help parishes with children and youth work in their churches.

**Pray for the Calling Young Disciples Mission Enablers and also our Children's Officer, Emma Pettifer, whose roles will come to an end in November, for Simon Hill, Helen Laird and Sian Morgan as they continue to help parishes connect with children, young people and families.**

### Mon 28 Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery

Pray for our Leadership Team as we work through many changes in the areas we serve. As Chris and Mthr Victoria move to the Halas Team we give thanks for all Chris has done as treasurer and pray that God raises up the right replacement. Area Dean: Paul Lawlor; Lay Chair: Kashmir Garton; Secretary: Mark Wheatley; Treasurer: Vacant; Admin Support: Rose Humphrey

### Tue 29 St Laurence, Alvechurch

In this season of Advent, we pray that all our prayers and planning for the coming weeks will see our church reach out into the community in new and exciting ways. Clergy: Gail Rogers; Readers: Sue Phillips and Helen Brown

### Wed 30 Diocese of Peru

Peru continues to experience political turmoil and uncertainty, with unrest, protests and curfews. Pray for those who suffer as a result, and for those in positions of responsibility, who are seeking a way forward in these difficult times.

### Thur 1 DECEMBER Bromsgrove Team Ministry

As we now include nine church communities, we pray for the continued successful integration of the church communities of Dodford, Stoke Prior, Wychbold and Upton Warren into the established Bromsgrove Team. Clergy: David Ford, Ray Khan, Bev Robertson, Paula Honniball, Janet Hatton, Richard Sandland; Readers: Hilda Roxborough, Rosemary Sumner, Philip Bowyer, Sally Gale, Geoffrey Westwood

### Fri 2 Bromsgrove Team Ministry

That we might make the most of all the mission opportunities this Christmas through our schools' outreach, youth work, traditional family and choral services. May our hearts be open to welcoming people to join us and change us.

### Sat 3 Bromsgrove Team Ministry

With one eye on the coming New Year, we pray for a season of growth and outreach as we continue to rebuild our congregations after several difficult years and address openly the challenge presented by our ageing demographic. Clergy: David Ford, Ray Khan, Bev Robertson, Paula Honniball, Janet Hatton, Richard Sandland; Readers: Hilda Roxborough, Rosemary Sumner, Philip Bowyer, Sally Gale, Geoffrey Westwood



Calling Young Disciples Team:  
Simon Hill, Helen Laird, Sian Morgan, Jane Blythe

Children's Officer: Emma Pettifer

**St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane (Scotland):** Bishop Ian Paton  
**Porvoo (Finland):** Bishop Bo-Göran Åstrand  
**The Nippon Sei Ko Kai:** Archbishop Luke Kenichi Muto

**Nsukka (Nigeria):** M  
Bishop Aloysius E. Agbo

**Nyahururu (Kenya):** T  
Bishop Stephen Kabora

**Nyamlel (South Sudan):** W  
Bishop Peter Garang Akuei

**Nyang (South Sudan):** Th  
Bishop Paul Tokmach Lual

**Southern Nyanza (Kenya):** F  
Bishop Simon Onyango

**Nzara (South Sudan):** S  
Bishop Richard Bbikoyesu Aquilla



**Pray for those facing fuel poverty this winter and help us reach out to our neighbours who may be in need.**

Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery  
Area Dean: Paul Lawlor  
Lay Chair: Kashmir Garton

**Praying for our Baptism families:**  
Lord God we pray that all parents will enjoy the Christmas festivities with their family and be at peace with you, their God. Amen.

**Chester:** Bishop Mark Tanner  
with Sam Corley (Stockport)  
**Kuopio (Finland):**  
Bishop Jari Jolkkonen  
**The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East:**  
Archbishop Michael A O Lewis

**M el-Obeid (Sudan):**  
Bishop Ismail Gabriel Abudigin

**T Offa (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Solomon Olusola Akanbi

**W Ogbaru (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Prosper Amah

**Th Ogbia (Nigeria):**  
Bishop James Aye Oruwor

**F Ogbomoso (Nigeria):**  
Vacant

**S Ogoni (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Solomon S. Gberegbara

## Fuel Poverty Awareness Day (Friday 2 Dec)

Fuel poverty\* has been highlighted recently due to the growing cost of fuel. But other factors include the energy efficiency of buildings and the level of income of each household. It is estimated that one in three households in the UK – some 8.2 million – will experience fuel poverty this winter.

That those least able to afford fuel also live in homes which are the most expensive and difficult to heat compounds the problem and highlights the injustice of the situation.

The impact is more than not being warm. Fuel poverty leads to households taking on unsustainable levels of debt, resulting in a vicious cycle that that can be difficult to break. The health of those living in cold homes suffers, and as household budgets are squeezed there is not enough to buy food, a particular problem for households with children.

Our Gospel for today (Matthew 3:1-12) introduces us to John the Baptist and his call to repentance before the coming of God's salvation through Christ. He had particularly harsh words for the Pharisees and Sadducees, challenging them to produce fruit in keeping with repentance. We are reminded that issues such as fuel poverty are not just somebody else's problem.

*\*Fuel poverty is defined as anyone living in a property with an energy efficiency rating of band D or below, and where to heat their home to 21°C in the main living space would leave residual income below the official poverty line.*

### Mon 5 Ipsley Team Ministry

Pray for St Peter's Church in Ipsley as they explore opportunities to move forward with their Mission Accompanier along an exciting mission journey. Pray that God will show where the need is in the community and a plan can be formulated. Please pray for our ALMs. Clergy: Garth Nathaniel; Readers: Peter McLaren, Chris McLaren, Catherine McClaren and Linda Nicholas

### Tue 6 Ipsley Team Ministry

At St John's Church, Greenlands, we are thankful for prayerful encouragement being offered as we work with Alice our Mission Accompanier, and we seek to discern and develop our distinctive missional identity. Clergy: Paul Lawlor; Readers: Rosemary Humphrey, Maureen Hughes, Vicki Quarton

### Wed 7 Diocese of Morogoro

We pray for all those who are running a very much needed nursery project in the Chamwino parish and for their new endeavour to provide a source of fresh water for all those involved. We give thanks for the financial support being provided by Severnside Parishes to the school in Chamwino.

### Thur 8 Ipsley Team Ministry

Christ Church Matchborough: Pray for ministries that touch the community, especially for work with young people and children. Pray for the evangelism initiative. Pray for youth, children's and community leaders and helpers, Clergy: Ian Evans; Readers: Phil Williams, Marilyn Bishop

### Fri 9 Christ the King Team Ministry, Redditch

Please pray for The Bridge, Headless Cross, continuing to pray for the newly formed Baptism team that has emerged from the work of the Calling Young Disciples Project and Helen Laird, our Mission Enabler. Especially now the Calling Young Disciples Project is drawing to a close. For our Lay and Ordained Ministry Team.

### Sat 10 Growing as Kingdom People

Give thanks for those churches in our diocese who are resourcing other parishes and helping them to grow and develop.

## Follow the Star – The Great Invitation

Follow the Star – The Great Invitation is the Church of England's Advent and Christmas campaign for 2022. Following previous 'Follow the Star' campaigns, the Church is creating new resources to be used alongside existing ones.

After two years when gathering together has been impossible for many, this year the focus will be on encouraging everyone to share the joy of celebrating the birth of Jesus with their family, friends and neighbours.

Daily Advent reflections are available, as well as a printed booklet which contains 12 reflections, Bible readings and challenges, exploring themes of invitation and allowing everyone a chance to make space this Christmas.

[Access the resources on the Church of England's website.](#)



### Mon 12 Christ the King Team Ministry, Redditch

Please pray for St. Peter, Crabbs Cross as it looks to a new chapter in its life and ministry. Pray in particular, for our work with the local school and the development of new relationships there. For Father Paul and Father David and our wardens. Clergy: Glenn Reading

### Tue 13 Christ the King Team Ministry, Redditch

Please pray for St Matthias & St George, Astwood Bank. For our new Open the Book Team and our work to connect with the recent Baptism families we've been delighted to welcome into church. For the exciting chance we have to work with our new Mission Accompanier. Clergy: Glenn Reading; Reader: Fiona Carter

### Wed 14 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

We pray for area bishop, Bettina Schlauff. She was installed in September and will lead the Sprengel Magdeburg together with area bishop, Dr Johann Schneider.

### Thur 15 Christ the King Team Ministry, Redditch

Please pray for St John the Baptist in Feckenham as we continue to discern God's leading for us, especially around the new ways of building relationships with our local community. Clergy: Glenn Reading, Barbara Wheatley; Reader: Fiona Carter

### Fri 16 Tardebigge & Lower Bentley

At St Philip, Webheath, St Bartholomew, Tardebigge and St Mary, Lower Bentley, pray that God draws the right person to lead us in our ministry to those who appreciate traditional worship and to others through Café Church. Pray for our relationship with Tardebigge CE First School to blossom. For our ALMs. Clergy: Paul Lawlor, Francis Moloney, Sarah Jayne Hewitt; Reader: Dean Hall

### Sat 17 Bishop's Advisers on Healthcare

We pray for Clare Griffiths in her role as Bishop's Adviser on Healthcare. We pray for all those who minister in the healthcare sector.

**Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon us, scatter the darkness from before our path, and make us ready to meet him when he comes in glory. Amen**

Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery  
Secretary: Mark Wheatley  
Admin Support: Rose Humphrey

**Southwell & Nottingham:**  
Bishop Paul Williams with Bishop Tony Porter (Sherwood)  
**Borg (Norway):**  
Bishop Atle Sommerfeldt  
**The Anglican Church of Kenya:**  
Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit

**Ogori-Magongo (Nigeria):** M  
Bishop Festus Davies

**Ohaji / Egbema (Nigeria):** T  
Bishop Chidi Collins Oparaojiaku

**Ohio (USA):** W  
Bishop Mark Hollingsworth

**Southern Ohio (USA):** Th  
Bishop Wayne Smith

**Oji River (Nigeria):** F  
Bishop Amos Amankechinelu Madu

**Okene (Nigeria):** S  
Bishop Emmanuel I. Onsachi



*May the joy of the angels,  
the eagerness of the shepherds,  
the perseverance of the  
wise men,  
the obedience of Joseph  
and Mary,  
and the peace of the Christ-child  
be yours this Christmas. Amen.*

Malvern Link with Cowleigh  
Philippa Lowe and  
the Revd Phillip Johnson

#### Durham:

Bishop Paul Butler with  
Bishop Sarah Clark (Jarrow)

Moray, Ross & Caithness (Scotland):

Archbishop Mark Strange

Oslo (Norway):

Bishop Kari Veiteberg

The Anglican Church of Korea:

Archbishop Peter Kyongho Lee

## The Angels of Malvern Link

Last year, member of St Matthias Church in Malvern Link, Philippa Lowe along with local illustrator Sophie Dainty, created 'The Angels of Malvern Link' - a children's book telling the Christmas story, featuring the church, local school and even the church mice.

The book tells the story of two children from the local Primary School performing the nativity in St Matthias Church. After they find the bus pass of a local lady, the children themselves become real-life angels!

Philippa said: "Our vicar made a throwaway comment that he'd always wanted to have a children's book to use at Christmas and so I had a go at writing something! The aim was to tell the Christmas story but reflect local people and local places and include our church at the heart of the book."



### Mon 19 Holy Trinity, Redditch Team

At St Stephen, Redditch, pray that God provides us with the resources we need to fulfil our calling to represent the Church of England community in our town centre and signpost what He is doing across our town. Clergy: Paul Lawlor, Francis Moloney, Sarah Jayne Hewitt

### Tue 20 Holy Trinity, Redditch Team

As we seek a new minister with responsibility for St Philip, Webheath and St Bartholomew, Tardebigge, pray that we and the person God is calling are open to the Holy Spirit. Pray for our churchwarden and others as they continue in our mission to our community, our outreach to retired people, our Bumps, Baby and Toddler group and all our ministry to children. Clergy: Paul Lawlor, Francis Moloney, Sarah Jayne Hewitt

### Wed 21 Economy & Daily Life

Pray for those working in retail in these last days before Christmas, after having to weather the storms of the past three years, and especially for all working over the holiday period; that all may find the rest they need and know the Peace of the Christ child.

### Thur 22 Holy Trinity, Redditch Team

At St Leonard, Beoley, we pray for our Growing Mission and Ministry Group as we continue to journey with our Mission Accompanier. In this time of discernment we pray for wisdom in knowing the best way to reach out to our community. Clergy: Gail Readers: Norma Walters, Margaret Lloyd, Enid Mullis

### Fri 23 The emergency services

Pray for all those in the emergency services who are working throughout Christmas. Give them strength and pray that they will feel God's love as they carry out their vital work.

### Sat 24 Christmas Eve

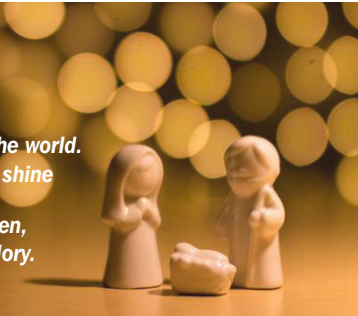
Lord God, we thank you for all the places we can find you in our communities. This Christmas, help us to remember that Jesus came to transform the world and we all have a role to play in that.

## Christmas Day

As we once again hear the message from the angels and travel to Bethlehem to see Jesus born in a manger, we pray for peace on earth and goodwill among all people.

At this time of joy and celebration for many we remember the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children; all those who know not the Lord Jesus, or who love him not, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

*Holy Jesus,  
by being born one of us,  
and lying humbly in a manger,  
you show how much God loves the world.  
Let the light of your love always shine  
in our hearts,  
until we reach our home in heaven,  
and see you on your throne of glory.  
Amen.*



Bishop John & Bishop Martin

#### Chichester:

Bishop Martin Warner with Bishops

Ruth Bushyager (Horsham), &

Will Hazlewood (Lewes)

Mikkeli (Finland):

Bishop Seppo Häkkinen

The Anglican Church of Melanesia:

Archbishop Leonard Dawea

**M** **Oke-Ogun (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Cornelius Adagbada

**T** **Oke-Osun (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Abraham Akinlalu

**W** **Okigwe (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Edward Osuegbu

**Th** **Okigwe North (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Godson Udochukwu Ukanwa

**F** **Okigwe South (Nigeria):**  
Bishop David Onuoha

**S** **Okinawa (Japan):**  
Bishop David Eisho Uehara

### Mon 26 Boxing Day

Gracious Father, who gave the first martyr Stephen grace to pray for those who took up stones against him: grant that in all our sufferings for the truth we may learn to love even our enemies and to seek forgiveness for those who desire our hurt.

### Tue 27 Retired clergy in Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery

Please pray for retired clergy in Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery. In this season of Epiphany, we pray that, with the pressures of parish ministry now behind them, they might more and more discover the glory of God in the ordinary stuff of their everyday lives. Please pray for Debra Buckley as she develops her ministry in Bromsgrove and beyond in retirement.

### Wed 28 Diocese of Peru

Pray for Bishop Jorge and the diocesan leadership, especially for those charged with discerning and nourishing vocations, and developing discipleship. Pray too for all those clergy approaching retirement age who are concerned about their future finances.

### Thur 29 Redditch Ecumenical Covenant / Churches Together in Redditch

Pray that the good relationships between the churches of Redditch Town Centre and beyond continue to flourish and strengthen. Pray that our willingness to work together reveals more of the heart of God for our town. Chair of CTiR: Dan Yarnell.

### Fri 30 Princess of Wales Community Hospital, Bromsgrove

Pray for all patients, and those who rely on our services. For the nursing teams, medical teams and support staff. Remember especially the 'Primrose at the Princess' Palliative Care Unit and our Chaplaincy Team: Revd Andy Green and Annie Cottrell.

### Sat 31 New Year's Eve

Eternal Lord God, we give you thanks for bringing us through the changes of time to the beginning of another year. Forgive us the wrong we have done in the year that is past, and help us to spend the rest of our days to your honour and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Oklahoma (USA):**  
Bishop Edward Konieczny

**Okrika (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Tubokosemie Abere

**Oleh (Nigeria):**  
Bishop John Usiwoma Aruakpor

**Olo (South Sudan):**  
Bishop Tandema Obede

**Olympia (USA):**  
Bishop Gregory Rickel

**Omu-Aran (Nigeria):**  
Bishop Philip Adeyemo



New Year's Day

New Year's Day is often an opportunity to reflect on the previous year and make a fresh start. We may have made resolutions for 2023, but whatever our plans and regardless of whether we succeed or fail, we can be confident in our Lord who always makes good on his word and loves us no matter what. Pray for all those for whom a new year will be difficult. For those who are unwell at this time and for those who are facing the start of the new year without a loved one for the first time.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
whose years never fail and whose mercies are new each returning day:  
let the radiance of your Spirit renew our lives,  
warming our hearts and giving light to our minds;  
that we may pass the coming year in joyful obedience and firm faith;  
through him who is the beginning and the end,  
Amen.

Redditch and Bromsgrove Deanery  
Area Dean: Paul Lawlor  
Lay Chair: Kashmir Garton

Praying for our Baptism families:  
Heavenly Father, be close to the  
parents of our baptism families.  
Help them to turn to you with their  
concerns. Help them to know that  
you are concerned for them  
and want to hear about their joys  
and sadness. Amen.

La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico:  
Archbishop Enrique Treviño Cruz

M Ondo (Nigeria):  
Bishop Stephen A. Oni

T Ontario (Canada):  
Bishop Michael Oulton

W Oregon (USA):  
Bishop Diana Akiyama

Th Eastern Oregon (USA):  
Bishop Patrick Bell

F Orlu (Nigeria):  
Bishop Bennett Okoro

S Oru (Nigeria):  
Bishop Geoffrey Chukwunenye

Mon 2 Alexandra Hospital, Redditch

Please pray for Alexandra Hospital in Redditch. For the whole hospital community, including patients and their families. Thanking God for the 1000+ people who work at the Alex and their dedication through this challenging time. For the Chaplain, David Ryan and the Hospital's volunteer teams.

Tue 3 HMP Hewell

Pray for HMP Hewell. Pray for the Governor, Deputy Governor, Senior Management Team and all staff, for their safety and well-being. Pray for the men who live and work here, for their anxiety, depression, and fear and that through the compassion and care of those around them, that they may feel valued and cared for.

Wed 4 Diocese of Morogoro

We pray for the clergy and people of the newly established parishes within the Diocese of Morogoro as they seek to bring the good news of the Gospel in difficult and challenging circumstances. We give thanks for the support being given by the congregation of Elmley Castle.

Thur 5 Belbroughton w Fairfield

Pray for the churchwardens, ALMs and Worship Leaders as well as our Interim Priest in Charge, Wyn. New arrangements are being made - pray that they may be fruitful. Clergy: Wyn Beynon, Sue Humphries; Readers: Gerald Dyer, Andy Hewines, Alison Lewis

Fri 6 Churchill-in-Halfshire w Blakedown and Broome

Pray for our churchwardens, ALMs, Worship Leaders and Interim Priest in Charge, Wyn as we explore very new arrangements for the parishes over the next few years. It's not, "Will there be a Church?". Of course there will be a Church! It's just what that Church will look like in these places with different ministries to offer the communities in which they are set. Clergy: Wyn Beynon; Readers: Gerald Dyer, Andy Hewines, Alison Lewis

Sat 7 Growing as Kingdom People

As we begin the new year, help us all to look for ways in which we can demonstrate the difference that God's call has made on our own lives.

Plough Sunday

Plough Sunday takes place on the second Sunday of January and in the Worcestershire West Rural Team, this conveniently coincides with the monthly farmers' market providing an opportunity to take the service into the community. For a number of years now, some of the local congregation and farmers, along with a plough, have gathered in the market square outside the Talbot pub to thank God for his goodness and ask for his blessing on the ploughing - which nowadays takes place on most local farms twice a year.

The Revd Anne Potter says: "This year we hope to have Bishop John joining us as well as a group of Morris dancers. The service was instigated by the landlady of the Talbot in Knightwick, Jean Clift who married into a local farming family and was a member of Leigh PCC and the church choir for many years. The Plough Sunday service in the market is now an important tradition in our community."

O God our Father, giver of seedtime and harvest,  
bless all ploughs, tractors and tools, large and small, used in the work of our farms.  
May they be instruments of fruitfulness;  
may all who use them do so to your glory for their own and others' good,  
that your people may be fed. Amen

Mon 9 Schools in Redditch and Bromsgrove

Please pray for all the pupils, teachers, teaching assistants, and the support staff in our schools, that they will be refreshed by the Christmas holidays and ready to start a new year.

Tue 10 Primrose Hospice, Bromsgrove

We give thanks for the ministry of care offered at the local hospice in Bromsgrove and pray for its continued development despite the challenging financial environment.

Wed 11 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

We pray for EKM pastor Lydia Mirjam Fellmann, who was elected to the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches.

Thur 12 PCC and Deanery Synod members

Pray for all those who serve their church as members of the Parochial Church Council and give thanks for their important role in the mission of the Church. Also for Deanery Synod members who play a vital role in the governance of the Church.

Fri 13 Climate Crisis Task Group

We pray for the work of the Diocesan Climate Crisis Task Group, for chair Hugh Burton, and secretary Helen Whitwell. For the Diocese as it works towards achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2030 and all that our churches and communities doing to respond to the crisis.

Sat 14 Bishop's Council

Pray for all members of the Bishop's Council, particularly as they meet for their residential meeting at the start of next month. Pray that God will guide them in their discussions about the mission and ministry of our Church in Worcestershire and Dudley.



Redditch & Bromsgrove Deanery  
Secretary: Mark Wheatley  
Admin Support: Rose Humphrey

The Church of the Province  
of Myanmar (Burma):  
Archbishop Stephen Than  
Myint Oo

Osaka (Japan):  
Bishop Andrew Haruhisa Iso

Osun (Nigeria):  
Bishop James Afolabi Popoola

Osun North (Nigeria):  
Vacant

Osun North East (Nigeria):  
Bishop Abiodun T Olaoye

Ottawa (Canada):  
Bishop Shane Parker

Otukpo (Nigeria):  
Bishop David Bello



*Pray for all those  
who have been recipients  
of the Wulfstan Cross.*

*Pershore & Evesham Deanery  
Area Dean: Sarah Dangerfield  
Lay Chair: Robin Lunn*

*The Church of Nigeria  
(Anglican Communion):  
Archbishop Henry Ndukuba*

## St Wulfstan Cross

St Wulfstan's feast day is on 19 January and each year, the Cross of St Wulfstan is awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of the Church in our diocese. St. Wulfstan/Wulstan lived c. 1008 - 1095. He served as Bishop of Worcester under the last two Saxon kings and the first two Norman kings. After the Norman Conquest he was responsible for the dismantling of the old Saxon cathedral and the building of a new one, of which the crypt is the main part still surviving today. He was at once venerated as a saint by the people of Worcester, though he was not formally canonized until 1203. Alongside the tomb of St. Oswald, his shrine was a place of pilgrimage until the Reformation. Wulfstan found a special place in local people's affections. He took his pastoral duties very seriously, caring for the poor and preaching widely. He was famed for his healing and prophetic abilities. He even preached against the slave trade in Bristol, then part of his Diocese, and thankfully managed to end this practise for a long while.



### Mon 16 Pershore & Evesham Deanery

Pray for every community across the deanery - town, village or hamlet, that they are blessed to be welcoming, thriving and caring places to live and work. Pray for new housing developments, that community shall grow there. Pray for all who live their Christian faith, and for the presence of local church. Area Dean: Sarah Dangerfield, Lay Chair: Robin Lunn, all synod members and local churches.

### Tue 17 Bowbrook Group

Thank you for the villagers of Himbleton and Huddington and the congregations and volunteers who maintain an active, visible and caring ministry in these places. Pray also that the new combined parish will bring new ways of being Kingdom People in this area. For Himbleton First School, Head: Gemma Martin and all staff. For our clergy and lay ministries in our churches. Clergy: David Morris; Reader: Margaret Farquhar

### Wed 18 Economy & Daily Life

Pray for those whose work is outdoors during the coldest time of the year – refuse workers, those who work on our roads, in outdoor markets, agriculture, emergency services, construction and many more jobs. Pray for safety in dangerous situations.

### Thur 19 St Wulfstan's Day

Lord God, who raised up Wulfstan to be a bishop among your people and a leader of your Church: Help us, after his example, to live simply, to work diligently, and to make your kingdom known.

### Fri 20 Bowbrook Group

Please pray for our building work (ongoing and completed), that it will provide both our churches with the environment for wider community activities. Thank you for the retired clergy that offer their ministries and for our worship leaders. For all the staff at Hanbury First School, Head: Aaron McDonagh and the Open the Book team. Clergy: David Morris; Reader: Margaret Farquhar

### Sat 21 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all the leaders in our churches, both lay and ordained. Pray that they will feel supported in their role as they work to develop the discipleship of their congregations and welcome new Christians.

## Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place each year on 27 January and encourages remembrance in a world scarred by genocide. This year's theme will be 'Ordinary People'. Genocide is facilitated by ordinary people. Ordinary people turn a blind eye, believe propaganda, join murderous regimes. And those who are persecuted, oppressed and murdered in genocide aren't persecuted because of crimes they've committed – they are persecuted simply because they are ordinary people who belong to a particular group (eg, Roma, Jewish community, Tutsi). The theme will encourage people to consider how ordinary people, such as ourselves, can perhaps play a bigger part than we might imagine in challenging prejudice today. In previous years, the day has been marked in Worcester, with an event at the Guildhall and in Dudley at the Council Houses.



### Mon 23 Bowbrook Group

Give thanks for links with Crowle First School, Head Martina Abbot. For the Open the Book team, ALMs in training and that our newly completed building work will facilitate a new community space with outreach opportunities. Pray for Crowle Pre-School, our village shop and all the volunteers, and all those who work towards the upkeep of both our churches. Clergy: David Morris; Reader: Margaret Farquhar

### Tue 24 Bowbrook Group

As we plan extra facilities at Hadzor and Oddingley churches, pray that on completion they will be a blessing to all and enhance the church's mission. Pray for the growth of the "Open Sunday" service and our growing links with Tibberton First School together with the Open the Book team and Head Alex Gromski. Clergy: David Morris; Reader: Margaret Farquhar

### Wed 25 Diocese of Peru

The effects of the pandemic continue to have a serious legacy in Peru, especially in remote areas without adequate health care. Pray for all those who continue to suffer and for all who provide health care and social services in the country.

### Thur 26 The Flyfords Family

Pray for St. Peter, St John the Baptist, St Michael, and All Angels, role of their ministry, and mission as Kingdom People in their surrounding villages. Clergy: Emma Goldby; Reader: Delia Harding

### Fri 27 Stoulton w Drakes Broughton & Pirton

Pray for St Edmund, St Barnabas and St Peter's, ministry as Kingdom people, and missional plans. For St Barnabas CE school: New Head Elizabeth Whetham. For our churchwardens. Clergy: Emma Goldby; Reader: Mary Kenchington.

### Sat 28 Multi Academy Trusts

Pray for all the Multi-Academy Trusts currently supporting schools, in particular the two diocesan trusts - the Diocese of Worcester Multi Academy Trust (DoWMAT), CEO: Claire Davies and Elements Diocesan Learning Trust, interim CEO: Viv Cranton

*Pray for all those who have  
been impacted by genocide  
and for all of us as we find  
the courage to challenge  
prejudice where we find it  
in our world.*

*Pershore & Evesham Deanery  
Leadership Team:  
Alison Sandham, Jackie Knight &  
Jack Hegarty*

*The Church of North India (United):  
Archbishop Bijay Nayak*

*Pankshin (Nigeria):  
Bishop Olumuyiwa Ajayi*

*Panrieng (South Sudan):  
Bishop David Kiir Mayath*

*Panyana (South Sudan):  
Bishop Seme Nigo Abinda*

*Paraguay (South America):  
Vacant*

*Paraná (Curitiba) (Brazil):  
Archbishop Naudal Alves Gomes*

*Patheín (Myanmar):  
Vacant*

*M Owerri (Nigeria):  
Bishop Chukwuma Oparah*

*T Owo (Nigeria):  
Bishop Stephen Ayodeji Akinwale  
Fagbemi*

*W Oxford (England):  
Bishop Steven Croft*

*Th Oyo (Nigeria):  
Bishop Williams Oluwarotimi  
Aladekugbe*

*F Pacong (South Sudan):  
Bishop Joseph Maker Atot*

*S Panama (Central America):  
Archbishop Julio Murray Thompson*

M

T

W

Th

F

S

*Please pray for Ann and Guy  
as they take on this new role  
and for retired clergy and  
bereaved clergy partners  
throughout the Diocese.*

*Deans of Retired Clergy  
Ann Waizeneker & Guy Hewlett*

*The Church of Pakistan (United):  
Archbishop Azad Marshall*

## New Deans of Retired Clergy

Bishop John has appointed Ann Waizeneker and Guy Hewlett as new joint Deans of Retired Clergy. Ann and Guy (along with Associate Dean Fiona Rice) will support retired clergy and bereaved clergy partners currently living in the Diocese by being an initial point of contact and planning occasional events through the year. They take over from Chris Liley and Judith Oliver who both held the role for a number of years.



Ann Waizeneker has recently moved into the Diocese following her retirement from stipendiary ministry at the end of January 2022 after nearly 10 years as vicar of two churches in Shoreham by Sea, West Sussex. She was also Dean of Women's Ministry for Chichester Diocese from 2017 until her retirement.

Guy Hewlett will be well known in the Diocese having served here since 2013. Before his retirement he was Rector in the Gornal and Sedgley Team and he was also a Chaplain at Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust. He was ordained in 1996, initially serving in parishes in the Diocese of London.

## Mon 30 The Flyfords Family

Pray for St Bartholomew and St Eadburga, in their mission and role of ministry as Kingdom People in their surrounding villages. Clergy: Emma Goldby; Reader: Delia Harding.

## Tue 31 ARCH Benefice

At St Peter, Abbots Morton, pray for the engagement of the church with the community as it encourages spiritual resilience. At St Peter, Rous Lench pray for the next steps for the exciting church refurbishment project that it receives from support grant making bodies and the community. Clergy: Richard Thorniley, Chris Sheehan; Reader: Pippa Heenan

## Wed 1 FEBRUARY Diocese of Morogoro

We continue to pray for the work of Berega Hospital as it seeks to provide medical care and support for those living in the vast area which it serves. In particular we pray for those working to improve the supply of water to the hospital.

## Thur 2 ARCH Benefice

At All Saints, Church Lench pray for its plans for upcoming community engagements of Lent Lunches and Flower Festivals, St James, Harvington as it offers Community Support, holiday clubs, prepares for summer fun and prayer led mission. Clergy: Richard Thorniley, Chris Sheehan; Reader: Pippa Heenan

## Fri 3 St James, Norton

We give thanks for our partnership with All Saints, Worcester and pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we work together to refresh and reinvigorate our worship with new services at St James. Please pray for our mission initiative to areas of new housing at Broomhall. Children & Families worker Libberty Webber. Clergy: Mark Badger, Rachel Colthurst, Owain Bell, Don Sloggett; Readers: Ron Rust, Libby James, Kay Mason

## Sat 4 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all those suffering financially at this time and give thanks for those Christian charities locally who provide advice and support.

## Time to Talk Day

Time to Talk day was on 2 February and is the nation's biggest mental health conversation, creating space for conversations and helping people grow in confidence to talk about their mental health. One in four of us will experience a mental health problem in any given year.

We pray for all those all those living with and affected by mental illness; for their carers, family and friends. Pray for the supporters, volunteers and staff members working on this campaign; and for all people in our NHS and our communities who work to ensure people do not have to face mental illness alone. Pray also for the valuable work of our Diocesan Counselling Service and for the work of the Clergy Living Well Group.

Find out more at:

[www.timetotalkday.co.uk](http://www.timetotalkday.co.uk)



## Mon 6 Bowland Benefice

Please pray for our mission and discipleship outside our church buildings in our rural villages, that we can touch the lives of all in our community. For our lay leaders. Clergy: Claire Billington, Sarah Dangerfield, Emma Goldby.

## Tue 7 Bowland Benefice

Please pray for Upton Snodsbury First School, for teachers, pupils and governors. Pray for our PCCs in each village, for those who make our churches accessible places of peace for all.

## Wed 8 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

We pray for sisters and brothers from Ukraine, who have found a new home in the EKM.

## Thur 9 East Vale & Avon Villages

Pray for Cleeve Prior & the Littletons and for our Open the Book teams who bring the bible to life in our village schools. Pray for churchwardens and all those who have extra responsibilities during the vacancy. Clergy: vacant; Readers: Alan Bache, Joyce Bache, Sue Cole, Margaret Pye

## Fri 10 East Vale & Avon Villages

Pray for Badsey, Offenham and Bretforton and give thanks for our ministries to toddlers and parents. Please pray for our Messy Church sessions and for those who lead them. Also for churchwardens and all who have extra responsibilities during the vacancy. Clergy: vacant; Readers: Alan Bache, Joyce Bache, Sue Cole, Margaret Pye

## Sat 11 ASUM Group

In Evesham w Norton & Lenchwick pray for our foodbank team, struggling to meet increased demand, and for local families in crisis. For Dr Prajna Pal, in her year of discernment for ordination. For our Street Pastors and John Darby their co-ordinator. For our ALMs and churchwardens. Clergy: Andrew Spurr, Andy Green, Caroline Green, John Green, Peter Knight

*Jesus, our companion, when  
we are driven to despair,  
help us, through the friends  
and strangers we encounter  
on our path, to know you  
as our refuge, our way, our  
truth and our life.*

*Diocesan Counsellor - David Mair*

**Praying for our Baptism families:**  
Gracious God, parenting is tricky. Balancing tricky and fun things, may be more difficult than they could have imagined. Help parents to know that you are alongside them day by day, helping and supporting them through parenthood. Amen.

**The Anglican Church of Papua  
New Guinea:**  
Archbishop Nathan Ingen

**The Territory of the People** M  
(Canada): Vacant

**Perth (Australia):** T  
Bishop Kay Goldsworthy AO

**Peru (South America):** W  
Bishop Jorge Luis Aguilar

**Peshawar (Pakistan):** Th  
Bishop Azad Marshall

**Peterborough (England):** F  
Bishop Donald Spargo Allister

**Central Philippines (Philippines):** S  
Bishop Dixie Copanut Taclobao

**M** **Patna (North India):**  
Bishop Francis Hansda

**T** **São Paulo (Brazil):**  
Bishop Francisco Cezar Fernandes

**W** **Pelotas (Brazil):**  
Bishop Meriglei Borges Silva Simim

**Th** **Pennsylvania (USA):**  
Bishop Daniel Gutierrez

**F** **Central Pennsylvania (USA):**  
Bishop Audrey Scanlan

**S** **Northwestern Pennsylvania (USA):**  
Bishop Sean Rowe



Pershore & Evesham Deanery  
Area Dean: Sarah Dangerfield  
Lay Chair: Robin Lunn

The Episcopal Church in the  
Philippines:  
Archbishop Brent Alawas

## Racial Justice Sunday

Racial Justice Sunday is for all churches to reflect on the importance of racial justice, to give thanks for the gifts and beauty of human diversity, and to commit to end racism and acts of discrimination. Richard Reddie from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland says that this Sunday represents “a call for Christians to engage in the righteous struggle for racial justice because racial justice is everyone’s business”.

The gospel calls all Christians continually to confront the idolatry of racism and the evils in our world and to proclaim justice and mercy as we seek to walk with our God (Micah 6:8). Our worship unites us to Christ, transforms us in Word and Sacrament, and sends us out into the world to uphold the dignity of all in Christ. Racism and racial discrimination are issues of justice because they deny basic human dignity to men and women made in God’s image. Wherever and whenever we treat another “as lesser, or other, our theology fails to celebrate the dramatic nature of our transformation as people who find their primary identity in Christ. In Christ, our differences are not simply erased but rather embraced, valuing the unique ways we each reflect the image of God”

*Merciful God, you are righteous and love justice:  
stir the hearts of your people that, rejoicing in our diversity,  
we may repent of the wrongs of the past, and, by your grace, seek  
the peaceable kingdom of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen.*

### Mon 13 ASUM Group

It’s now been a year since the planting team arrived at St Peter’s Church in Bengeworth! Thank God for all that he has done and particularly for a growing youth and children’s ministry. Pray also for our cell groups as they get started and that we will begin to see people coming to faith through Alpha. Clergy: Andy Smith.

### Tue 14 ASUM Group

At Hampton with Sedgeberrow and Hinton, please pray for our ongoing work with our schools, children’s and community groups, for the vestry project at Hampton, our mission plan and outreach to local residents and for our worship leaders. Clergy: Mark Binney, Patrick Wooster; Readers: John Lynch, Elaine Major, Robin and Laura Hillman

### Wed 15 Economy & Daily Life

Pray for those who live alone, especially the elderly, in these dark days of winter. Pray for those who work as home carers, visiting people in their homes, and giving thanks for the human contact this brings. Pray for all Anna Chaplains based in local churches.

### Thur 16 Those who are ill

Bring your healing touch to all who are unwell, whether in body, mind and spirit, particularly remembering those who continue to suffer from Covid/Long Covid. Give thanks for all who look after the sick and the dying, bringing comfort to their friends and families.

### Fri 17 Fladbury, Hill & Moor, Wyre Piddle, Crophorne & Charlton

Pray for all who live, work and visit these villages. Pray for schools, local business, farms and community events. Give thanks for volunteers. Pray for our churches, their life and worship, and local presence. Clergy: Sarah Dangerfield; Reader: Sue Hiscocks

### Sat 18 Growing as Kingdom People

As we seek to transform our communities, pray that our eyes might be opened to issues that are particularly affecting our locality such as poverty, dementia or a lack of facilities for young people.

## Church Action on Poverty Sunday

Church Action on Poverty was founded in 1982, and its work and message has never been more relevant and important in our churches and community. That message is not only to support those living with poverty, but to give them a voice and campaign for systemic change that addresses why poverty is so endemic in our country.

‘Dignity, Agency, Power’ is the core of CAPs strategy that was adopted in its 40th anniversary year – campaigning that all may be afforded human dignity, given the agency to control their own lives, and the power to bring about social, political, and economic change. At the core of its work is listening to, and enabling, the voices of those who know about poverty because they experience it.

Your Local Pantry is one programme of CAP which seeks to achieve this. Pantries are food clubs, not food banks, run by the people who use them, hosted by churches, improving food access, creating new friendships and stronger communities. To find out more see:

[www.church-poverty.org.uk](http://www.church-poverty.org.uk) and [www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk](http://www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk)



*Pray for CAP and its work to challenge and change the roots of poverty in this country, with the power of the Gospel. Pray for those who live below the poverty line, who worry about making ends meet.*

Pershore & Evesham Deanery  
Leadership Team  
Alison Sandham, Jackie Knight & Jack Hegarty

Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda:  
Archbishop Laurent Mbanda

### Mon 20 Pershore w Pinvin, Wick and Birlingham

Please pray for Churches Together in Pershore and our ecumenical activities and events during Lent, including Pancake Lunch, Pray One for Me, Lent Lunches, Study Groups and Lent Appeal. For our Ministry Team, ALMs, our Ordinand – Jayne and all those with PTO. Clergy: Claire Lording, Alma Organ; Readers: David Bray, Angela Gerrard, Peter Stansbie, Joanna Williams

### Tue 21 Fladbury, Hill & Moor, Wyre Piddle, Crophorne & Charlton

Pray for all who live, work and visit our villages. Pray for local business, farms, care home and community events. Give thanks for volunteers. Pray for our churches, their life and worship, and local presence. Clergy: Sarah Dangerfield; Reader: Delia Harding.

### Wed 22 Ash Wednesday

Almighty God, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness.

### Thur 23 Broadway w Wickhamford

Please pray for the new drop-in foodbank started at the back of St Michael’s Church and the increase in numbers needing to use it. We continue to pray for the ongoing conversations regarding our benefice and Childswickham. We pray for our worship team and ALMs. Clergy: Michelle Ward, Jo Williamson

### Fri 24 Eckington

We give thanks and seek prayer for our work with Eckington First School, our Open the Book Team and for the growing Coffee Morning on Thursdays. May the Holy Spirit help us to find creative ways to share Christian love and build new connections between the church and wider community, especially through events such as The Open Garden Festival. For our churchwardens. Clergy: Allison Davies, Bishop Michael Hooper

### Sat 25 Those in care homes

Pray for all those who live in care homes across the Diocese and for their friends and family who visit. Pray also for those who work in care homes, that they may find God’s love and support in what is often a very challenging occupation.

M North Central Philippines  
(Philippines):  
Bishop Nestor D Poltic

T Northern Philippines (Philippines):  
Archbishop Brent Alawas, Bishop  
Miguel Yamoyam

W Southern Philippines (Philippines):  
Bishop Danilo Labacanacruz  
Bustamante

Th Phulbani (North India):  
Bishop Bijay Nayak

F Pittsburgh (USA):  
Bishop Ketlen Solak

S Polynesia (Polynesia):  
Vacant

Popondota (Papua New Guinea)M  
Bishop Lindsley Ihove

Portsmouth (England):  
Bishop Christopher Foster

Pretoria (Southern Africa):  
Bishop Allan John Kannemeyer

Puerto Rico (USA):  
Bishop Rafael Morales Maldonado

Pune (North India):  
Bishop Sharad Yuvraj Gaikwad

Pyay (Myanmar):  
Vacant



*Please pray for producers in low-income countries, our own efforts to promote fairtrade products, and for governments to continue to make international trade fairer for all.*



## Fair Trade Fortnight

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 21 February to 6 March and is run by the Fairtrade Foundation. We are all familiar with the Fairtrade mark, Fairtrade coffee, crafts and an increasing range of many other products. The Fairtrade Premium – the extra payment to producers that can fund all manner of local community initiatives, from clean water to education and employment opportunities – is a very real way that our consumption can make a material difference to poor producers on the other side of the world.

Being a Fairtrade Church and running a Fairtrade stall is one important step we can all take. But Fairtrade is also about the way our global economy works, making our markets accessible to producers from poorer nations. In early 2023 the UK government introduced the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) which seeks to lower or remove tariffs on a wider range of products from low-income countries, a step welcomed by the Fairtrade Foundation. The scheme also promotes best practices by linking membership of the scheme to compliance with international agreements on the environment and climate.

*The Scottish Episcopal Church:  
Archbishop Mark Strange*

**M** **Qu'Appelle (Canada):**  
Vacant

**T** **Quebec (Canada):**  
Bishop Bruce Myers

**W** **North Queensland (Australia):**  
Bishop Keith Joseph

**Th** **Raiwind (Pakistan):**  
Archbishop Azad Marshall

**F** **Rajasthan (North India):**  
Bishop Darbara Singh

**S** **Rayalaseema (South India):**  
Bishop B D Prasada Rao

### Mon 27 Bredon Hill w Bredon's Norton

Please pray for the church in Bredon. For clergy Allison Davies and Katryn Leclézio, for ALM Carol Miller and for all who contribute to creating meaningful worship for all.

### Tue 28 Members of the armed forces

Almighty God, stretch forth your mighty arm to strengthen and protect the armed forces. Give them courage as they face danger and help them to truly serve the cause of justice and peace.

### Wed 1 MARCH Diocese of Peru

Pray for all clergy and lay ministers in the Diocese of Peru and for all the work that they do, remembering especially how many struggle financially and have to work more than one job to support their families.

### Thur 2 HMP Long Lartin

Please pray for the Governor, Deputy Governor, Senior Management Team, inmates, and volunteers at HMP Long Lartin, just outside Evesham. Keep in your thoughts the interfaith Chaplaincy team and that they might share compassion and companionship throughout the prison.

### Fri 3 Those who are lonely

Pray for all of those who are struggling with life because they feel they are on their own. Pray that they will be surrounded with God's love and give them courage to reach out to others in their community.

### Sat 4 Growing as Kingdom People

In today's difficult world, we give thanks that You are there to bring light and hope. Help us to share the hope of our hearts with one another and enable us to give hope to others through Your work among us.

## Bishop John's Lent appeal 2023

Bishop John's Lent Appeal in 2023 will be for the Anglican Diocese of Peru.

As a country, Peru has had a very turbulent few years. It had one of the world's highest Covid mortality rates and has experienced considerable political unrest. Strict lockdowns and the financial implications have had a major impact on the Anglican Church. Paying stipends has been difficult, leading to many clergy having to have additional jobs. These pressures have naturally limited what can be done in terms of ministry and mission in poor areas experiencing multiple problems. Our support helps them in these difficult times.

Bishop John says: "Please do give generously to this year's Lent appeal. Things are difficult for many in our own country, but they are much worse in our partner diocese of Peru. 'Our support can help them greatly in difficult times.'"



### Mon 6 Overbury w Teddington Alstone and Little Washbourne w Beckford and Ashton-under-Hill

May the life and witness of Christians in the villages touch communities with love. May Open the Book set good foundations. May the many village activities which bring people together, in which Christians play a leadership role, nurture our life together. For Emma Ross, Head Teacher. Clergy: Katryn Leclézio,

### Tue 7 Elmley Castle and Bricklehampton w Combentons

We thank God for the life of a new house group. Pray for the plan for a Youth and Children's choir with the wider district, for Tony Mealings the choir leader. Pray for a new initiative in Messy Church (may go Wild). For our ALM and Nadia Underwood, Head Teacher. Clergy: Katryn Leclézio, Roger Spiller

### Wed 8 Diocese of Morogoro

Give thanks for the appointment of a full-time midwife to serve at the Tunguli Health Centre and pray for Nurdin as he begins his work of raising awareness of maternal and child health issues for the women living in the area. Also for the Trustees of Mission Morogoro who are supporting this vital project.

### Thur 9 Retired clergy in Pershore & Evesham Deanery

As the River Avon binds Pershore & Evesham Deanery with a shared identity, so in the family of the church we remember the ministry of the ordained now retired, upholding them in prayer of thanksgiving for the work God has done through them.

### Fri 10 Defford cum Besford

We pray for our churchwardens, and that the church will continue to be seen as a place of welcome and worship for families seeking weddings, baptisms and funerals; May the connection between Defford First School and the church flourish and enable greater engagement opportunities with families in the community. Clergy: Allison Davies

### Sat 11 Ordinands in training

Pray for all those who are currently in training for ordination from our diocese.

*Pray for all in the Diocese of Peru, for Bishop Jorge and the clergy who are ministering in very difficult circumstances.*

*Bishop Jorge Luis Aguilar*

*Praying for our Baptism families:  
Lord Jesus, we pray that you will provide families with all the support and fellowship required to make life an exciting and purposeful adventure. Amen.*

*Church of the Province of South East Asia:  
Archbishop Melter Jiki Tais*

**Recife (Brazil):** **M**  
Bishop João Cancio Peixoto

**Rejaf (South Sudan):** **T**  
Bishop Edward Tombe

**Remo (Nigeria):** **W**  
Bishop Michael Fape

**Renk (South Sudan):** **Th**  
Vacant

**Rhode Island (USA):** **F**  
Bishop Nicholas Knisely

**Rift Valley (Tanzania):** **S**  
Bishop John Daudi Lupaa

*Please pray for all our Mission Accompaniers and those parishes with which they are working. Pray that more Accompaniers and parishes will join in with this opportunity.*

*Diocesan Leader for Transformation and Change - Nikki Groarke*

*The Church of South India (United): Archbishop Dharmaraj Rasalam*

## Mission Accompaniers

All parishes have the opportunity to receive support in the form of a Mission Accompanier, who work alongside a small group in the parish, church or benefice to help understand and work towards what health and sustainability might look like in that context, setting or tradition.

Mission Accompanier Philippa Lowe has been working with St Augustine of Hippo in Holly Hall, Dudley. She said:

"Being a Mission Accompanier is an uplifting and fascinating experience. The people I'm working with love their church, their community and God and really want to make that apparent to others. They have put together a health and sustainability plan and I've been walking alongside them as they work through it, adding to it as we go. Our first event was the Heritage Open Weekend where the registers were available for people to view, and refreshments provided. Over 90 people visited and it was a very happy occasion. Some people even came back to church as a result! I'm also encouraging the Augustine's Biscuit Club (ABC!) which we plan to develop into a Place of Welcome for the local community."



## Mon 13 Churches Together in Evesham

Pray for all the different denominations working together in Evesham to best serve their community.

## Tue 14 Schools in Pershore and Evesham

Please pray for all the pupils, teachers, teaching assistants, and the support staff in our schools, that they will enjoy the upcoming Easter break.

## Wed 15 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

Please pray for the forthcoming visit of Diocese of Worcester curates to the EKM in Germany, that it will be an opportunity to learn from each other and further our partnership links.

## Thur 16 Pershore and Evesham Community Hospitals

Pray for all patients, and those who rely on our services. For the nursing teams, medical teams and support staff. Remember especially Stroke Support Services and our Chaplaincy Team of Revd Andy Green and Tracey Vickery (Soul Midwife)

## Fri 17 Mucknell Abbey

Please pray for the Anglican Benedictine Community at Mucknell Abbey and especially for Abbot Thomas.

## Sat 18 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray that we may each find ways to play our part in the journey towards healthier and more sustainable churches and that the values of love, compassion, justice and freedom will continue to underpin our lives together.

## Mothering Sunday at St Wulstan's Church

St Wulstan's Church in Worcester celebrates sixty years in 2023. The church has its roots in local mothers wanting a church at the heart of the Warndon estate, and getting people motivated to turn their vision into reality.

Vicar Sarah Northall says: "For Mothering Sunday in our Diamond Jubilee year, we are celebrating motherhood in all its forms, and will open up for an archive weekend, with an extensive gallery of photographs of the families who have been part of St Wulstan's Church throughout the years. We also planning to have a photograph booth for new memories to be made! We are inviting everyone who comes to visit to bring a can as a simple symbol of gratitude for the anniversary. We will make an art installation of all of these cans in the shape of a diamond, before donating them to food bank projects serving local families."



## Mon 20 Inkberrow, Cookhill, Kington w Dormston

Please pray for our four churches as we continue in a period of vacancy that the Holy Spirit guides us with all wisdom during the discernment process. Give thanks for our growing bonds as we share worship together, and for those who minister to us. Clergy: Richard Thorniley, Diane Hayward-Wright, Readers: Janice Swan, Hilary Lloyd

## Tue 21 Parish and Deanery Treasurers

Please pray for all those who look after the finances of their parish or deanery. We give thanks for their knowledge and skills and that they feel called to share the love of Jesus in this way.

## Wed 22 Economy & Daily Life

On the 3rd anniversary of the first Covid lockdown pray for all those who mourn for someone who died during the pandemic, those still suffering from long Covid and for businesses and workers still paying the price of its economic impact.

## Thur 23 Everyday Faith

Pray for all those who are living out their Christian calling in our world, particularly those who work in our public services.

## Fri 24 Chaplains to the Fire Service / Police

Pray for all who work in the Fire & Rescue Services, the Ambulance Service and the Police, for safety and resilience, especially with continuing high demand. Pray also for their chaplains as they reflect God's love and care for all officers and staff. Joint Lead Chaplain: Dick Johnson. Chaplains: Stuart Sandys, Sue Williams, Paul Lawlor, Tim Williams, Mike Wilkinson, Keith Locke, Jem Treherm, Ahmed Hans, Vanetta Griffiths

## Sat 25 Annunciation of the Virgin Mary

Almighty God, so fill us with your grace, that we in all things may accept your holy will and with the Virgin Mary, full of grace, rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Please pray for all at St Wulstan's Church over this jubilee weekend and for all those who play a mothering role in the lives of others. Pray also for those for whom Mothering Sunday is a particularly difficult day.*

*St Wulstan's Church, Worcester – Revd Sarah Northall*

*The Anglican Church of Southern Africa: Archbishop Thabo Makgoba*

*Rokon (South Sudan): Bishop Emmanuel Lomoro Eluzai*

*Rorya (Tanzania): Bishop John Adiema*

*Ruaha (Tanzania): Bishop Joseph Mgomini*

*Ziwa (Lake) Rukwa (Tanzania): Bishop Mathayo Kasagara*

*Rumbek (South Sudan): Bishop Alapayo Manyang Kuctiel*

*Rumonge (Burundi): Bishop Pedaculi Birakengana*





THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER



If you have a story to feature on a Sunday in a future diary, please do get in touch! Large print copies of the diary are always available – email Sam Setchell, Communications Officer on [ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk), or contact the Diocesan Office reception on **01905 20537** if you or someone you know would like one.

