



 The Diocese of
Peterborough



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*Thank you to all who contributed to this edition of the Cycle of Prayer.
Cover photo by Theo Lauber*

3 DECEMBER—9 DECEMBER

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 3 December

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Church of North India (United)

The Porvoo Churches – Chester, Kuopio

Monday 4 December

The workplace: Everyday faith – Monday to Saturday (as well as Sunday)

Heavenly Father, help us to see how important our faith is to our everyday lives. How our time of worship and prayer can help to better nurture our faith and support for each other, even if we cannot be in the same place together. Dear Lord, help us to share our faith and our prayers in our life across the week in our work and leisure. Amen.

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

Tuesday 5 December

Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, (*also BCP*) c.326

Peterborough Mental Health Chaplaincy

Chaplains: Jane Pope, Mohammed Rashid
Peer Support Worker: Abby Hill

We are also invaluablely supported by a team of volunteers (and are always happy to meet others interested in joining the team). Although the inpatient unit is at the Cavell Centre, on the main PCH site, the vast majority of mental health treatment takes place in the community these days, so we spend a lot of our time out and about, as well as meeting people online or speaking to them by phone. Our work is designed to build community with people who experience mental health challenges (an increasing proportion of the population) and to practice compassion by simply “being human together”. We do this through various groups, both online and in person, and through 1:1 support. We support people of all faiths and none, recognising that all human beings have spiritual needs and some of these are expressed through religion. Our

PETERBOROUGH DEANERY

Rural Dean: Revd Canon Michael Moore

Lay Chairman: Frank Smith

role is to find out how individual experiences meaning and hope in the world and to support them in doing so.

The Diocese of Bari – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday 6 December

Cathedral of St Peter, St Paul and St Andrew

Dean: The Very Revd Chris Dalliston

Vice Dean: The Revd Canon Tim Alban Jones

Canon Missioner:

The Revd Canon Steve Benoy

Canon Precentor:

The Revd Dr Rowan Williams

Please pray for the Cathedral Trust and our fundraising efforts including our new Head of Fundraising, Peter Christmas. We are preparing to welcome Bishop Debbie and for her Enthronement in the Spring. Please hold in your prayers, all the team at the Cathedral as we continue to address opportunities and challenges as they arise.

The Diocese of Baringo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Thursday 7 December

Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397

Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers

Almighty God, giver of strength and skill, bless the work of the Diocesan Guild of Bellringers as it approaches its Centenary year. Guide the ringers in the exercise of their art; may their ringing proclaim your presence in every place and give eternal glory to your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Diocese of Barisal – The Church of Bangladesh

Friday 8 December

The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Seoul Diocese: Gangnam Church

The Revd Gregory S Yang

The Diocese of Barrackpore – The Church of North India (United)

Saturday 9 December

Church communications

Pray for all who communicate news through traditional and social media on behalf of the Church, and for those who communicate within the Church (parish magazine and notice sheet editors, and website managers) – that through their work the gospel may be communicated and people encouraged.

The Diocese of Bath and Wells – The Church of England

10 DECEMBER—16 DECEMBER

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PETERBOROUGH DEANERY

Rural Dean: Revd Canon Michael Moore

Lay Chairman: Frank Smith

Sunday 10 December

O Lord, raise up – we pray – your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that, whereas through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Church of Pakistan (United)

The Porvoo Churches – Southwell and Nottingham, Borg

Monday 11 December

The workplace: All who are in jobs just for the Christmas season

Lord, we pray for all those who are in jobs just for the Christmas season. For some, this will mean extra spending money for the vacation. For others, this will give temporary relief to their financial difficulties. Help them to feel welcomed in their places of employment, and to experience the true meaning of Christmas – Emmanuel: God with us – as they help us to get ready. Amen.

The Diocese of Bathurst – The Anglican Church of Australia

Tuesday 12 December

Peterborough City Hospital

Lead Chaplain: Revd Petros Nyatsanza

Ordained Chaplain: Revd James Thomson

Revd Emily Davis

Revd William Booker

Revd Reuben

Mugweru

Muslim Chaplain: Tausif Khan

Lay Catholic Chaplain: Sally Smith

Almighty God, may the foundation of the work of all the staff and volunteers be that of caring, helping and sharing the healing love of God amongst all the people they are called to serve.

The Diocese of Bauchi – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday 13 December

Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304.

The Peterborough School

Chaplain: Vacant

Headmaster: Mr Adrian Meadows

Provost: The Rt Revd Robert Ladds

Pray for the school community of pupils, families and staff, as a Church of England foundation in the Woodard family, under the patronage of Our Lady and St Hugh of Lincoln. Pray for new pupils and staff starting this term and for those who have left, for the next stage of their lives. Pray that many will know Christ in the weekly Eucharist and Liturgy of the Word, and through the pastoral care offered, that we may have life in Him, and have it abundantly.

The Diocese of Belize – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Thursday 14 December

John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher of the Faith, 1591

Adviser for Inter-Religious Affairs

Pray for respect and understanding for all those engaged in dialogue with people of other faiths in our Diocese. Pray too for the trouble spots of the world, where religious differences are used as an excuse to create social and political conflict.

The Diocese of Bendigo – The Anglican Church of Australia

Friday 15 December

Ember Day

Diocesan Secretary: Andrew Roberts

Pray for all the diocesan administrative staff.

The Diocese of Beni – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Saturday 16 December

Ember Day

Seoul Diocese: Hanam Church

The Revd Mark B Yoon

The Diocese of Benin – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

17 DECEMBER – 23 DECEMBER

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DEANERY OF TOWCESTER

Rural Dean: Revd Canon Richard Stainer

Lay Chair: Sharron Bland

Sunday 17 December

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Porvoo Churches: Oslo, Durham, Moray Ross and Caithness

The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Monday 18 December

The workplace: For an appropriate balance between work and life, and for our leisure activities

Lord, help all who work to recognise that this is a gift created by you, and help them to remember that you rested on the seventh day. Let their work be fresh, busy and satisfying so their resting be deep, peaceful and fulfilling and whether at work or at leisure may they give you the glory. Amen.

The Diocese of Bentiu – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tuesday 19 December

Deanery of Towcester

Heavenly Father, we hold before you the Deanery of Towcester and ask for your continual blessing and guidance in all areas of mission in which you have called us to be partners with one another and with you. Encourage us to walk together as we continue to be your love and healing presence in each community. Amen.

The Diocese of Bermuda – (Extra Provincial)

Wednesday 20 December

Lambfold Benefice:

Blakesley cum Woodend St Mary; Adstone All Saints; Farthingstone St Mary the Virgin; Litchborough St Martin; Maidford St Peter and St Paul

Rector: Revd Sue Stanley

Reader: David Cockshott

Blakesley CEVC Primary School

Head: Charlotte York

Faithful God, we pray for all the churches within the Benefice, that they will be places of love, welcome, refuge and safety to all. Grant

us the strength and guidance of your Holy Spirit, that we will be inspired to find new and creative ways to share the message of your kingdom with those whom we meet; help our churches to be good news in our villages. We pray for our school in Blakesley, that we may develop ever-stronger links with staff, pupils and their parents. Amen.

The Diocese of Bethlehem – The Episcopal Church

Thursday 21 December

Blisworth St John the Baptist; Alderton St Margaret; Grafton Regis St Mary; Milton Malsor Holy Cross; Stoke Bruerne with Shutlanger St Mary the Virgin

Rector: Revd Canon Richard Stainer

Assistant Curate: Revd Graham Brack

Stoke Bruerne CEVC Primary School

Head: Eliza Hollis

Milton Parochial Primary School

Head: Rachel Scott

Dear Lord, we thank you for the life and witness of our Benefice. May your spirit guide us to deepen relationships and direct us to follow where your will leads us. Amen.

The Diocese of Bhopal – The Church of North India (United)

Friday 22 December

Self-supporting Ministers

Northampton Archdeaconry: Vacant

Oakham Archdeaconry: Vacant

Lord, we give thanks for our SSMS. We pray that their ministry in their community or workplace (and their parish) will be fruitful and led by your Holy Spirit. May they know their value as your servants. Help us to keep a balance in work and service.

Seoul Diocese: Bucheon & Gwangmyoung Churches

The Revds Samuel Y Kim and Margaret S Min

The Diocese of Bida – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Saturday 23 December

Ecumenical Officers

Pray for the Diocesan Ecumenical Officer Revd Stephen Trott, Caroline Hutchings, County Ecumenical Development Officer for Peterborough and Rutland, and Allison Shefford, County Ecumenical Development Officer for Shire and Soke.

The Diocese of Biharamulo – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

24 DECEMBER – 30 DECEMBER

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DEANERY OF TOWCESTER

Rural Dean: Revd Canon Richard Stainer

Lay Chair: Sharron Bland

Sunday 24 December

CHRISTMAS EVE

God our Redeemer, who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son: grant that, as she looked for his coming as our Saviour, so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Porvoo Churches: Chichester, Mikkeli

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Monday 25 December

CHRISTMAS DAY

The workplace: All who will be working on Christmas Day

Lord, on the day we remember your incarnation and that you came not to be served but to serve, we pray for all who need to work on Christmas Day and those days when the rest of us are still celebrating the time of your birth. We pray for those working in hospitality, and for the emergency services and the NHS. We pray that as they serve, they will meet with you, risen Lord, in the guise of a stranger. Amen.

The Diocese of Birmingham – The Church of England

Tuesday 26 December

Stephen, deacon, first martyr

Passenham with Old Stratford St Guthlac with Deanshanger Holy Trinity

Rector: Revd James Pennington

PTO: Revd Jim Blackett, Revd Lesley Holman
Father, build Your Kingdom here. Fill these churches with the joyful hearts of prodigals returned home, and their brothers and sisters delighted to welcome them too. Help us to be your love and truth in word and deed, that all may see your love in us, and may we share the blessing of knowing you with a world in need.

In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Diocese of Blackburn – The Church of England

Wednesday 27 December

John, Apostle and Evangelist

Seoul Diocese: Incheon Gyeong & Seochoang Churches

The Revds John S Lee and Crispin H Kim

The Diocese of Bo – The Church of the Province of West Africa

Thursday 28 December

The Holy Innocents

Amelcote Benefice:

Pattishall Holy Cross; Cold Higham St Luke; Gayton St Mary; Tiffield St John the Baptist

Rector: Vacant

Reader: Sue Titheridge

Lay Pastoral Minister: Jean Pugh

Gayton CEVC, Tiffield CEVA and Pattishall CEVC Primary Schools

Head (Gayton and Tiffield): Eliza Hollis

Head (Pattishall): Emma McLean

We give you thanks, dear God, for this Benefice and those who faithfully witness to your redeeming love. Help us to encourage all who come to worship. We pray for the teachers and pupils attending our CofE Schools help them to follow Jesus and to know his love. Let us continue to show faith, compassion, generosity and love to all who come into our churches and to those we meet along life's journey. We pray for those leading worship through word and music. We give thanks for Friday's Fellowship, Fun, Food and Creation in Pattishall Church. We pray for the January Alpha Course. We give thanks and pray for our Churchwardens, PCC members and the Church Family who help to bring Christ's Light into these Communities.

The Diocese of Boga – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Friday 29 December

Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170

South Cleley Benefice:

Potterspury St Nicholas with Furtho St Bartholomew and Yardley Gobion St Leonards; Cosgrove St Peter and St Paul; Wicken St John the Evangelist

Rector: Vacant

Readers: Mary McVay, Monty Lynds

Mentor during Vacancy:

Venerable David Painter

Yardley Gobion CEVC Primary School

Head: Paul Thompson

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the ongoing life of faith and witness in the four villages of our small benefice, and we especially praise you for the opportunities for the fellowship and outreach to our communities. Bless, we pray, the schools in our parishes, and all who work with young people and their families. We commit to you the future care of our benefice, and pray that in the fullness of time a new parish priest will be appointed. Meanwhile may worship build us up week by week in discipleship and spiritual renewal, to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Diocese of Bolivia – The Anglican Church of South America

Saturday 30 December

The Diocese of Bondo – The Anglican Church of Kenya