



Diocese of Newcastle Prayer Diary January 2021

This month, MARK WROE, Bishop-Designate of Berwick, has again provided weekly themes around Biblical texts to nourish our prayers as we make our next steps in *growing church bringing hope*. The theme as we start the New Year is *Bringing Good News*.

Secondly, ROB KELSEY, Assistant Archdeacon, has prepared condensed versions for every day of the prayers in his new book, *Praying for the Earth*. You will find a further note about this book at the end of this month's Prayer Diary.

Also this month, we also begin using a completely revised Cycle of Prayer for the Anglican Communion in over 165 countries, praying for just one diocese each day. Where possible, I'll include the first name of the bishop.

I hope that these developments help to make the Prayer Diary more than simply a list of people and places to pray FOR (important though that is) but also a list of concerns and issues to pray ABOUT. I'd be interested to hear your thoughts about these changes.

Richard Hill

1 NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS

- **Diocese of Aba (Nigeria)**
Bishop Christian
- **Diocese of Botswana**
Metlha Beleme, Diocesan Bishop
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Bishop Christine and Pete Askew, her Chaplain and Adviser
- **RENEWABLE ENERGY**
We give thanks for the power of the sun and the freedom of the wind.
Grant us ingenuity and inspiration in the development of renewable energy.

2 Saturday

Basil the Great and Gregory of Nazianzus, bishops, teachers of the faith, 379 and 389
 Seraphim, monk of Sarov, spiritual guide, 1833
 Vedanayagam Samuel Azariah, bishop in South India, evangelist, 1945

- **Diocese of Aba Ngwa North (Nigeria)**
Bishop Nathan

- **Diocese of Botswana**
Theo Naledi, retired Bishop
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Stannington St Mary the Virgin
Priest-in-Charge: vacant
- **DECARBONISATION**
We pray for the transformation of our carbon-based economies.
Help us to play our part in steering the world to a sustainable future

This coming week ...
'Nations shall come to your light ...'
(Isaiah 60:3)

As we celebrate the Epiphany, we remember that the revelation of Jesus Christ is for all people, so let us pray for our friends and family, who we long to recognise the wonder of the good news of Jesus Christ, that their steps will be guided in the way that is true.

3 SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

Roger Thornton, benefactor, 1430 [CNS] *

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of London
Dioceses of Nidaros and Trondheim
(Church of Norway)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Province of Alexandria:
Archbishop Mouneer
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Gaborone:
Celestino Chishimba, Dean and Archdeacon
(Cathedral) and Fr Octavius Bolelang
- **Diocese of Newcastle**
For Mark, Bishop-designate of Berwick,
preparing for his Consecration on Tuesday
- * Isabella McDonald Booth, Lay Canon
- **DRINKING WATER**

We offer thanks for easy access to safe drinking water, sufficient to meet our needs.

We remember those who walk for miles to fetch water for their families.

4 Monday

John of Damascus, monk, teacher of the faith, c.749

Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637

- **Diocese of Abakaliki (Nigeria)**
Bishop Monday
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Cathedral of the Holy Cross
Celestino Chishimba, Dean and Archdeacon
(Cathedral) and Fr Octavius Bolelang
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Ulgham
Priest-in-Charge: Joanna Dobson
Reader: Jonathan Cummins
- **THE SOIL**

As the soil provides nourishment for us,
may we nourish the soil
on which our lives depend

This Prayer Diary can be downloaded each month from the Newcastle diocesan website:
www.newcastle.anglican.org/prayerdiary

5 Tuesday

- **Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney (Scotland):** Bishop Anne
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of Francistown:
Ven Moreri Leteemane (Archdeacon - North), Fr George Callender, Fr Samuel Moraloki, Fr Olebile James Galebotswe, Fr Lekono Malabola and Fr Andries Matlhare
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Widdrington
Priest-in-Charge: Joanna Dobson
- **WILD ANIMALS**

Grant us a sense of kindred
with our fellow living creatures.
Make us a friend of helpless things, and
help us to prevent all cruelty and neglect.

Please remember our new Suffragan Bishop of Berwick, Mark Wroe, at his Consecration as bishop in York Minster today.

6 EPIPHANY

- **Diocese of Abuja (Nigeria):**
Archbishop Henry
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of Francistown: St Patrick's Church and St Carantoc's Church
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Rachel Wood, Acting Archdeacon of Northumberland
- **EPIPHANY**
In the manifestation of Christ, you use the things of the earth to reveal your glory.
Grant us wisdom to use the resources of the earth for the good of all creation.

7 Thursday

Ambrose, bishop of Milan, teacher of the faith, 397

Dioma, apostle to Mercia, 658 [CNS]

- **Diocese of Abyei (South Sudan)**
Bishop Michael
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
St Stephen's, Tonota, St Alban's, Moroka, All Saints' Matsiloje and St Paul's Tati Siding (all served by the Parish of Francistown)

- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Catherine Sourbut Groves, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne
- **The Mothers' Union**
For Barbara Packer, and all who work with her in the leadership of the MU in the Diocese.
- **RE-USE AND RECYCLING**
Bless those who work
in the recycling industry,
and those who work in charity shops.

8 Friday

*John Dobson, architect, 1865 [CNS] **

- **Diocese of Accra (Ghana, West Africa)**
Bishop Daniel
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Christ the King, Orapa, St John's, Makaleng and Sowa Town (served by the Parish of Francistown)
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Shane Waddle, Diocesan Secretary, and all who work at Church House, Percy Main
- * Roger Windass, Lay Canon
- **SOLAR POWER**

As the sun gives light and life to the earth,
may we harvest its power
for the good of all your children.

9 Saturday

- **Diocese of Adelaide (Australia):**
Archbishop Geoff
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Andrew, Selebi Phikwe:
Ven Sefularo Mogopodi (Archdeacon-Central)
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Rob Saner-Haigh, Director of Mission and Ministry

• CLOUDS AND PRECIPITATION

We bless you for the clouds
and soft refreshing rain.
Pour upon us and all creation
the continual dew of your blessing.

This coming week ...

'On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.' (Acts 19:5)

As we celebrate the Baptism of Christ, let us pray for all who are considering baptism for themselves, or for a child, and those preparing for confirmation, that they will have grace to bear faithfully the name of Jesus and bring good news to others.

10 BAPTISM OF CHRIST (Epiphany 1)

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Oulu (*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland*)
Diocese of Sør-Hålogaland (*Church of Norway*)
Diocese of Coventry
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
Archbishops Philip, Don and Fereimi
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
St Peter's, Mmadinare (outstation of St Andrew's, Selebi Phikwe)
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
All the members of the Diocesan Synod
- **PLOUGH SUNDAY**
As we mark another turning
in the agricultural year,
may we turn over a new leaf
in our dealings with the earth.

11 Monday

*Benedict Biscop, abbot of Wearmouth, scholar, 689 [CNS] **

Mary Slessor, missionary in West Africa, 1915

- **Diocese of Afikpo (Nigeria)** Bishop Paul
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
St Augustine's Theological School:
Canon James Amanze
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Honorary Assistant Bishops:
John Packer, Stephen Pedley,
Stephen Platten, John Richardson,
Mark Bryant and Glyn Webster
- * Peter Dobson, Residentiary Canon

Continued >>>>

- **PLANTS**

May a rich variety of species
be clothed in glory,
and provide refuge and food
for all manner of animals.

12 Tuesday

Aelred, abbot of Hexham, abbot of Rievaulx,
1167 [CNS] *

- **Diocese of North Africa** (*Province of Alexandria*): Bishop Samy
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Augustine, Serowe:
Ven Sefularo Mogopodi (Archdeacon –
Central) and Fr Ford Godiraone Gaogane
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Education Director: Paul Rickeard and all
who work with him in supporting the many
Church schools in our Diocese

- **INSECTS**

Help us to preserve the populations
of bees and other insects.
May we kill not the moth nor butterfly,
for your tender mercy's sake.

13 Wednesday

Hilary, bishop of Poitiers, teacher of the faith,
367

*Kentigern (Mungo) missionary bishop in
Strathclyde and Cumbria, 603*

*George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends
(the Quakers), 1691*

- **Diocese of the Horn of Africa** (*Province of Alexandria*) Bishop Kuan
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St James the Great, Mahalapye:
Fr Kealeboga Lekoba
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
The work of the Children's and Young
People's Work Support Team
- **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

We give thanks for the ingenuity and artistry
of engineers and architects.

Bless those who maintain the fabric of
our cities, and our green and pleasant land.

14 Thursday

*John the Chanter, monk and musician, c.681
[CNS] **

- **Diocese of Agra** (*North India*) Bishop Prem

- **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Joseph, Shoshong and St Ignatius of
Loyola, Machaneng (served by St James the
Great, Mahalapye)

- **Norham Deanery:**

Area Dean: Rob Kelsey

Lay Chair: John Ayerst

- * Andrew Shipton, Vicar of All Saints,
Gosforth
- **FOOD WASTE**

Help us, in our homes, and as a nation,
to avoid wasting good food.
May we buy as much as we need,
and share whatever we can.

15 Friday

John Cosin, theologian and liturgist, 1672 [CNS]

Ceolwulf, king of Northumbria, 737 [CNS]

- **Diocese of Agwata** (*Nigeria*) Bishop Samuel
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Mark, Lobatse:
Fr Botshabelo Beleme and
Fr Solomon Diphoko
- **Norham Deanery:**
Deanery Secretary: Phil Rowett
Finance Officer: Terry Harris
- **BIOFUELS**

Give guidance to those involved
in the development of biofuels.
Help us to find the right balance between
the need for food and the need for fuel.

16 Saturday

Henry of Coquet Island, 1127

- **Diocese of Ahoada** (*Nigeria*)
Bishop Clement
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parishes of St Mary Magdalene, Palapye and
St Cyprian, Seleke: Fr George Moshapa
- **Norham Deanery:**
**Benefice of Berwick Holy Trinity and
St Mary**
Vicar: Dennis Handley
Curates: Tracey Usher and Thomas Sample
Readers: Anne Harris and Sheena Hewitt
- Berwick Holy Trinity C of E First School and
Berwick St Mary's C of E First School

- **SPACE JUNK**

As we praise you
for the purity of the spangled heavens,
keep us from littering the sky
with space debris.

This coming week ...

'Come and see.' (John 1:46)

After a conversation, Philip invited his friend Nathaniel to 'come and see' who he had found in Jesus. Let us pray that we might have courage to have conversations about our faith with friends or family, and the opportunity to invite them to 'come and see'.

17 SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Tampere (*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland*)
Diocese of Manchester
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Anglican Church of Australia
Archbishop Geoffrey
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Michael and All Angels,
Broadhurst: Fr Jooste Motshwane,
Fr Bonny Bashe and Fr Patrick Rampha
- **Norham Deanery:**
Benefice of Cornhill with Carham
Priest-in-charge: Rob Kelsey
- **FISH AND FISHING**

We praise you
for all that swim in the waters,
and pray for the protection
of endangered species.

18 Monday

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Amy Carmichael, founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer, 1951

- **Diocese of Aipo Rongo** (*Papua New Guinea*)
Bishop Nathan
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
St Matthew's, Mochudi (served by the Parish of St Michael and All Angels)
- **Norham Deanery:**
St Helen's Parish Church, Cornhill

- For all local ecumenical events planned for this Week of Prayer

- **CHRISTIAN UNITY**

May we rejoice
in the diversity of the universal Church,
the rich diversity of your creation,
and our unity in Christ.

19 Tuesday

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Wulfstan, bishop of Worcester, 1095

- **Diocese of Ajayi Crowther** (*Nigeria*)
Bishop Olugbenga
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Paul, Molepolole:
Fr Mooketsi Mokgatlhe, Fr Western Medupe, and Fr Bakang Banks Lesetedi
- **Norham Deanery:**
St Cuthbert's Parish Church, Carham
- For the Roman Catholic Church
- **COMPANION ANIMALS**
We ask for your blessing
on our pets and animal companions.
May we care for them, as you care for us.

20 Wednesday

Richard Rolle of Hampole, spiritual writer, 1349

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

- **Diocese of Akobo** (*South Sudan*)
Bishop John
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
St Thomas', Letlhakeng (served by the Parish of St Paul, Molepolole)
- **Norham Deanery:**
Benefice of Branxton
Priest-in-Charge: Rob Kelsey
- For all churches in the Orthodox tradition
- **THE WASTE OF WAR**
We remember with sorrow
the waste of war:
help us to work together for the
peace and well-being of all living things.

21 Thursday

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Agnes, child martyr at Rome, 304
*Dame Eleanor Allen, educationalist, 1708 [CNS]**

- **Diocese of Akoko (Nigeria)**
Archbishop Gabriel
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parishes of St Andrew, Mmopane, St James, Kopong and St Luke, Lentsweletau:
Fr Paul Beleme
- **Norham Deanery:**
Benefice of Ford and Etal and Lowick and Kyloe with Ancroft
Priest-in-Charge-Designate:
Charlotte Osborn (*to be licensed on Wednesday 27th January*)
- For the worldwide Methodist Church
- * Julie Robson, Lay Canon
- **LITTER**
Change the hearts and minds
of those who drop litter without a care.
Help us to protect the natural world
from the selfishness of the human race.

22 Friday

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Vincent of Saragossa, deacon, first martyr of Spain, 304

- **Diocese of Akoko Edo (Nigeria)**
Bishop Jolly
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parishes of Holy Trinity, Mmankgodi, St Matthew, Thamaga and St Mark, Moshupa:
Fr Isaac Mupfumi
- **Norham Deanery:**
St Anne's Parish Church, Ancroft
- For all Lutheran and Reformed Churches
- **EDUCATION AND CAMPAIGNING**
Bless teachers and scientists,
As they reveal the wonder of creation,
and raise awareness of our need
to respect and protect the earth.

23 Saturday

- **Diocese of Akoto (South Sudan)**
Bishop Isaac
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Peter, Mogoditshane:

Fr Ezekiel Nthokwa and
Fr Munyaradzi Mubata

- **Norham Deanery:**
Church of St Mary the Virgin, Etal
- For the Salvation Army and the Society of Friends (the Quakers)
- **WIND ENERGY**
As the Holy Spirit, like the wind,
gives life to the world and its creatures,
we pray for wisdom
in the siting of wind turbines.

This coming week ...

'You have kept the good wine until now.'
(John 2:10)

Jesus turned water into wine at a wedding celebration. Let us pray that we are open to the joyful abundance of God's transforming love, and also pray for all preparing for marriage in 2021 that they will know the good news of God's love in Jesus Christ.

24 THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Birmingham
Diocese of Elsinore (*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark*)
Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross (*Church of Ireland*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Church of Bangladesh:
Most Revd Samuel Mankhin, Moderator
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parishes of St John the Baptist, Gabane and St Patrick, Kumakwane: Fr Martin Mosima
- **Norham Deanery**
St Michael and All Angels' Church, Ford
- Hugh Joicey C of E First School, Ford
- For all churches in the Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions
- **WATER SHORTAGES**
Guide our response to droughts,
and help us resolve the disputes
caused by lack of rainfall
and depleting water supplies.

25 CONVERSION OF PAUL

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends

- **Diocese of Akure (Nigeria)** Bishop Simeon
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St Simon of Cyrene, Tiokweng:
Ven Joe Tsuaneng (Archdeacon – South),
Fr Peter Moshapa and Fr Dr Nelson Mwaniki
- **Norham Deanery:**
St John's Parish Church, Lowick
- Lowick C of E First School
- All Black, African and Ethnic Minority churches in Britain
- **ROADSIDE VERGES**

We pray for your blessing on
grass verges and roadside nature reserves.
May we treasure all small areas
of outstanding natural beauty.

26 Tuesday

Timothy and Titus, companions of Paul

- **Diocese of Alabama (USA)** Bishop Glenda
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Parish of St John the Baptist, Tsabong:
Vacant
- **Norham Deanery:**
Benefice of Holy Island St Mary the Virgin
Vicar: Sarah Hills
Curate: Samantha Quilty
- Holy Island C of E First School
- **URBAN WILDLIFE**

We pray for the animals and plants
that live in cities and towns.

Help us, so far as we are able,
to live and let live.

27 Wednesday

Holocaust Memorial Day

Theme: Be the light in the darkness

- **Diocese of Alaska (USA):** Bishop Mark
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Villages with churches in the Tsabong area:
Khuis, Middlepits, Bogogobo and
Kolonkweng (served mainly by Lay
Ministers)
- **Norham Deanery:**
**Benefice of Norham St Cuthbert and Duddo
All Saints**
Vicar: Rob Kelsey
- Norham St Ceowulf C of E First School

• GENETIC MODIFICATION

Help us,
who have dominion over every living thing,
to respect the integrity of every species.

*Please pray this evening for Charlotte Osborn, to
be licensed by Bishop Christine as Priest-in-Charge
of Ford and Etal and Lowick with Kyloe and
Ancroft, and for the congregations and
communities Charlotte will serve.*

28 Thursday

Thomas Aquinas, priest, philosopher, teacher of
the faith, 1274

- **Diocese of Saint Albans** Bishop Alan
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Villages with churches in the Tsabong area:
Maralaleng, Omaweneno, Malashe and
Khisa (served mainly by Lay Ministers)
- **Norham Deanery:**
**Benefice of Scremerston and Spittal and
Tweedmouth**
Vicar: Rachel Hudson
Readers: Phil Rowett and Harry Plater
- **MENTAL WELL-BEING**

Make us ever mindful
of your presence in creation,
and help us all to find our rest
in the beauty of the earth,

29 Friday

Gildas, priest and historian, 570 [CNS]

- **Diocese of Albany (USA)** Bishop Bill
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
Villages with churches in the Tsabong area:
Draaiheok, Makapong and Werda (served
mainly by Lay Ministers)
- **Norham Deanery:**
St Peter's Parish Church, Scremerston
- **PANDEMICS**

In the plagues and pandemics
that afflict the human race,
may we realise our vulnerability,
and learn a new humility
in our relation to the earth.

30 Saturday

Charles, king and martyr, 1649

- **Diocese of Algoma** (*Canada*)
Archbishop Anne
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
New Church groups: Maun and Kasane
(served by the Parish of Francistown)
- **Norham Deanery:**
St John's Parish Church, Spittal
- **FOOD PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION**

Help us to find the right balance
between buying and selling locally,
and supporting our global neighbours
in developing countries.

This coming week ...

'... and a sword will pierce your own soul too'. (Luke 2:35)

As we celebrate the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, we remember the words given to Mary, as we pray for those who face grief and pain in our communities that we might bring them the good news of God's comfort and hope in Jesus Christ with care and compassion.

31 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

May be kept as Candlemas

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Bangor (*Church in Wales*)
Diocese of Dublin and Glendalough (*Church of Ireland*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil
Archbishop Naudal
- **Diocese of Botswana:**
The strengthening of links between our dioceses
- **Norham Deanery:**
St Bartholomew's Parish Church,
Tweedmouth
- **ANTARCTICA**

We praise you for the only continent
without a native human population.

Bless the penguins and seals,
and the research work of visiting scientists.

Canon Rob Kelsey's book, *Praying for the Earth*, aims to be a resource for the Church and for individual Christians, in the belief that environmental concerns should be an integral part of the public and private prayers of all Christian people. Proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to an environmental good cause, and copies can be ordered from here:

<https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/ministry-resources/prayers-earth-environment>.

About this Prayer Diary

We continue to include in the Prayer Diary all those commemorated in **Celebrating the Northern Saints**, [CNS] and to remember our lay, residentiary and honorary canons on the day of the saints and influential people who have given their canonry its designation and/or stall in the Cathedral.

SUNDAYS

For each Sunday, we follow a well-established pattern:

- First are intercessions for the Porvoo Communion (<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/cmsfiles/pdf/news/Committee/PORVOO-PRAYER-DIARY-2020.pdf>). The Porvoo Declaration commits the churches which have signed it to “share a common life” and “to pray for and with one another.”
- Second are intercessions from the new Anglican Cycle of Prayer, available at www.anglicancommunion.org. Prayers on Sundays are for a Province of the Communion.
- Thirdly we pray for our link Diocese of Botswana.
- Fourthly we remember our own Diocese of Newcastle, and the Morpeth and Norham Deaneries, their churches, people and organisations, including Church Schools.

WEEKDAYS

The pattern is similar on weekdays, but without the Porvoo Communion:

- Firstly, dioceses from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer
- Secondly, our link Diocese of Botswana
- Thirdly, our own Diocese, and the people, parishes, churches and schools in Morpeth and Norham Deaneries.
- On the first Thursday, we pray for the work of the Mothers’ Union in the Diocese
- In January, we remember every day during the Week of Prayer for Unity our fellow Christians in many denominations of the worldwide Church.

We pray for our **Link Dioceses** as follows:

Botswana during January, April and October.

Møre during March, June and September.

Winchester during May, August and November.

The **Deaneries** are incorporated in the Prayer Diary in such a way as to include the **Benefices** (with names of ordained and lay ministers) and also, for benefices with more than one church, the constituent **churches**, in order that every congregation – and the local community in which it is set – can be remembered at least once during the year.

January	Morpeth (cont.) and Norham	July	Newcastle East
February	Bedlington	August	Newcastle West
March	Bellingham	September	Tynemouth
April	Corbridge	October	Alnwick
May	Hexham	November	Bamburgh & Glendale
June	Newcastle Central	December	Morpeth

I try to mark important days in the life of the Diocese (e.g. Diocesan Synods, Institutions and Licensings, ecumenical occasions) with a special note, but can only do so if I have the information early in the previous month. **Please don’t hesitate to send me information and prompts in good time.**