PRAYER DIARY
JANUARY – APRIL 2022
When I was regularly involved in youth work (which I used to do a lot), I remember using an approach to prayer known as the ‘string ball prayer’. This involves everyone standing in a large circle and throwing a ball of string across the circle (holding on to one end). As someone caught the ball, so they said a brief prayer before throwing it on. By the time the ball of string was unravelled, everyone was connected by a mess of overlapping string lines.

I keep this image in mind as I pray for the diocese. Even as I pray for you, so I know that many of you are praying for me and for one another. We are a ‘holy mess’ of interweaving connections, held together by the Holy Spirit. Prayer not only connects us to God, but also to one another.

As work on the Shaped By God Together process continues across the diocese, I hope and pray that this ‘holy mess’ of connections will grow stronger and stronger. Exploring how churches can work together more closely starts in prayer - who is God asking us to work with? How might God be calling us to work together? How can these connections help grow the kingdom of God?

Please be assured of my continued prayers of thanks for your ministry.

+ Martyn Leaver
WELCOME

Welcome to the new year edition of the diocesan calendar of prayer, which you will notice now includes 4 months content at a time. This prayer diary takes us through Epiphany, Candlemas, Lent and the wonderful celebration of Easter!

If you know of anyone else who would like to receive a paper copy of this publication, then please contact James Pickersgill, the Bishop’s Chaplain as below. It can also be downloaded from www.leicester.anglican.org/everyday-faith/calendar-or-prayer/

Every day we pray for Bishops and our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world using the Anglican Cycle of Prayer and the Porvoo prayer calendar (www.porvoochurches.org) – these are included in italics at the bottom of each day. You will also find one of our own partner dioceses featured throughout. The Anglican Communion have changed their practice and now only include the name of the diocese, asking us to pray for the people, clergy and Bishops of the named dioceses. The names of Diocesan Bishops in Great Britain have been added.

The key to the parish entries is as follows:
- C = Clergy
- R = Reader
- PA = Pastoral Assistant
- Pio = Pioneer Minister
- AM = Associate Minister
- Evng = Evangelist
- PTO = Permission to Officiate

Do let the Bishop’s Chaplain know if you’ve got a story to feature on a Sunday in a future edition – with as much notice as possible please! Email bishops.chaplain@leicestercofe.org or phone 0116 270 3390 or send it c/o Bishop’s Lodge, 12 Springfield Road, Leicester, LE2 3BD

We are very grateful to Revd Canon Brian Davis for his work on gathering parish prayer Requests, to Peter Collett for his on-going assistance, to Beth Cleur for much of the imagery and to all our contributors in this edition.

Particular thank you to Alison Myers, Warden at Launde Abbey, for providing the reflections and photographs which we have included for Holy & Easter Week.

https://hcddvicar.wordpress.com
At the Feast of the Epiphany at the beginning of this new year, the community of Leicester Cathedral, in the footsteps of the Magi, are thinking about how we lay down the treasures we value before Christ. After our services on January 2nd, we are closing the building to public visitors, worshippers, and staff for at least 18 months. We are, in a sense, laying it down, together with all the memories and prayers it holds, and entrusting it and ourselves to Christ afresh. In practical terms it is being handed over to the Messenger Group who are contracted to renew the building and build its new Chapter House and Visitor Centre.

The Leicester Cathedral Revealed project has been long in the planning and fundraising, and we are deeply grateful for God’s provision and care, together with the support for our aspirations from across the Diocese.

We talk about this phase of Cathedral life as Exodus as we leave our building and travel together in community. We expect to be in this liminal space of dislocation for 18 months to 2 years. We know the Hebrew people reconnected with God, and recovered their identity in their in-between time and we pray that will also be our experience. How are we ‘cathedral’ without the building?

As we reflect on God’s provision of manna and quails we wonder what new ‘food’ and spiritual nourishment we will taste and learn to share during this period. We are wondering which objects (like the Ark) we will carry with us that speak of God’s presence for us. We are thinking about the treasures we carry, and the living stones that we are. And we are entrusting ourselves to God’s leading – which may feel as opaque as a cloud (by day) or as wild as a fire (in the darkness).

We are especially excited to have received many generous invitations to share acts of worship ‘Together With’ parishes on Sunday afternoons and look forward to being out and about and learning more about trust in times of disruption and faithfulness through challenges, with the people of this Diocese.

Karen Rooms, Canon Missioner

Please pray:
• For health and safety for all working on the cathedral site in the coming months
• For our continuing worship (at St Nicholas midweek and The Grand Hall on Sunday mornings)
• For the Together With project visiting in parishes and the blessing of relationships with church communities across the Diocese.
• For faithfulness and resourcefulness as we experience the disorientation of the next few months.

Karen Rooms, Canon Missioner

The Anglican Church in The Congo
"We must now keep up the moral pressure so that pledges are urgently turned into measurable action"  
Bishops respond to COP26

Graham Usher, the Bishop of Norwich and the Church of England’s lead bishop for the environment, and Olivia Graham, the Bishop of Reading, have spoken at the conclusion of COP.

In a statement they said: “At COP we called for keeping global warming to below 1.5 degrees, ending fossil fuel subsidies, and securing finance for the world’s most vulnerable people who are already affected by climate breakdown.

“Progress was made in all these areas, plus cutting methane emissions and halting deforestation. We were particularly inspired to hear powerful testimonies from young people and representatives of indigenous peoples.

“COP showed us the unity of purpose people of faith can bring. This encouragement should reignite in all of us hope for our future.”

Loving God, we praise your name with all you have created.

You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures.

We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation. May the Holy Spirit continually inspire us all as we seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.

Instil in us the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, as we all re-commit to care for Our Common Home.

We ask all this through Our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

The whole world needs to do more for climate justice. More quickly. More generously. More together. During its presidency year, the UK can be a key player.

“And this includes all of us within the Church of England.

“At Glasgow, the world glimpsed the possibility of a hopeful future. Hurting God’s creation and contributing to the suffering of God’s poorest people is not the ‘love God and your neighbour’ that Jesus commands of us.

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Post-Christmas Debt

Mid-January can be a dreaded time for folk, when the Christmas spending begins to bite as the credit card and other bills roll in. December’s wages must stretch a long way, and, while many people work hard up to Christmas, for some a huge lull follows resulting in a lack of income. Many people have little or no savings buffer.

It is said that over 1/3 of people will have used credit to cover the cost of Christmas. Some will be paying the debt off not in 2022 but through into 2023. With another Christmas in between.

So please pray not only for households who are struggling with debt at this time, but also for all the organisations who work to support and advise people in debt. In particular, let’s hold in prayer those based in local communities, often centred around churches or groups of churches or local hubs, and run by local people for the benefit of the community. As well as CAP (Christians Against Poverty), the national charity, Community Money Advice, is a network of such organisations offering free advice, of which the following are members:

- Melton and District Money Advice Centre
- Money Matters in Leicester
- Soar Valley CMA in Rothley
- Community Money Advice Zynthia Trust in Leicester
- Trinity Money Advice in Leicester
- Hope 67 in Coalville

While we may wish that no-one should find themselves trapped in unsustainable debt, let us also pray for increased energy and commitment around expanding local provision of money and budgeting advice more generally, so that help may be found where it is needed.

Alison Adams
Canon Pastor & Sub Dean at Leicester Cathedral

The pressure on organisations offering trustworthy debt advice is huge. There is really not enough capacity to give proper attention to everyone needing advice, if they were all to seek it. Let alone advice on money management more generally, in order to avoid personal crisis. But there are many good and dedicated people out there, in accredited agencies like CAB, working hard alongside those with debt issues, both face to face and online.

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The knock on effect is that other bills are not paid, that more people may live without heating and may go hungry. Anxiety can drive up tensions within families, and the mental health toll rises. We live in uncertain times and the gloom and cold of winter don’t help.

The pressure to spend is heavy, especially when Christmas and children are involved. The stakes feel high and the goods are attractive. Now is not the moment, though, for asking the question ‘why’ so much as considering how best people in these situations may be helped.

The pressure to spend is heavy, especially when Christmas and children are involved. The stakes feel high and the goods are attractive. Now is not the moment, though, for asking the question ‘why’ so much as considering how best people in these situations may be helped.
Over the next few months our churches and fresh expressions are being encouraged to think about their own particular gifts and sense of vision, their passions, strengths, and areas where they may benefit from additional help as part of prayerfully discerning God’s future for them.

Pray for the churches, fresh expressions and other Christian communities of our parishes as they seek to discern both what they can offer to a future Minster Community, where they might benefit from others within such a community and as they seek to discern where God is at work in their communities already, and celebrate signs of the Kingdom.

Bishop Martyn is 100% committed to ensuring that there is a Christian presence in every town and village of Leicester and Leicestershire and that we continue to have both priests and lay ministers working together.

The Diocese of Leicester website has more information concerning Minster Communities including an updated Frequently Asked Questions sheet and liturgy & prayer resources available.

**Diocese of Leicester**

**Shaped by God**

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**SUNDAY 23 JANUARY EPIPHANY 3**

**MON 24 JAN** Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. Kafanchan (Nigeria)

**TUES 25 JAN** The Conversion of Paul & Consecration Service

Pray for Saju Muthalaly, Bishop elect of Loughborough, and Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, Bishop elect of Willesden, as they are Consecrated today.

Almighty God, who caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world through the preaching of your servant Saint Paul: grant that we who celebrate his wonderful conversion may follow him in bearing witness to your truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. Kagera (Tanzania)

**WED 26 JAN** College of Bishops

Pray for the College of Bishops meeting today. Kajiado (Kenya)

**THURS 27 JAN** Holocaust Memorial Day

Lord God and Father, we remember before you all those who bear the inner and outer scars of the Holocaust and of subsequent acts of genocide. Let them not be overwhelmed by the horrors that engulfed them. Be close to them. Help them to see that you suffer with those who suffer, and that no wickedness can ever extinguish your infinite love. Restrain those who are filled with hatred and use violence to pursue their ends. Change their hearts. May remembrance make us alert to the reality of evil and its deceptive allure. Help us to recognise our own capacity for evil and allow your Spirit to purge it from our beings. Help us also to stand up against evil and oppression, even if that means we have to suffer ourselves. Enable us to defend those who are not strong enough to defend themselves, and to be ready to bring the light of your truth into the dark areas of human experience. Deepen our respect for everything you have made, and help us to share in securing the maximum good of every person who is alive in your world. We ask this in the Name of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for our sins, carries our sorrows, heals our wounds, and is risen for our freedom. Amen. From a prayer from Philip Hall (Holocaust Memorial Day Trust) Kajo-Keji (South Sudan)

**FRI 28 JAN** Wyggestons

*Tony Leighton (Master)*

We are thankful for the completion of a successful (if delayed) building project. Please pray that the residents of our new accommodation (six cottages and eight flats) will settle in well and become part of our community. Kamengo (Uganda)

**SAT 29 JAN** Leicester, St Anne, St Paul & St Augustine

*Liz Wilson, Sharon Andrews (C) Jan Gough (Deaconess – PTO), Margaret Gillespie (R-PTO)*

We give thanks for the relationships with schools that have been sustained over the pandemic and for the mixture of online assemblies and in person visits that we are enjoying. We pray for Rev’d Sharon as she begins a new Healing Pioneer Ministry amongst us. Kampala (Uganda)
**A PRAYER FOR SHAPED BY GOD TOGETHER**

Eternal God,
You call your people to fullness of life in you and promise to be with us in all the changing scenes of life:
may we be shaped by you in our lives and communities to refresh the Church, transform the world, and build the kingdom, as with thanksgiving for the past, we step out in hope and trust into your future; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

**MON 31 JAN** Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.
Kano (Nigeria)

**TUES 1 FEB** Roman Catholic and Church of England Bishops

Pray for bishops meeting together over the next two days.
Kansas (USA)

**WED 2 FEB** The Presentation of Christ in the Temple / Candlemas

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.
Western Kansas (USA)

**THURS 3 FEB** The Abbey, Leicester

*In Vacancy, Margaret Gillespie (R -PTO)*

Pray for the parish now in an interregnum, and all taking on extra responsibilities. We give thanks for the completed tower repairs.
Also pray for us as we rebuild our links with local schools following COVID restrictions.
Kanyakumari (South India)

**FRI 4 FEB** Holy Spirit, Leicester (St Andrew)

*Johannes Arens (C), Herbert Fadriqueula (Anglican Chaplain to the Filipino Community), Donald Sherriff (R)*

We give thanks for our renewed connection with the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and for our cell group, acting as the pastoral team.
Pray as we face financial challenges and our need to grow even more rapidly.
Kapoeta (South Sudan)

**SAT 5 FEB** Welcome service for the Bishop of Loughborough

Pray for Bishop Saju to be welcomed today in a special service. Pray for him as he begins his ministry within the diocese and also for his family as they settle into their new life here among us.
Kapsabet (Kenya)
The Bishop of Loughborough

Please pray for Rt Revd Saju Muthalaly, Bishop of Loughborough, as he begins his ministry here and his family as they settle into a new life in Leicestershire following their move from Kent.

When his appointment was announced by Downing Street Saju said:
"God’s extravagant grace in Jesus Christ is a gift available to every person in Leicestershire. Core to my understanding is that God creates room for everyone, has a heart for all nations and his table is a gathering place for all people whether in a tiny rural church or a busy urban one."

Pray for his work which, alongside the normal duties of a bishop, include oversight responsibilities for:

- Our development of ‘new communities’ (church plants and fresh expressions of Church)
- Our vocations and training work

Bishop Martyn said:
"We are delighted that Saju is coming to join us in the Diocese of Leicester where we cherish the wide diversity of our worshipping communities and are looking to strengthen parishes and help them do more with their local schools. We look forward to the energy and enthusiasm Saju brings, knowing that he will be a Bishop who is first and foremost a disciple committed to listening and learning as he joins us in our vision of seeking the Kingdom of God."

Prayers were said by people of all ages representing many areas of the life of the diocese at Brooksby parish church St Michael and All Angels on announcement day. L-R: Parish priest Revd David Harknett; Chair of House of Clergy Revd Wendy Dalrymple; Bishop-elect of Loughborough Revd Saju Muthalaly with his wife Katy and children; and Rt Revd Martyn Snow Bishop of Leicester.

The Church of Ireland

MON 7 FEB General Synod Meeting

Pray for General Synod as they meet this week.
Karachi (Pakistan)

TUES 8 FEB Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.
Karamoja (Uganda)

WED 9 FEB Aylestone St Andrew with St James

Rowena Bass (C), Barbara Paget (R), Brenda Spencer (R-PTO)

We thank God for the new families joining us, for our schools and care homes, shops and businesses. For the richness of God’s presence in our worship and community, and the steadfastness of so many in their journey with Jesus.
North Karamoja (Uganda)

THURS 10 FEB St Christopher, Leicester

Chris Collins (C), Charles Ndigirwa (C), Elaine Smith (Evng)

Samworth Enterprise Academy

Give thanks for a wonderful Bishop’s Big Weekend in November, and the growth of our Little Angels toddler group since reopening.
Please pray that God will work in the local people we have contact with, and that we will see opportunities.
Karimnagar (South India)

FRI 11 FEB St Hugh, Eyres Monsell and St James the Greater, Huncote

Andrew Lee (C)

Please pray for our congregation to deeply understand missions and evangelism, obey Jesus, and increase the number of parishioners by 10%.
Karnataka Central (South India)

SAT 12 FEB Holy Apostles, Leicester

Jenny Ridge (C), Tony Leighton (C), Kate Szejnmann (C), Ian Newcombe (R), Denis Walsh (R), Ashley Prince (PA), Sylvia Herbert (PA-PTO)

Give thanks to God for sustaining and providing for us throughout the pandemic. Pray for us as we seek creative ways to reach out into the community, especially our links with children and schools and the new café initiative.
Karnataka North (South India)
In Old Testament tradition, prophets were sent to the Hebrew people to cry out for justice and mercy. Today, voices of prophets are crying out for racial justice and equity in society and in the Church. Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and other expressions of racial injustice are as prevalent today in the Church as they are in areas such as employment, education, housing, policing, the judiciary, governmental policies, etc., creating a host of marginalized and minoritized communities.

Racial Justice Sunday is an invitation for Christians everywhere to heed prophets’ cries to lament and repent of our collusion with a way of life that erodes our shared humanity and disfigures God’s image in each of us. It is also an invitation, better still, a demand for us to attend to the task of reparative and retributive work that may lead to reconciliation.

As we pray, we may particularly keep in mind the following items:

- Diocese: DFEMA as they monitor the delivery of the Diocesan Racial Equity Strategy
- CoFE: The work of the Racial Justice Commission
- Anglican Communion: That Lambeth conference may engender greater reconciliation
- UK/wider society: Greater commitment for Racial Justice and Equity in all sectors

Three things you can do individually or as a church:

- Educate yourself on Racial Justice issues (books, blogs, podcasts, friends…)
- Show support by promoting or giving to an organisation supporting issues of Racial Justice
- Get involved and take action by challenging any racial injustice you encounter around you

Love incarnate,
Fountain of Mercy and Justice
In a world of inequity and pain
May our actions be our prayer.
We cry out for Shalom, fullness of life to all.
Let the Spirit of Truth guide us.
Let the Spirit of Love free us.
Give us the compassion, courage and resolve to become the light, we seek that many may see life and their dignity restored
Inspire us to embody a world without injustice and prejudice
Form us into channels of your love and peace
Let the river of justice and mercy flood our imperfect world
Quenching the thirst of parched souls and lands.
Abide in us, O Liberator, that we become the Word so that the world may have Life, Life in all its abundance.
Amen.

Taken from the book Christian Aid book ‘Rage & Hope: 75 Prayers for a Better World’, Edited by Chine McDonald.

Additional prayers and reflections can be sourced from the following link: file:///C:/Users/Lusa/Downloads/Prayers_and_Reflections_on_Racial_Justice%20(1).pdf

Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy, BAME Mission & Ministry Enabler, Diocese of Leicester
Church Action on Poverty

The pandemic has exposed existing inequalities in society. While there is national talk about ‘building back better’, we’ve seen tangible increases in poverty, food and fuel insecurity, digital exclusion and debt. In-work poverty has become far more evident, and increases in wages have not kept pace with the cost of living. The wealth gap, the distribution of wealth, and stark regional variations all form part of the map of inequality which is our country today.

The reasons and causes are complex, but include patterns of and opportunities for employment, and, with this, transport networks. We see the effects not only nationally, but locally. Maps of deprivation covering our City and County expose urban poverty, but often miss the nuances of pockets of rural poverty, and post-industrial communities trying to redefine themselves.

The current squeeze on household finances, due to increased heating, food, petrol and other costs, has pushed more families into rent or mortgage arrears and debt. Some are losing their homes as a result, while others cannot afford a home in the first place. House building, while providing more accommodation overall, will not, of itself, solve this.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation, in its own words ‘an independent social change organisation working to solve UK poverty’ and Church Action on Poverty (not to be confused with CAP – Christians against Poverty) are good places to learn more about these issues, and read peoples’ stories, to enable us to understand our calling. Christ challenges us to live out Gospel values of compassion and justice. What are we called to say and do in our time and in this place?

So let us pray for those organisations, in their mission to raise public awareness and mobilise energies across different sections of society to effect good change. Pray for good governance, local and national, which tackles endemic and structural causes. Pray that we, the Church, may speak and act for good into that arena, and play our part in a coming together for a common purpose, namely to loosen the grip poverty holds on peoples’ lives.

Above all, may we pray for those we know to be in poverty, and for those local groups—foodbanks, lunch clubs, community shops, advice centres, community hubs..... and many others which do so much to help people keep their lives going.

Alison Adams
Canon Pastor & Sub Dean at Leicester Cathedral

The Anglican Church of Kenya

MON 21 FEB  Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.
Kentucky (USA)

TUES 22 FEB  The Conventional District of Hamilton, Leicester

Ed Down (C), Ailsa Hunt (Ordinand)
Hamilton CE Primary School

Pray as we continue to embed our new vision to be ‘All ages, all cultures, living together in Jesus’. Pray we would be centred on Jesus, offer a generous welcome, be sent out into our community, and serve Hamilton well.
Mount Kenya Central (Kenya)

WED 23 FEB  City of Leicester Deanery

Area Dean: Anthony Lees-Smith, Assistant Area Deans: Adrian Jones, Liz Wilson
Lay Chair: Les Mitchelmore

Give thanks for the life and witness of all the city churches. Pray for those continuing to meet the needs of communities worst affected by the pandemic and lockdown. Pray too for new colleagues who have recently moved into the city.
Isialo-Ngwa South (Nigeria)

THURS 24 FEB  Bishop’s Retreat Day

Pray for all those on the Bishop’s Retreat Day at Launde Abbey
Mount Kenya West (Kenya)

FRI 25 FEB  Roots IWC

Kat Gibson (Pio), Vee Pinto (Pio)

We give thanks for the wide-ranging opportunities God has given us this year. Please pray for the various streams of Roots outreach, and the discipleship journey within our fortnightly sessions. Pray for all involved to know God’s immense love.
East Kerala (South India)

SAT 26 FEB  Diocesan Synod & The Community of the Tree of Life

Please pray for our Diocesan new monastic community and house of prayer. Pray for the Prior, Revd Rachel Bennetts, and for all who lead and sustain the community. Pray for the third cohort of resident members who joined the community in September.
South Kerala (South India)
World Day of Social Justice

Fairtrade was probably the first to encourage people to think about what they buy and ask who makes or grows it and how they are treated. Then more questions were asked, how is it made, is it sustainable, how did it travel to get on the shop shelf, what's it made out of and how is it packaged. All these questions, it can feel overwhelming and you can wonder if its even worth trying to do the right thing, whatever the right thing might be!

So can I suggest a few simple pointers for a more fair trade, ethical and sustainable way to shop:

Gifts should be joy givers

Let's not fall into the trap of the novelty purchase that is quickly discarded. Consider William Morris' golden rule;

’Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful.’

Buy products with a story

Shops supporting skilled artisans will know where their products come from and who made them. In our case it might be fair trade jewellery makers in Peru and Ecuador, in another shop a silversmith in Harborough. Not only is this kind of purchase more likely to benefit the maker, the person that needs the money the most, but makes the gift more individual and special.

Look for Recycled and Up-cycled options

There are so many beautiful things you can buy that have already had a life. Recycled plastic bottles are being made into soft rugs, cushions and throws, and strong waterproof backpacks! Newspaper is skilfully woven into pencil pots and photo frames. Aluminium is remade and enamelled creating beautiful colourful bowls and coasters.

Buy from independents where possible.

Spend with independents (that includes online!) and the money stays local; for every £1 spent, 63p stays in the local community, compared to 40p with larger businesses, or just 5p for online shopping!

This year our neighbours tried to sell their house. Over a six week period, they would ask regularly if they could store lots of things in our garage so prospective buyers would have the appearance of an uncluttered house. Often we try to hide away from others and from God all the things within our lives which we’d rather others do not see. As we begin Lent this year, let’s offer our true selves to Jesus, asking him to help us give up those things which hinder us and asking what we may take up to draw closer to God and to serve those around us more faithfully.

Remember you have power to do good with every purchase choice, during this next Fair Trade fortnight and beyond!


All those being confirmed this evening at St Catherine’s, Houghton-on-the-Hill.

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “One does not live by bread alone.”’

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, ‘To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.”’

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”’

Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”’ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

For prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent:

- Thank God for Jesus’s example of total reliance on God and his word, even in times of testing, and being open to being guided by the Spirit.
- Which areas of our lives may Jesus be calling us to surrender or challenging us to not take the easy option?
- Pray especially for those who are in a place of wilderness or those facing specific areas of temptation.

County Service

Pray for all attending the County Service, today and for all who lead our county and city.

The Anglican Church of Korea
**SUNDAY 13 MARCH LENT 2**

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**MON 14 MARCH Diocese of Kiteto**

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Kindu (Congo)

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**TUES 15 MARCH St Peter, Braunstone Park**

In Vacancy. Nigel Rooms (C), Linda Snutch (PA)

We give thanks for those who are helping to maintain the life of the church through the vacancy; we pray that a suitable priest will be found for this benefice; for a willingness to consider new ways of being church today.

Kinkiizi (Uganda)

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**WEDS 16 MARCH The Vale of Belvoir Parishes of Barkestone-le-Vale, Bottesford, Muston, Plungar, & Redmile**

Pray for all attending the meeting of Bishop’s Council over the next two days.

Kirinyaga (Kenya)

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**THURS 17 MARCH Bishop’s Council Residential**

Pray for all attending the meeting of Bishop’s Council as they continue to meet.

Kisangani (Congo)

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**FRI 18 MARCH Bishop’s Council Residential**

Pray for all attending the meeting of Bishop’s Council as they continue to meet.

Kita-Kanto (Japan)

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**SAT 19 MARCH Joseph of Nazareth**

God our Father, who from the family of your servant David raised up Joseph the carpenter to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary: give us grace to follow him in faithful obedience to your commandments, through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Kita-Kanto (Japan)

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At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, ‘Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.’ He said to them, ‘Go and tell that fox for me, “Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem.” Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

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_For prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent:_

- Give thanks that God desires to gather us as a hen gathers her brood under her wings.
- How can we enter more deeply into Jesus’s stories and which voices may we need to block out in order to do this?
- Pray for all Christians that we may be good news as we go in the name of the Lord to others.

The Anglican Church of Melanesia
**SUNDAY 20 MARCH  LENT 3**

**Luke 13:1-9**  **Repent or Perish**

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

**The Parable of the Barren Fig Tree**

Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.”

**MON 21 MARCH  Diocese of Trichy**

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Kitale (Kenya)

**TUES 22 MARCH  World Water Day**

God of life, God of all those who walk miles for water, God of those whose only supply is contaminated, bringing death, not life. May water, clean and life giving, be available to every living creature. May that vision move forward. May your will be done. Amen.

Kiteto (Tanzania)

**WED 23 MARCH  Stocking Farm and Beaumont Leys**

Robert Hinsley (C), Liz Smith (PA)

We continue to give thanks for the work of the Food Bank at Christ the King, for Katie and her team. We pray for wisdom as we discern our priorities for mission and outreach as a parish.

Kitgum (Uganda)

**THURS 24 MARCH  House of Bishops Meeting**

Pray for the House of Bishops meeting today.

Kitui (Kenya)

**FRI 25 MARCH  The Annunciation of our Lord to the blessed Virgin Mary**

UN International Day of Remembrance of Victims of Slavery and Transatlantic Slave Trade.

Kivu (Rwanda)

**SAT 26 MARCH  Holy Spirit, Leicester (St Nicholas)**

Karen Rooms (C)

Pray for our ongoing witness and ministry among LGBTI+ people and for continuing growth in discipleship and vocations. Pray for our relationships with Leicester Cathedral who we are hosting in our building on weekdays.

North Kivu (Congo)
John 19:25-27

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to her, “Woman, here is your son.” And to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.

Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness; through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.

Your warmth gives life to the dead, your touch makes sinners righteous.

Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us; in your love and tenderness remake us.

In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness, for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us.

Anselm (1109)

For prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent:

- Thank God for Jesus’s incredible compassion for his mother Mary, even in his pain and suffering.
- Rejoice with those for whom today is a special day full of delight and thanksgiving.
- Grieve with those for whom today brings painful memories, isolation, estrangement, hurts or lost hopes.
- Who may God be encouraging you to reach out to, even if the timing feels inconvenient?
- Pray that God will continue to soften our hearts and fill them with his love and compassion.

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

MON 28 MARCH  Diocese of Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Kobe (Japan)

TUES 29 MARCH

Koforidua (West Africa)

WED 30 MARCH  Bishop’s Leadership Team

Pray for Bishop’s Leadership Team as they meet today.

Kolhapur (North India)

THURS 31 MARCH  Holy Trinity & St John the Divine, Leicester

Elaine Sutherland (V), James Norris (AV), Jitesh Patel (AV), Chris Szejnmann (C), Luke Dobson (C), Cameron Plant (Ordinand); Mission Shaped Community Pioneers

Pray for team changes as we learn to share life and minister together. Fruitfulness in our mission activity especially new ventures that include Messy Church at St. Peter’s Belgrave and street evangelism. For the community coming out of the pandemic.

Kollam – Kattarakkara (South India)

FRI 1 APRIL

Kondoa (Tanzania)

SAT 2 APRIL  The South Croxton Benefice and the Burrough Hill Benefice

Neil Stothers (C & Framland Deanery Secondary Schools Work Enabler), Jane Walker (C)

In this time of uncertainty for our Benefice Parish Churches and congregations, we pray for wisdom to discern God’s intentions for His Churches and how we can proclaim His love for all; most graciously heeding that His will be done.

Kongar (South Sudan)
Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ‘Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?’ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, ‘Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.’

For prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent:

- Give thanks for Jesus’s response to Mary’s beautiful offering of worship to our Lord.
- What act of worship may God be asking you to offer him, even if it might feel risky?
- Pray that our own hearts may be continually enlarged in our devotion to Jesus.

The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Pray for our Diocesan Bishops and the Archbishops of Canterbury and York as they meet over the next three days.
Kontagora (Nigeria)

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.
Kootenay (Canada)

Adrian Jones, Matthew Gough (C), Aphro McCullough, Janet Gasper (C – PTO), Fiona Wingate (R)

We give thanks for a good partnership. Please pray for the strengthening of worship and music, fresh energy and ideas in outreach, that we would learn to pray well, and be faithful in following the way of Jesus.
Eastern Kowloon (Hong Kong)

Jonathan Surridge (C), Caroline Brown (C)

Please pray for those who have joined us recently, and those struggling to return to church following the pandemic. Pray for those who are just passing through Highfields and Evington, that they will eventually find a welcoming loving home.
Western Kowloon (Hong Kong)

Krishna-Godavari (South India)

Pray for those to be ordained as they study and pray together at Bishop’s Lodge.
Kubwa (Nigeria)
Luke 19:28-40  - Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, ‘Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, “Why are you untying it?” just say this: “The Lord needs it.”’ So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ They said, ‘The Lord needs it.’ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

‘Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!’

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, order your disciples to stop.’ He answered, ‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’

For prayer and reflection as we journey through Lent:

- Give thanks for Jesus and his willingness to give his life so that we may live.
- Is God calling you to sacrifice something as we take up our cross more deeply?
- Pray for all Christians as God calls us to not be silent about our faith and sensitively and appropriately share the good news of all that Jesus did.

The Church of North India (United)

A mini-reflection for Monday of Holy Week:

Yesterday we celebrated Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey. Today we remember a different story.

“He entered the Temple… and overturned the tables of the money-changers… saying, ‘Is it not written, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations”? But you have made it a den of robbers.’”

Lord help us to get our focus right, not to be so caught up in daily living that we forget what we are living for. Help us to be open to you in our prayer, and to have open purses to help those in need. Amen.

A mini-reflection for Tuesday of Holy Week:

Today we remember some of Jesus’ final teaching to his disciples. In today’s polarised society and divided Church it has a particular resonance.

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you…. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends…”

Lord Jesus, we pray for all those on the margins of our communities, for all who are lonely and feel unnoticed and unloved. Thank you that you gave your life out of love for us. May we love each other generously so that people can see something special in the way we relate to others. Amen.

Kuching (South East Asia)

Kumasi (West Africa)
HOLY WEEK REFLECTIONS

WED 13 APRIL

A mini-reflection for Wednesday of Holy Week:
Today’s story is of the woman from Bethany who anointed Jesus’ head with perfume, and with this prophetic act recognised that he would soon die.
“She has done a beautiful thing... She poured perfume on my body to prepare for my burial.”
Lord Jesus, may we have the courage to journey with those who travel through dark places and face difficult times; may we be generous in grace and love to them. Amen.

THURS 14 APRIL Maundy Thursday

A mini-reflection for Maundy Thursday:
Today we remember how Jesus washed his disciples’ feet, the king defying all expectations by taking the role of a servant.
“Do you understand what I have done for you? ...Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you should also wash one another’s feet.”
We pray for all who wash and clean and care for others. We pray that we might have the courage to take on caring tasks, and the humility to allow others to care for and serve us. Amen

FRI 15 APRIL Good Friday

A mini-reflection for Good Friday:
“The soldiers led Jesus away... They put a purple robe on him then twisted a crown of thorns and set it on him. … Again and again they struck him on the head with a staff and spat on him... then they led him out to crucify him... At the sixth hour darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour... With a loud cry, Jesus breathed his last. The curtain of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom.”
Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love: in humble hope and fear we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are. Amen

SAT 16 APRIL Easter Eve

A mini-reflection for Holy Saturday:
This day often ends up busy as we prepare for the Easter celebrations tomorrow. But during the pandemic we instead experienced it as a day of relative inaction. I wonder if that had more in common with the first Holy Saturday.
“The women saw the tomb and how the body was laid in it Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.”
Jesus Christ, when we are anxious and weary, and forced into inactivity we cannot control, help us as we wait. Amen
A mini-reflection for Tuesday in Easter week:

The risen Jesus came to Mary in the garden and turned her tears into joy. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia!

“Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir… tell me where you have laid him’… Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him…”

Risen Jesus, may all who are searching for you, find you. May all those who weep recognise you through their tears. Amen

The Church of Pakistan (United)

MON 18 APRIL  Diocese of Trichy / Deanery of Framland

Area Dean: John Barr  Lay Chair: Mike Alexander

Please pray for us as we explore how the new framework for the diocese might look in our rural setting, and for those parishes where there are vacancies.

May we live in the light of Easter as bearers of hope.

A mini-reflection for Monday in Easter week:

The risen Jesus came to Mary in the garden and turned her tears into joy. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia!

“Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir… tell me where you have laid him’… Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him…”

Risen Jesus, may all who are searching for you, find you. May all those who weep recognise you through their tears. Amen

Kwara (Nigeria)

TUES 19 APRIL

A mini-reflection for Tuesday in Easter week:

When his body was not where the disciples had laid it, Jesus turned their confusion into unexpected possibility. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia!

“They did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away wondering to himself ‘what had happened’.

Risen Jesus, may those who feel imprisoned by ill-health or difficult circumstances find freedom. May life with you bring us surprises beyond our wildest expectations. Amen

Kwoi (Nigeria)
A mini-reflection for Wednesday in Easter week:
When he came to the disciples in the upper room, Jesus turned their fear into joy. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia.
“The doors… were locked for fear… Jesus came among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced…”
Risen Jesus, where our hearts are locked against you please enter in. Where we are afraid, may we hear you say ‘Peace be with you.’ Show us where we may bring peace to others who are anxious and fearful. Amen

A mini-reflection for Thursday in Easter week:
When he came to the disciples on the Emmaus Road, Jesus turned their despair into hope. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia.
“They said to each other, ‘Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?’… Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.”
Risen Jesus, meet with us when our path is weary. May our eyes and our lives be opened to your transforming presence. Show us those with whom we can walk and by doing so bring hope. Amen

A mini-reflection for Friday in Easter week:
When he came to the disciples fishing on the lake, Jesus turned their fear into courage. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia.
“Jesus said to them, ‘Bring some of the fish you have just caught… come and have breakfast’… The disciples… knew it was the Lord.”
Risen Jesus, may our hunger for something more be satisfied in you. Show us to whom we should offer the food of faith. May we notice ways to help those who are finding it hard to get real food and other things which nourish life. Amen

A mini-reflection for Saturday in Easter week:
Jesus comes to us in our brokenness and shame, and turns our weakness into triumph. Jesus is risen indeed, Alleluia.
“These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.”
Risen Jesus, open my mind and my heart that I might discover new things, or rediscover old ones, in the accounts of your life, death and resurrection this Easter. As we believe in you, the Messiah, may we have life in your name. May those we know who are searching, find this life in you. Amen
SHAPED BY GOD TOGETHER

Please pray for the first pilot Minster Communities in the diocese.

Pray that the different worshipping communities that make up the Minster Community would learn to work well with one another and to support each other as they discover how to best serve God and be Shaped By God Together in the parishes that make up the newly forming Minster Community.

Ask God to help them to be effective as they look to grow in depth of discipleship, grow the number of disciples as they engage in mission, and to love and serve those around them as they put their faith into action.

Even if you are not part of one of these pilots, there is still plenty that you can be doing to prepare for the changes which will eventually affect every parish. In particular, you can:

- **Pray for the renewal of God’s church** – continue to pray that God would lead us in all our conversations together, but also pray for your neighbouring churches as you encourage people to think about the needs of others.
- **Partner with neighbouring churches** – pray for ongoing informal conversations with neighbouring parishes, however different they might be to yours. Partnership starts in prayer and grows through practical acts of support and generosity.
- **Promote vocations** – we are going to need lots more non-stipendiary priests as well as lay ministers in the future. Please pray and consider - is there someone you know who you think should explore this?
- **Prioritise school links** – at the heart of our plans for Minster Communities is a radical shift towards working with children and young people. You can help begin this by praying and prioritising work with your local schools (whether church or community schools).

**The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea**

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**BISHOP OF LEICESTER’S LENT APPEAL 2022**

FareShare Midlands is the region’s largest food redistribution charity. Founded in 2008, as a project of the Diocese of Leicester, set up in response to the refugee crisis that our city was struggling to cope with. Several Emergency Relief projects turned to the Diocese for support and the then Director of Social Responsibility, Gill Jackson (a wonderful lady), discovered FareShare – a national charity saving surplus food from waste and turning it into a solution for social good.

Fast forward 13 years and FareShare Midlands now supplies good quality surplus food to over 550 community groups who tackle hunger and poverty and the root causes of both. Through our network of community groups we help to feed over 60,000 people every single week. We have an ambition of helping to support over 100,000 people every week by 2024.

In Leicester alone 34,000 children are growing up in poverty; that's children who begin life disadvantaged and often go without good food, nice clothing or a holiday. FareShare Midlands supports thousands of these children through our community groups. Our vision at FareShare Midlands is a region where no-one goes hungry when there is food being wasted, no child goes to school on an empty stomach, and where vulnerable people are supported to join or rejoin the workforce.

We are naturally delighted to have been appointed the beneficiary charity of the Bishop’s 2022 Lent Appeal where every £1.00 donated will help to create 4 meals for disadvantaged men, women and children living in Leicestershire. Every £1.00 donated will support those signed up to our Employability programmes to gain skills and independence to help them find work for the first time or after a long absence from the work place.