As I write my first foreword for the Diocesan Prayer Diary, I’d firstly like to thank you all for the tremendous welcome you have given to me and my family in these first few weeks that we have been amongst you.

As a keen cricketer, whenever you try a new bat, you are looking for a sweet ‘ping’ from the middle; your generosity in hospitable and open-hearted receiving of us has been that wonderful ‘ping’ and we are really grateful.

We look forward to continuing to meet many of you and getting to know you all in the years ahead.

However, as I write this at the end of March 2022, I am acutely aware that the world is a completely different place from even November 2021 when it was announced I was going to be the next Bishop of Loughborough.

We have all been deeply moved and disturbed by the atrocities unfolding in Ukraine, lives senselessly lost and torn apart, seeing millions fleeing their homes and we collectively pray for peace, an end to attacks and change of hearts of the aggressors.

A couple of weeks ago I had the privilege of gathering with the Ukrainian Catholic Community in Leicester to show our collective solidarity and unity with sisters and brothers in the body of Christ.

We are of course forever mindful that over the past few years, there are many thousands of refugees, especially from the global majority south, who are likewise seeking sanctuary and safe passage to places of peace.

The God we know most supremely in Jesus Christ, who himself was a refugee, shares in the suffering of the world and his heart grieves for his people.

May we continue to earnestly pray even when words fail us, reminding ourselves of Romans 8:26; “In the same way the Spirit also comes to help us, weak as we are. For we do not know how we ought to pray; the Spirit himself pleads with God for us in groans that words cannot express.” (GNT)

Please know that I pray for you all regularly and I’m grateful for your prayers for me also.

The Rt Revd Saju Muthalaly
Bishop of Loughborough
Welcome to the late Spring and early Summer edition of the Diocese of Leicester prayer diary with our now regular 4 months content at a time. As you receive this, we will be well into the Easter season celebrating our Lord’s triumphant resurrection – Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Hope for everyone the world over.

If you know of anyone else who would like to receive a paper copy of this publication, then please contact me, James Pickersgill, 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, with extended articles this time about each. 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 me 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, 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 and to all our contributors in this edition, especially many from the Social Responsibility Panel.

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:7 ESV
Deaf Awareness Week 2nd to 8th May 2022

2022 looks to be a year of celebration for our local Deaf community. We are preparing to celebrate 125 years of Ministry to the Deaf community here in Leicester. Celebrating our history, our journey and the new life that has sprung forth in the Deaf ministry space within Leicester Deaf Centre, 12 Frog Island.

Let’s reflect this week on the bible. The Bible is good news; it is vital to our faith journey; it tells us about God and his love for us; it transforms lives. Yet sadly, there are thousands of Deaf people in the UK who don’t have access to the bible in their own language.

Why do we need a bible in British Sign Language? BSL and English are two very different languages. Many Deaf people find reading English difficult; it is hard to learn English without access to the sounds of the language from birth. Deaf people vary in their understanding of written English, some Deaf people in the UK are bilingual in BSL and English, but they still long for a Bible that is theirs, in their ‘heart’ language.

BSL was recognised by the UK government in 2003 as a national minority language. This year we are seeing the BSL Act being passed in Parliament on the 18th March 2022. Now working its way through the House of Lords and on to Royal Ascent.

There is some good news, the BSL Bible project was launched in September 2006, drawing people together with the necessary skills to create a brand new bible version in a signed video format. To date they have completed Mark 1 – 9:37 and currently they are working on Genesis. Still a very long way to go!

Please do hold this project and our ministry in your thoughts and prayers during this week.

https://bslbible.org.uk
https://www.facebook.com/Leicester-Deaf-Ministry-Space-106156974673306/

Karen Sly
Deaf Development Worker

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines
Church of England: Diocese of Southwark, Bishop Christopher Chessun, Bishop Richard Cheetham, Bishop Jonathan Clark, Bishop Karowei Dorgu
Church of Norway: Diocese of Bjørgvin, Bishop Halvor Nordhaug

The Diocese of Langtang – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Jos Province)

The Diocese of Langtang – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.

The Diocese of West Lango – The Church of the Province of Uganda

MON 2 MAY Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.

The Diocese of West Lango – The Church of the Province of Uganda

TUES 3 MAY Melton Mowbray

IN VACANCY, Mary Barr (Framland Deanery Discipleship Enabler) (C), Ted Hutchin (R-PTO), Audrey Hutchin (PA), Janet King (Pio), Linda Pearson (R), Lorraine Simmonds (PA), Carol Parker (Pio), St Mary’s CE Primary School

Following Kevin Ashby’s last Sunday as Rector, please pray for all the church communities in the Melton Team Parish – that we may support each other, develop our team-work and share the love of Jesus in our town and villages.

The Diocese of Langtang – The Church of the Province of Uganda

WED 4 MAY The Upper Wreake Benefice

David Harknett (6 Framland Deanery Leadership Development Enabler), Crystal McAllister (C), Malcolm Britton (R-PTO), Frisby-on-the-Wreake CE Primary School

Give thanks for new mission opportunities. Pray for Frisby CE Primary School in the appointment of a new headteacher and for discerning the way forward with our six ancient parish churches.

The Diocese of Lebombo – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

THURS 5 MAY Ironstone Villages Team

John Barr (C), Mike Alexander (R/Pio), Christine Alexander (Pio), Janice Newton (R-PTO), Paul Taylor (R-PTO), CE Primary Schools at Scaftold and Waltham on the Wolds

Give thanks for community partnerships including those with our schools, and pray for their development within the Minister Community framework. Please pray for more vocations to serve in and through our local churches, including service as church officers.

The Diocese of Leeds – The Church of England (York Province)

FRI 6 MAY Launde Deanery

Jonathan Dowman and Alan Humphrey as Interim Co-Area Deans. Lay Chair: Madeleine Wang

Give thanks that the parishes of the Deanery have been invited to explore becoming a Minster Community as the first Diocesan pilot scheme. Pray for their continued discernment and willingness to share their valuable skills for growing God’s kingdom.

The Diocese of Leicester – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

SAT 7 MAY Loddington with Launde Abbey

Alison Myers, Chris Webb, Claire Goode, Alan Humphrey (C), Emma Dowman (Pio), Miriam Stoote (Pio) (Loddington)

Give thanks for our small, faithful congregation in this tiny village with scattered houses. Pray for our current fundraising to make our much loved but isolated building watertight, and for our discernment of God’s calling and gifting for the future.

The Diocese of Lesotho – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

The Diocese of Langtang – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Jos Province)
Mental Health Awareness Week (9th-15th May)

Mental Health Awareness Week encourages all of us to help each other in developing good mental health and to pray for those we know who offer or receive support. This is particularly important this year, as we emerge from Covid restrictions at a time of financial pressures on households and businesses and concern about the long-term health impacts of the pandemic.

The Mental Health Foundation, which launched this week 21 years ago, is this year encouraging us to focus our energy particularly on loneliness. Loneliness is affecting more and more of us in the UK and has had a huge impact on our physical and mental health during the pandemic. Our connection to other people and our community is fundamental to protecting our mental health and we can all play our part in helping each other to be connected.

Within our diocese, there are so many ways in which churches, fresh expressions and church schools offer support to others with their mental health, some simply involving a place of community and a listening ear. We might pray for:

- Social gatherings such as coffee mornings, café drop-ins, activity clubs;
- Intentional wellbeing projects such as wellbeing cafés and Places of Welcome;
- The signposting of support by those trained in Mental Health First Aid (both adults and young people);
- Pastoral care teams in churches and in schools;

We might also pray for those professionally engaged in this area:

- The hospital chaplaincy teams within the different hospital and partnership healthcare trusts;
- Mental health practitioners engaged in acute residential care and in community teams;
- Those supporting individual clergy, clergy households and licensed ministers through the diocesan counselling service;

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
Psalm 34. Verse 18

Venerable Richard Worsfold
Archdeacon of Leicester & Social Responsibility Chair

Confessions within the
Guthlaxton & Launde Deaneries

Church of England: Diocese of Gloucester, Bishop Rachel Treweek, Bishop Robert Springett
Church of Sweden: Diocese of Västerås, Bishop Mikael Mogren
Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 30.

House of Bishops
The Diocese of Lexington – The Episcopal Church (IV (4) Province)

MON 9 MAY Diocese of Kiteto
Christian Aid Week 11th-15th May. See page 24.

The Diocese of Liberia – The Church of the Province of West Africa (West Africa Province)

TUES 10 MAY House of Bishops

The Diocese of Lichfield – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

WED 11 MAY House of Bishops

The Diocese of Limerick & Killaloe – The Church of Ireland (Dublin Province)

THURS 12 MAY The Whatborough Parishes

The Diocese of Lincoln – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

FRI 13 MAY The Coplow Benefice

The Diocese of Litoral Ecuador – The Episcopal Church (IX (9) Province)

SAT 14 MAY Hallaton & Allexton with Horninghold, Tugby, East Norton & Slawston

IN VACANCY.

Hallaton & Tugby CE Primary Schools

We give thanks for all God’s gifts coming to our rural community. Please pray for us as we take part in seeking to understand and help to shape a Minster Community and the future ministry provision for our Benefice.

The Diocese of Litoral Ecuador – The Episcopal Church (IX (9) Province)
God, by definition, remembers differently from us - no linear memory but holding people in his hand. We are engraved upon his palms, even if we can't remember God. And if we don't know what to do or think, the Spirit does it for us. You can't reason your way into God's kingdom!

If the Church is a place where God's history is remembered and where Christ is re-membered, then may it be a place of re-membering for those with wobbly memories. Where they can know themselves to be children of God.

To be fully present to Cynthia meant putting down for a brief while the busyness of life. Just to be with her, wasting time in the eyes of the world. To Cynthia the moment seemed precious. I would use the word 'sacramental' to describe it. God remembered her and she God.

Please pray for:
Those you know living with dementia, their spouses and families.
People in care homes
Care workers, both in care homes and in communities
Community groups, places of welcome and dementia cafes working in this field
The Leicester Musical Memory Box
(not for profit organization)
National organisations working in the field of dementia:
Dementia Friends: https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/
Alzheimers Society: https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/
Dementia UK: https://www.dementiauk.org/

Revd Canon Alison Adams
Canon Pastor & Sub Dean at Leicester Cathedral
Church of England: Diocese of Guildford,
Bishop Andrew Watson, Bishop Jo Wells
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:
Diocese of Viborg, Bishop Henrik Stubkjær
The Scottish Episcopal Church

Please pray for:
Our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.
The Diocese of Liverpool – The Church of England (York Province)

Bishop’s Retreat Day at Launde Abbey

The Diocese of Liwolo – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Central Equatoria Province)

The Langtons and Shangton

Maxine Johnson (R)
Church Langton C of E School
We continue to pray for those who have lost loved ones recently, for those who are ill and for the continuing work of our Ministry Team. For Jonathan Dowman who will be moving to Church Langton with his family to help support local ministry and take on a new Growing Faith post with the four Church schools in the Deanery.

The Diocese of Llandaff – The Church in Wales

The many churches in tiny villages in this Diocese, for ways of developing effective ministry to often very small congregations. For church wardens and those who care for these churches and try to maintain some form of ministry.

24hr Prayer Leicester event: May 19th & 20th – Peace and Justice.
The Missionary Diocese of Lodwar – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Six Saints circa Holt

Please pray for all who live and work in our parish and for all who visit here. Please give thanks for our continued ministry among families and children, for the new Great Easton Express Service, and for our schools work.

24hr Prayer Leicester event: May 19th & 20th – Peace and Justice.
The Diocese of Lokoja – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lokoja Province)

WED 18 MAY The Langtons and Shangton

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The Diocese of Llandaff – The Church in Wales

Mon 16 May Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.
The Diocese of Liwolo – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Central Equatoria Province)

Tues 17 May Bishop’s Retreat Day at Launde Abbey

The Diocese of Liwolo – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Central Equatoria Province)

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The Diocese of Llandaff – The Church in Wales

Thurs 19 May Welham, Glooston, Cranoe and Stontoyn Wyville

Pray for the many churches in tiny villages in this Diocese, for ways of developing effective ministry to often very small congregations. For church wardens and those who care for these churches and try to maintain some form of ministry.

24hr Prayer Leicester event: May 19th & 20th – Peace and Justice.
The Missionary Diocese of Lodwar – The Anglican Church of Kenya

FRI 20 May Six Saints circa Holt

Stephen Bishop (C), Roy Cashmore (R-PTO)
Please pray for all who live and work in our parish and for all who visit here. Please give thanks for our continued ministry among families and children, for the new Great Easton Express Service, and for our schools work.

24hr Prayer Leicester event: May 19th & 20th – Peace and Justice.
The Diocese of Lokoja – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Lokoja Province)

Sat 21 May Diocesan Synod

The Diocese of Lomego – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Central Equatoria Province)
Finding peace of heart starts with finding space to breathe.

‘It is so peaceful here’ is a phrase often used of Launde Abbey. And, yes, it is. Set in a fold in the countryside, held in a rhythm of prayer, it feels to many a place to step aside for a while and find space to breathe. It is for many a place of sanctuary.

We so need that sanctuary and space to breathe just now. Many of us have not yet processed the events of the last two pandemic years. We have not fully understood the impact of that constant anxiety, the restriction of expectations, and the months during which we could not connect with those we love in the ways we love. We have served others, we have learned new skills, in many places we have embraced new connections with our local communities. But we are tired, and less certain about life than we once were. And the new anxieties of the war in Ukraine and the rise in the cost of living leave us breathless and panting.

Finding space to breathe, by taking a ‘quiet day’ or a longer retreat, is what many of us need right now. I wonder where you go when you need to breathe fresh air, to breathe the breath of the Spirit, even.

In today’s gospel reading (John 14:23-29), Jesus warns his followers that He will leave them and God’s Spirit will be sent to them, and He promises peace. This is so much more than the peace found in the absence of stress and anxiety. This is the shalom-peace of wholeness and inner healing, the peace of heart that can be found even in the face of stress and anxiety. It is sometimes a struggle, a journey even, to find it. But I think it starts with finding space to breathe.

Revd Alison Myers
Warden of Launde Abbey
www.laundeabbey.org.uk

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUNDAY 22 MAY</th>
<th>6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER</th>
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Church of England: Diocese of Exeter, Bishop Robert Atwell, Bishop Nicholas McKinnel, Bishop Jackie Searle
Church of Norway: Diocese of Nord-Hålogaland, Bishop Olav Bygar
Church of the Province of South East Asia

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>MON 23 MAY</th>
<th>Diocese of Wyoming</th>
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Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.

The Diocese of London – The Church of England (Canterbury Province)

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<th>TUES 24 MAY</th>
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Bishop’s Leadership Team Meeting.

The Diocese of Long Island – The Episcopal Church (II (2) Province)

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<tr>
<th>WED 25 MAY</th>
<th>College of Bishops</th>
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Ministry Council Residential.

The Diocese of Los Angeles – The Episcopal Church (VII (8) Province)

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<th>THURS 26 MAY</th>
<th>Ascension Day</th>
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Ministry Residential, Thy Kingdom Come.

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that as we believe your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens, so we in heart and mind may also ascend and with him continually dwell; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Diocese of Louisiana – The Episcopal Church (IV (4) Province)

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<tr>
<th>FRI 27 MAY</th>
<th>The Gaulby Group</th>
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IN VACANCY. Hilary Painter (R)

Our thanks that, after re-ordering, we can now welcome the community into St Peter’s, Gaulby for a variety of events, including our concert series. Please pray for us as we meet the challenges of being a rural parish in changing times.

Thy Kingdom Come.

The Diocese of Western Louisiana – The Episcopal Church (VII (7) Province)

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<tr>
<th>SAT 28 MAY</th>
<th>Gartrée Deanery</th>
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Area Dean: Steve Bailey; Lay Chair: Gordon Arthur

Give thanks for those who have served the Deanery faithfully over the years. Pray for us as we look for new people to come forward and take on the reins.

Thy Kingdom Come.

The Diocese of Luapula – The Church of the Province of Central Africa
We have now begun the transition into Minster Communities, a new framework for the diocese. For some churches and fresh expressions they will begin conversations and will be piloting this process of change. But for the majority there is a longer period of preparation, so during the first stage of the transition into Minster Communities we are asking all of our worshipping communities to do some thinking and praying. Each church has been sent a ‘discussion starter’ that is designed to help take stock of where they have been placed by God and who they are as a church.

Mindful that our diocesan vision is “the Kingdom of God”, the discussion starter asks our worshipping communities to reflect upon their strengths as a community, areas where they may need help and support, partnerships they are currently working in and also to think about what their mission as a church looks like.

And so we thank God for the many gifts and strengths that have been given to our worshipping communities. We thank God for the wide diversity of the church and the opportunity to share in that difference. We also pray for patience as our communities work together in that difference and the courage to explore weaknesses.

We thank God for the many partnerships already at work across our diocese and we pray that these partnerships will be strengthened through this process.

We thank God for all of the missional opportunities around us and pray that this process helps our worshipping communities to join in with what God is doing across Leicester and Leicestershire.

We pray for this conversation happening across the diocese and that this process helps our churches to continue serving their parish and to build on their unique identity as a worshipping community as they prepare for their transition into a Minster Community.

Beth Cluer
Parish Transition & Ministry Development Officer – Mission & Communications

Thy Kingdom Come

Church of England: Diocese of Hereford
Bishop Richard Jackson

The Lusitanian Church (Portugal):
Bishop José Jorge Pina Cabral

The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad: Archbishop Lauma Zušēvica

Anglican Communion Sunday
The Church of South India (United)

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth, and all who are in authority under her; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour and glory of your name and the good of your Church and people; 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.

The National Council of Bell Ringers is encouraging churches to ring their bells to mark the anniversary. The main Royal Jubilee celebrations will be over the special four-day weekend from 2 to 5 June. The Hope Together network has put together some great resources and ideas to help churches make the most of this missional opportunity to connect with their communities and to commemorate the Queen’s faith and service over seven decades. Find resources and ideas here: https://www.theplatinumjubilee.com.

Civic Platinum Jubilee service at St Mary de Castro

Thy Kingdom Come

The Lusitanian Church – Extra Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury

Thy Kingdom Come

The Diocese of Luweero – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Thy Kingdom Come

The Diocese of Northern Luzon – Philippines
…in our own languages we hear them speaking…” (Acts 2.11)

At Pentecost we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit – God’s very life and presence. Jesus promised the Spirit ‘will be in you’ (John 14.17), and those who recognise the presence of the Spirit within can never be separated from God – this is to be in eternal life. The Day of Pentecost as told in Acts 2 reveals this life of God is available to everyone, no longer restricted to a few followers of Jesus Christ. On that day, the Spirit enabled the disciples to speak in different languages so those gathered from different nations could claim ‘…in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.’ (Acts 2.11) As a result, many were baptised, and equipped to proclaim God too.

The Church of God now fills all the world and God is proclaimed in a multitude of languages. In the diverse community of Leicester Cathedral, we are seeking to enable different voices to be heard. Each week, someone from the congregation leads The Lord’s Prayer in their language, amplified through a microphone, while the rest of us say the prayer in the language closest to our hearts. So far we have 17 different languages on offer. The resulting chorus of voices is a moving reminder to me of the inclusive and expansive presence of God. It is also having a profound effect on some who lead the prayer:

“I remember when I moved to the UK I felt the pressure to get rid of anything non-British about me, my accent, my story and life from before. Joining the worshipping community at Leicester Cathedral, I have noticed a shift: as I have been encouraged to pray and lead the Lord’s Prayer in Swiss German, now my different culture is something enriching I have to offer.” Manuela

“Leading the Lord’s Prayer in my dialect (Igbo) makes me feel at home at Leicester Cathedral. What makes it most heart-warming is hearing the Lord’s Prayer being led in many other dialects that cut across the many different countries represented.” Ogemdi

“Opportunity to lead prayers in Polish means a lot to us as a family; it makes us feel accepted and valued as a members of Leicester Cathedral Community. It is a proof that no matter what language we are praying we are being heard.” Aleksandra

Every person matters, every voice heard expands the truth of God and enlarges the Body of Christ. May God’s life be made known through all of us who follow Jesus Christ today, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Revd Canon Emma Davies
Leicester Cathedral

Prayer prompts:
- to listen for the voices that are not often heard – for God is there
- to speak up for those who are denied a voice – for God is there
- to raise our voice in the power of the Spirit – for God is there

The Lord’s Prayer

Lord Jesus, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Today, Bishop Saju will lead us in Malayalam. Let us join in, praying in whatever language is closest to our hearts.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses;
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
But deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
The power and the glory,
Forever and ever. Amen

Notre Père...
Baba wa...
我們在天上的父...
Nna Anyi..
Ojce Nasz...
Vater unser...
Ein Tad...
Wo tye...
Baba mu...
ايشنا
Padre nuestro...
Πάτερ ἡμῶν...
Отче наш
Pater noster...
MON 6 JUNE  Harborough Anglican Team

Barry Hill, Alison Iliffe, Hilary Corcoran, Andy Giles, Pep Hill, Susan Cooper, Jack Wixon, Alistair Helm, Peter Mackenzie, Rob Leveritt, Tom Grant (C), Dawn O’Connell (Families), Liz Allen (PA-PTO), Angela Hill (PA-PTO), Susan Meadows (R), Lydia Tebbutt (R), David Palmer (Pio), Josh Taylor (Youth apprentice) All Saints’ Lubenham & Market Harborough CE Primary Schools & Great Bowden Academy.

As we prepare to launch a new intergenerational, youth focused worshipping community across the Team this September, please pray for Tom, the Leadership Team, people to come forward in a planting team and most of all for young people across the town.

The Diocese of Lweru – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

TUES 7 JUNE  Great Bowden

We give thanks for the open, welcoming and faithful people within the congregation at Great Bowden. Please pray as we seek to make our building more flexible and welcoming for all generations to come together to worship and explore their faith.

The Missionary Area of Macau – Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

WED 8 JUNE  Transfiguration (St Nicholas & St Hugh)

We asked for prayer for Unity in our parish last year, and give thanks for that answered prayer among us. Please pray for God’s guidance in our decisions on buildings and our journey as we explore inclusive church.

The Diocese of Machakos – The Anglican Church of Kenya

THURS 9 JUNE  Lubenham

Rejoice! - we see fresh glimmers of light as new people join to worship, the faithful return and we proclaim the gospel in our services, streets, Alpha and daily lives.

Pray! – New Team Vicar, Our Schools, Our Youth and Volunteers!

The Diocese of Madi-West Nile – The Church of the Province of Uganda

FRI 10 JUNE  St Dionysius

SAT 11 JUNE

Community of the Tree of Life Open Day

Barnabas the Apostle The Diocese of Madras – The (united) Church of South India
Therefore, let us pray together this Collect for refugees:

Almighty and merciful God, whose Son became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, homeless and hungry. Bless those who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in all our hearts; and guide the nations of the world towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please also pray for

- War zone in different countries where refugees are coming from
- UK government and decision-makers
- For people and organisations who work directly with refugees and asylum seekers
- To continue the Spirit of generosity in our nation

Revd Mohammad Eghtedarian
Intercultural Pioneer Minister
Scottish Episcopal Church:
Diocese of Argyll & the Isles, Bishop Keith Riglin
Church of Ireland: Diocese of Connor, Bishop George Davison
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:
Diocese of Lolland-Falster, Bishop Marianne Gaarden
The Anglican Church of South America

MON 13 JUNE  Diocese of Trichy
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.
The Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad – The (united) Church of South India

TUES 14 JUNE Oadby & Great Glen Team Ministry
Steve Bailey, Kim Ford, Sarah Collins, Maria Jukes, Ben Williams (C), Hugh James (R-PTO)
Colin Chettle (R), Karen Johnson (R), Roger Flowers (R), Angela Allen (R), Charles Ford (Evng),
Louise McGoldrick (Youth)
Give thanks for this suburban and rural benefice. Pray that we would learn from one another and grow in confidence to show and share faith in our different communities.
The Diocese of Magwi – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Eastern Equatoria Province)

WED 15 JUNE Glen Magna cum Stretton Magna, Carton Curlieu & Burton Overy
Kim Ford (C)
We give thanks for the relationships built within our community. We would appreciate prayers as we look in new service times, that we all adjust and go forward together as a family. Also prayers as we look for missional ways to reach our villages.
The Diocese of Mahajanga – The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

THURS 16 JUNE Kibworth with Smeeton Westerby & Saddington
Ludger Fremmer (C), Anne Flower (R), Patricia Thompson (R-PTO), Eunice Hayes (Evng),
Jamie Witcombe (Evng), Theresa Jackson (PA), Jacki Shorley (PA)
Please pray that older members of the congregations can know they are still a vital part of the church.
Please pray for upcoming mission involvements in Harborough and Leicester to also bear much fruit in Kibworth, Smeeton and Saddington.
24hr Prayer Leicester event June 16th & 17th – Agape Feast.
Corpus Christi The Diocese of Maiduguri – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Jos Province)

FRI 17 JUNE Cornerstone Team (Houghton, Thornby, Stoughton)
Rob Miles, Tom Devos, Steve Ransley, Helen Bence, Matthew Creber-Davies, Steve Sweet (C)
Pray for us as our priorities this year are focused on growing new worshipping communities, serving those around us, and developing our ministry to families, children and young people.
24hr Prayer Leicester event June 16th & 17th – Agape Feast.
The Diocese of Maine – The Episcopal Church (I (1) Province)

SAT 18 JUNE Wigston
IN VACANCY, Chris Johnson, Nick Baker, Paul Betts (C): Jenny Barradell (PA-PTO)
All Saints CoFe School, Wigston Magna.
Please pray for our Benefice during this time of vacancy and as we discern the way ahead post-covid. Pray also for those tasked with the care, maintenance and repair of our buildings.
The Diocese of Maiwut – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Upper Nile Province)
At the St Philip’s Centre, we believe that we can learn to live well together, even in a world that is devastated by division and disagreement. Our core purpose is to help people of different faith and belief perspectives have meaningful encounters with each other, where they build relationships of trust and understanding so they can work together for the good of all. It’s very important to us that people don’t feel under any pressure to agree with each other about everything. Of course, we want any engagement, whether online or in person, to be civil and courteous. But that doesn’t mean people have to be satisfied with lowest-common-denominator agreement. There’s a richness in many faith and belief perspectives that can only be truly appreciated in the context of discussion and debate.

I personally have found my faith in Christ has been enriched through honest conversations with people whose worldview I profoundly disagree with, but nevertheless completely respect. Earlier this year I had lunch with a Hindu friend. From his perspective, if he prays over his meal, and offers it to Krishna, that food then becomes Krishna himself, and so when he eats, he is receiving Krishna into himself. We had a fascinating conversation as we ate, and my theology of the Eucharist was stretched and challenged, developed, and deepened as we spoke.

Please pray:
- For the Centre staff, for wisdom and discernment to know what is right, and then the courage to do what is needed.
- For people of good will, that we can model living well together
- For those who work behind the scenes, to ease tensions and difficulties, that the peace of the city and county is upheld.

Revd Dr Tom Wilson
St Philip’s Centre

Church of England: Diocese in Europe, Bishop Robert Innes, Bishop David Hamid
Church of Sweden: Diocese of Visby, Bishop Thomas Petersson
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Copenhagen, Bishop Peter Skov-Jakobsen
Providence of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Revd Jon Barrett
Mission & Communications Enabler

Church of England: Diocese of Southwark, Bishop John Sahle
Church of Sweden: Diocese of Uppsala, Bishop Göran Persson
Church of the Province of Tanzania, Bishop John Clayton
Church of the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, Bishop John Torry

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.

Bishop’s Retreat Day at Launde Abbey.

The Diocese of Makamba – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Tues 21 June

The Diocese of Mokueni – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Wed 22 June

Bishop’s Leadership Team Meeting
The Diocese of Makurdi – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Abuja Province)

Thurs 23 June

The Diocese of Malabar – The (united) Church of South India

Fri 24 June

Bishop’s Big Conversation Weekend – Castle Donington
The Birth of John the Baptist The Diocese of Malaita – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Sat 25 June

Bishop’s Big Conversation Weekend – Castle Donington.

Shaped by God Together

With the first groups of churches now officially exploring being formed into minster communities, pray for partnerships around the diocese. Hold before God all churches who are working together (both formally in benefices and in more informal relationships) to more successfully enable mission and ministry to take place in their local contexts. Pray that across the diocese we may learn to listen well to one another, be humble enough to learn from each other, and to support one another in prayer. Ask God for the prayer of Jesus that his followers “may be one” (John 17) to become a growing reality among our churches, fresh expressions and worshipping communities. Please also pray for some of our churches who are doing The Difference Course as preparation for working well across a range of traditions.

Revd Jon Barrett
Mission & Communications Enabler

The Diocese of Malakal – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Upper Nile Province)
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 30.

**MON 27 JUNE**  Diocese of Kiteto

Please give thanks for the clergy and lay team overseeing the life of the parishes.

Please pray for each Church to realistically appraise what they may be able to offer/receive in any new Minster patterns.

**TUES 28 JUNE**  Clergy Study Day

*Area Dean: Rob Gladstone; Lay Chair: Stephen Gamble*

Please give thanks for the way our new service pattern is going and providing opportunities for people to serve in new ways and test their vocation.

Please pray for the all the ministries of the church to flourish evangelistically and pastorally.

**WED 29 JUNE**

Ordination retreat begins at Launde Abbey.

*Peter and Paul, Apostles*

**THURS 30 JUNE**  Rothley

*Rob Gladstone (C), Valerie Joyce (R-PTO), David Wilson (R-PTO)*

Rothley CE Primary School

Please give thanks for the way our new service pattern is going and providing opportunities for people to serve in new ways and test their vocation.

Please pray for the all the ministries of the church to flourish evangelistically and pastorally.

**FRI 1 JULY**  The Diocese of Malek – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

Priesting Ordinations at St Margaret's.

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.

**SAT 2 JULY**  St Aidan

The Diocese of Malek Rup – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Eastern Bahr el Ghazal Province)
Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Bishop Stanley is focused on planting churches that plant churches in DMK.

So far around 350 churches have been planted in rural areas. Please pray for the ongoing work of this ministry and especially that it can be supported and sustained through the training and equipping of Pastors as well as the construction of new churches.

In January 2022 there were some extreme weather conditions which caused significant damage to some church buildings. Please pray for finance so these buildings can be repaired and congregations can gather to worship inside once again. The government of Tanzania have now recognised the presence of COVID in Tanzania yet there is quite a significant amount of vaccine hesitancy. Please pray for the church that they will encourage congregations to take up the vaccine if offered.

Revd Michael Broadley
Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro Link

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church:

hear our prayer for your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love, and give to your servants now to be ordained the needful gifts of grace;

through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Deacons Ordinations at St Mary’s, Melton Mowbray.

Church of England: Diocese of St Albans,
Bishop Alan Smith, Bishop Richard Atkinson,
Bishop Michael Beasley

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Linköping,
Bishop Martin Modéus

Thomas the Apostle The Anglican Church of Tanzania
Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore

Among our companion link dioceses, the Trichy-Tanjore Diocese of the Church of South India (CSI) has been at the forefront of the response to the Covid pandemic in their country. Led by the Bishop, Dr D Chandrasekaran, food parcels have been distributed by local churches to the needy families in their communities. Thanks to support from Leicester and another of our link dioceses, Wyoming (USA), an ambulance has been purchased to support the Church’s hospitals in Trichy and Dharapuram and a minibus for the MRC home in Tanjore, which provides care for children with severe learning disabilities. A total of £37,612.48 has been sent from Leicester and we are extremely grateful to all our parishes and individuals who have contributed towards that magnificent amount. The most pressing need now is for a CT Scanner which will cost around £200,000.

Bishop Chandrasekaran will be attending the Lambeth Conference this summer and in the run-up to that will be accompanied 16th-23rd July on a visit to Leicester beforehand by a number of senior Colleagues.

CSI will celebrate its 75th Anniversary in September 2022. It was a pioneer in the field of ecumenical partnerships and brought together the Anglican, Methodist and Reformed Churches. We will be holding an ecumenical service at Bishop Street Methodist Church on Sunday 25th September to Leicester to celebrate this. There will be an open workshop starting at 3.30pm, followed by tea and a service at 5.30pm to which all are welcome. The preacher will be Rev Dr Israel Selvanayagam, a minister from CSI who is currently serving the Methodist Church in Leicester.

In other news, St Mary’s Church Wymeswold has joined St Mary’s Nampantan in supporting the local church of St Mary’s Pudukkottai which is set in a rural community within the Trichy diocese.

More information about the link can be found on the Leicester diocesan web site or from the Link Officer, Jonathan Kerry at St Martins House jonathan.kerry@leicestercofe.org

The photograph shows the Bishop of Trichy dedicating the ambulance which was purchased with the help of the Diocese of Leicester.

Jonathan Kerry
CEO, Diocesan Secretary & Trichy-Tanjore Diocese Link Officer

MON 11 JULY  Diocese of Trichy
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.

General Synod in York.

The Diocese of Mara – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

TUES 12 JULY

General Synod in York.

The Diocese of Maralal – The Anglican Church of Kenya

WEDS 13 JULY

The Diocese of Marathwada – The (united) Church of North India

THURS 14 JULY

The Diocese of Maridi – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Western Equatoria Province)

FRI 15 JULY  Sileby, Cossington & Seagrave
Duncan Beet (C), John Dean (R-PTO), John Harrison (R), Heather Hall (R)
Cossington CE Primary School

Pray God that we do everything more thoroughly: our trust in Christ as Saviour and Lord, growing in grace through personal daily Bible reading and reliance on the Holy Spirit making the most of our Sunday services and weekly outreach.

The Diocese of Saint Mark the Evangelist – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

SAT 16 JULY  Trichy group visit (until 23rd July).

The Diocese of Marsabit – The Anglican Church of Kenya
**Diocese of Kiteto**

Following the change in attitude toward COVID in the Tanzanian government, the Diocese of Kiteto have been keen to help tackle vaccine hesitancy and take the vaccination programme forward locally, especially as they have had pastors and their families suffering from the mystery illness they could not previously name. They have hosted government vaccinators and sponsored health education on local radio stations. The work of the Eye Clinic continues with the appointment of two new nurses.

Bishop Isaiah is keen to encourage the ministry of women in the diocese, ordaining 8 women in the last year. He is currently planning his trip to the Lambeth Conference and so we are looking forward to welcoming him and his wife to Leicester this summer.

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**Climate change** is a growing threat in what is already a precarious part of the world in which to live. This year the pastoralist Maasai lost many cows to drought, which was then followed by unexpectedly heavy rains that caused flash flooding. Farmers too struggle, especially knowing when to plant because of the growing unpredictability of the rainy seasons.

Please pray for Tanzania!

**David Shepherd**

Diocese of Leicester Kiteto Link

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**Diocese of Leicester Kiteto Link**

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Skara, Bishop Åke Bonnier

Church of England: Diocese of Leeds (formerly called the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales), Bishop Nick Baines, Bishop Tony Robinson, Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop Toby Howarth, Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, Bishop Paul Slater

The Episcopal Church

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**MON 18 JULY**

Diocese of Kiteto

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 30.

The Diocese of Maryland – The Episcopal Church

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**TUES 19 JULY**

The Diocese of Masasi – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

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**WED 20 JULY**

Syston and Barkby

IN VACANCY. Biddy Saunders (C), Sue Essex (PA), Brian Middleton (PA-PTO), Wendy Hardy (Pio), Ruthie Leonard (Pio), Theresa Morgan (Pio) SS Peter & Paul School, Syston

Gracious God, help us to serve you and be comforted that you have plans for us during this vacancy. We pray for strength to share responsibility and love each other. Holy Spirit, may we see your kingdom flourish.

The Diocese of Maseno East – The Anglican Church of Kenya

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**THURS 21 JULY**

Thurmaston and East Goscote

Tim Day (C); Stephen Gamble (R), Sheila Langley (R), John Hewer (R), Andrea Day (R); Mondy Green (Children and Families); Church Hill School, Thurmaston

Please pray for our Children and Families worker hoping to return to work after Cancer Treatment. For the Church plant being planned with the Cornerstone Resourcing Church Team. For our plans to start a new afternoon All Age Service.

24hr Prayer Leicester event: July 21st – 22nd.

To sign up visit: https://bit.ly/24hrprayernews. See article on 26th June.

‘Welcome to Canterbury’ – Pre-Lambeth hospitality.

The Diocese of Maseno North – The Anglican Church of Kenya

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**FRI 22 JULY**

Queniborough, Thrussington, Ratcliffe and Rearsby

Mary A’Herne Smith, Ian Hill (C), Amanda Granger (Children and Families Worker), St. Mary’s CE Primary School, Queniborough. St. Michael & All Angels’ CE Primary School, Rearsby & Thrussington CE Primary School.

We pray for continued renewal of our church communities, giving thanks that our buildings are all open. We especially pray that while seeking funds for work on Holy Trinity Church, we will connect the church with the community more deeply.

‘Welcome to Canterbury’ – Pre-Lambeth hospitality.

Mary Magdalene The Diocese of Maseno South – The Anglican Church of Kenya

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**SAT 23 JULY**

Birstall and Wanlip

Amanda Digman (C), Gill Pope (PA), Doreen Wilson (PA-PTO), Peter Chester (R/Pio), Lesley Walton (R-PTO)

We give thanks for our Rector Amanda and all her team who work tirelessly with the Schools and community in our Parish and ask your prayers as we seek God’s guidance for the future.

‘Welcome to Canterbury’ – Pre-Lambeth hospitality.

The Diocese of Maseno West – The Anglican Church of Kenya
Mission in the Diocese is being supported by:

- **Missional Priests** appointed to each Deanery
- **Pioneers** – developing Fresh Expressions of faith
- **Future Church Retreat** – time for churches to discern new ways to ‘be’ and ‘do’ church.
- **Iona School** – a distance learning approach to training for ministry
- **Art Spirit** – enabling the exploration of art and spirituality
- **The Foundation of the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming** – a charitable foundation that supports social action and mission.

Prayer Points

- **Future Church Retreats** – for Bobbe Fitzhugh as she leads these retreats and that they enable fruitfulness
- **Iona school** – for those training for ministry
- **Bishop Paul-Gordon** – as he settles into the Diocese and enables mission and ministry
- **Missional priests** – for appointments, training and support

The Episcopal Church in Wyoming

“We are an all-embracing spiritual home for everyone, where people come to love and be loved, to grow in faith and spirit, and explore together the spiritual dimension of life.”

The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming covers the State of Wyoming. The state is sparsely populated with mostly small rural communities based around cattle ranching. The west of the state is dominated by Yellowstone National Park which is a major tourist destination. Industry is dominated by coal, oil and gas production. In the centre of the state is the Wind River Reservation – home to the Eastern Shoshone and Arapaho tribes.

The Diocese has 50 (mostly historic) churches and four Wisdom Centres:

- **Thomas Apostle Retreat Centre** – focussing on contemplative spiritual practices
- **St Matthew’s Cathedral in Laramie** – where they are exploring the intersection between faith and culture
- **Wind River Reservation** – learning from native culture and spirituality
- **Canterbury Fellowship** – based near the University of Wyoming for spiritual engagement among students and young adults

‘Building on our frontier pioneering history, the Episcopal Church in Wyoming is focused on seeing the message of Christ taken to “new frontiers,” through an ongoing exploration of spiritual discovery that engages the frontiers of our hearts, minds and communities.’

Revd Liz Rawlings

Diocese of Wyoming Link

**MON 25 JULY**

Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.

‘Welcome to Canterbury’ – Pre-Lambeth hospitality

James the Apostle

**TUES 26 JULY**

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

**WED 27 JULY**

The Deanery of Akeley East (Loughborough)

Area Dean: Lauretta Wilson; Assistant Area Dean: Andrew Race; Lay Chair: Codra Spencer

We give thanks for the diversity and gifts across the Deanery and we pray for the sense of collegiality to strengthen as we face both the ongoing joy of sharing the Gospel, and the challenge of preparing for the new shape of ministry.

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

**THURS 28 JULY**

Kegworth, Hathern, Long Whatton, Diseworth, Belton & Osgathorpe

Lauretta Wilson, Louise Corke (C), Sue Hack (R), Timothy Aldsworth (R), Ed Kennedy (R), Anne Matravers (R-PTO), Nadine Hawkins (R-PTO), Linda Pascoe (PA-PTO)

Belton, Diseworth, Hathern & Long Whatton CE Primary Schools

We continue to give thanks for the beauty of this area and for the expressions of faith and service across the six villages. We give thanks for the increased sense of being a united benefice and we pray for those who are finding it more difficult to change their pattern of worship.

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

**FRI 29 JULY**

Barrow on Soar with Walton le Wolds and Wymeswold and Prestwold with Hoton

Clive Watts, Fiona Cotton-Betteridge (C), Pam Knowles (R-PTO), Rex Shaw (R), Mike Hyde (R), David Spencer (PA)

Barrow-on-Soar CE Primary School; Wymeswold CE Primary School

Pray for the Barrow and Wolds group of churches as we develop our Pastoral Care and Worship Leader Teams authorising them as Local Authorised Ministers. Pray too for a number of significant building repair projects over the coming months.

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

**SAT 30 JULY**

The South Croxton Benefice and the Burrough Hill Benefice

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

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**SAT 30 JUL Y**

The South Croxton Benefice and the Burrough Hill Benefice

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

The Diocese of Matana – The Anglican Church of Burundi
Developing a truly Christian lifestyle

Prayer of course should be at the heart of our lifestyle. But prayer must also lead to action. Are we trying to live sustainably? What difference can one person make? At least we can set a good example, caring for God’s creation and for one another.

Here’s some suggestions:

- Recycling, and cutting down on single-use plastic.
- Reducing our carbon emissions (the main cause of the climate crisis), switching to a clean energy provider, using the car less, walking or cycling more, not flying if we can avoid it, and using public transport more.
- Cutting down on meat and dairy produce.
- Getting rid of gas and oil to heat our homes, installing a heat source pump, with more insulation (see picture).
- Turning down the heating, and putting on another sweater!
- Feeding the birds (wild birds have declined by 50% since 1970).
- Living more simply that others may simply live (we use three times as much energy as we did 50 years ago).
- Supporting, helping and encouraging one another. We cannot go it alone.
- Forming an Eco Church group.

PRAYER

Lord, help us develop a truly Christian lifestyle With the dawn of each new day, may we be awakened to the beauty of the earth. Deliver us from selfishness and greed. We pray for those suffering from the effects of extreme weather, with more and more flooding, drought and fire. Amen.

Revd Canon Brian Davis

Church of England: Diocese of Bristol, Bishop Vivienne Faull, Bishop Lee Rayfield

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland: Diocese of Helsinki, Bishop Teemu Laajasalo

The Church of the Province of West Africa

IN VACANCY. Tony Harper (R), Jackie Rotter (R-PTO), Andy Willetts (R)

Pray for all benefices in vacancy at this time. May all those who maintain the life of this church be filled with faith, hope and love.

Lambeth Conference 2022  ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together.’

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

The Diocese of Mbamili – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) (Niger Province)
One of the diocesan strategic priorities calls for the reconciling of communities and the restoration of relationships. This challenges us to prayerfully consider where there has been relationship breakdowns, exclusion and hurt either historically or presently.

Genesis 1:27 tells us that we are all made in the image of God. There is something about each human being which reflects who God is. Each and every individual is deserving of welcome, love, respect and value.

Galatians 3:28 calls us to form ‘diverse and inclusive communities’. Did you know that disability is the largest marginalised group representing 20% of the population? To form those diverse and inclusive communities and to reconcile historic and present exclusion we must make our churches accessible to those with disabilities. Disability theology challenges the Church to lead the way by showing society that it is possible to form diverse and inclusive communities where disabled people can exercise their gifts and belong at the heart of the community.

We all want our churches to be welcoming and accessible for everyone that comes but often knowing how best to do this can be really, really daunting. Here are some easy things that each church can do to make it more accessible for individuals with disabilities;

- Talk to disabled individuals within your church and your local community.
- Educate yourself about disability theology and disability inclusion.
- Consider the language you use; does it acknowledge different needs within a room?
- Look at your building; is your building accessible?

Dear God,
open our eyes to the reconciliation that needs to happen within our local communities. We ask that you guide us as we seek to remove barriers that, knowingly or unknowingly, prevent full participation. We pray that our churches will be places where disabled people can fully belong.

Amen.

Emily Williams
Disability Advisor

Lambeth Conference 2022
‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

Church of England: Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop Christopher Foster

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Stockholm, Bishop Andreas Holmberg

The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 30.

Lambeth Conference 2022 ‘God’s Church for God’s World – walking, listening and witnessing together’.

Church of Ireland: Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh, Bishop Ferran Glenfield
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Aarhus, Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen
The Diocese of Mbeere – The Anglican Church of Kenya

The Diocese of Mbujimayi – Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

The Diocese of Meath & Kildare – The Church of Ireland (Dublin Province)

The Diocese of Medak – The (United) Church of South India

The Diocese of Wad Medani – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Finance Team – Jonathan Kerry, Jim Pullen, Adil Qassam, Sonal Pankhania.

The Diocese of Central Melanesia – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

MON 15 AUG

Diocese of Trichy
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 28.
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Finance Team – Jonathan Kerry, Jim Pullen, Adil Qassam, Sonal Pankhania.

The Diocese of Central Melanesia – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

TUES 16 AUG

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Parish Transition & Ministry Development Department – Stuart Burns, Rob Hay, Liz Rawlings, Claire Stapleton, Matt Long, Sue Willetts (DDO).

The Diocese of Melbourne – The Anglican Church of Australia (Victoria Province)

WED 17 AUG

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Communications – Jon Barrett, Jo Griffin, Beth Cleur, Gemma Starkings.

The Diocese of Meridional (Southern) – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil (1 Province)

THURS 18 AUG

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
New Communities – +Saju Muthalaly, Barry Hill, Alistair Michaelwaite, Jonathan Dowman.

The Diocese of Meru – The Anglican Church of Kenya

FRI 19 AUG

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Intercultural Worshipping Communities – +Saju Muthalaly, Jessie Tang, Luke Fogg, Suzanne Hanson, Dinta Chauhan, Lesley Whitwell.

The Diocese of Mexico – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

SAT 20 AUG

Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Generous Giving – Phil Leech, Scott Else, Ariel Baker.

The Diocese of Northern Mexico – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Jessica Mwedzi is hungry to provide food – and hope – for her family.
Christian Aid Week 15 – 21 May 2022
Help Jessica turn hunger into hope

Drought starves. It robs women of the power to farm and grow food for their families.
In rural Zimbabwe, seven out of ten women rely on farming to earn a living and provide for their families. But with no rain, women and men can’t grow enough food, and they struggle to provide for their children. In times of drought, many families can only afford to eat one bowl of porridge a day.
Women are hungrier.
Mums often skip meals to share what little food they have with their children.
One of these mums is Jessica Mwedzi. Drought makes every day a struggle for survival. Jessica is hungry; hungry for a good meal; hungry to earn a decent living. Hungry to provide a more hopeful future for her family.
As the climate crisis rages on, vulnerable communities in Zimbabwe, like Jessica’s, face the threat of more intense droughts, flooding and storms.
’Women are at the mercy of climate change and hunger,’ she says.
Together, we can restore justice to our world. But we need to act now.
This Christian Aid Week (15-21 May), your church’s gift could help Jessica grow drought-resistant crops. Please help women like Jessica turn their dry, dusty land into a garden of hope.

Please:
• Give generously to help women grow crops that survive in the drought.
• Act and raise your voice for justice. Join our Loss and Damage campaign.
• Pray that families will stay strong during tough times of drought.

Together, we can turn hunger into hope. Stand in solidarity with mums like Jessica and help empower them to provide food – and hope – for their families.
Church resources - Order of Service, Hymns, Prayers, PowerPoint all available at caweek.org/resources
You can pay in donations at caweek.org

Peter Yates
Global Affairs – Social Responsibility Panel

Photo credit: Christian Aid / David Brazier
SUNDAY 21 AUG  10TH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The Narrow Door

Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, ‘Lord, will only a few be saved?’ He said to them, ‘Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, “Lord, open to us”, then in reply he will say to you, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will begin to say, “We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.” But he will say, “I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!” There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last.’

For prayer and reflection:
Thank God for the gift of salvation which is open to all.
Praise God for Jesus opening a new way into relationship with our loving heavenly Father.
What areas of ‘narrow way discipleship’ might Jesus be calling us to as we take up our cross and follow him?
Pray earnestly for those seeking to find the narrow way that leads to life.

MON 22 AUG  Diocese of Wyoming
Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese. See page 32.
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Safeguarding Team – Rachael Spiers, Pete Holloway, Julie Foulds, Louise Warner.

Tue 23 Aug
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Community of the Tree of Life – Rachel Bennetts, Josh Crick de Boom and all the residents.

Wed 24 Aug
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Education – Carolyn Lewis, Tracey Manns, Lindsey Bowe.

Thurs 25 Aug
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Social Responsibility & Together Leicester – Richard Worsfold (Chair), Florence Gildea, Alison Adams, Rebecca Pawley and all panel members.

Fri 26 Aug
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Leicester Cathedral Clergy – David Monteith, Alison Adams, Emma Davies, Karen Rooms, Manuela Schmucki and Julia Bradshaw.

Sat 27 Aug
Diocesan Staff cycle of prayer:
Leicester Cathedral Administration – Aabeda Choksi, Rebecca Hale, Andrew Radford, Bev Collett, Les Mitchelmore, Carys Underdown, Simon Bentley, Trevor Peel.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:
Diocese of Espoo, Bishop Kaisamari Hintikka
Scottish Episcopal Church:
Diocese of Edinburgh, Bishop John Armes
Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria

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“Reconciliation happens when my enemy tells me my story and I am able to say: ‘That is my story.’” (Stanley Hauerwas)

Since 2020, we have seen people take to the streets to stand for racial justice; to protest violence against women; to express opposition to Covid-19 lockdowns and vaccinations; and to demand stronger action against climate change. With every demonstration, protest, or flurry of social media activity, others use the same means to take the opposing line. So, what does it mean for us to be ‘reconciling communities’ in a world where there are dividing lines on everything from masks to monuments?

Unfortunately, the Church is not immune to such conflict – as Christians, we often create our own ‘in’ and ‘out’ groups. Our views on innumerable theological and ecclesiastical questions all threaten Christ’s prayer for us to ‘be one’ as he and the Father are one so that the world would see God through our relationships with one another (John 17). These fractions thus affect both our loving service of the world and our witness to it.

The photograph above of Patrick Hutchinson, a Black Lives Matter activist, carrying a counter-demonstrator to safety, immediately went viral, with politicians and commentators praising Hutchinson’s moral example. It is a striking reminder of how seeking the good of our enemy is a powerful witness to a world fractured into echo-chambers.

Living together well starts with listening well – without an agenda, resisting the need to categorise or offer our own commentary. As the quote from theologian Stanley Hauerwas indicates, when in conflict, it is tempting to caricature, objectify and demean our opponent. But when we are fully present, we make ourselves open to seeing Christ in friend and foe alike.

There are many levels on which we can pray for reconciliation, including:

- For ourselves – pray for God to make Godself known in the face of those we treat as ‘other’
- For the Diocese – pray that as we seek to make new partnerships through Shaped by God Together, that our ability to live and love well across difference would be a witness to those around us
- For the world – for Christians around the world who risk their lives to seek peace; for the Church in places of conflict; and for peace to come to Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Libya, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the Ukraine.

Florence Gildea
Bishop’s Social Policy Adviser

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland: Diocese of Turku, Archbishop Tapio Luoma, Bishop Mari Leppänen

Church of England: Diocese of York, Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, Bishop Paul Ferguson, Bishop John Thomson, Bishop Alison White, Bishop Glyn Webster

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

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.

Diocese of Leicester
Shaped by God