



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➞ CHANGING LIVES

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

‘Praying for each other; praying with each other’



January 2026

1 Thurs Praying Together: the New Year

Almighty God,
renew your Church with the light of Christ as we enter the year of our Lord 2026.
Strengthen us by your Spirit to proclaim the gospel with joy,
to guide and nurture all who seek your truth,
and to serve our neighbours faithfully in love,
to uphold what is right and to pursue peace,
and to care for all your creation.
Guide our steps and deepen our hope,
that we may be diligent in your mission, making Christ known in every community;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Stephen Dougal - Assistant Priest at The Elham Valley
Benefice

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Seychelles –
The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean*

2 Fri Praying Together with the Sittingbourne Deanery for: Fresh Expressions and Missional Learning Communities

Please pray today for the Missional Learning communities and the Fresh Expressions of Church gathering, worshipping, praying and witnessing in our deanery. Pray that signs of a living faith will spring up in unexpected places. Pray that we will dare to join with God in creating a caring, sustainable and growing Christian presence. Teach us to listen to the voice of God, and to follow where he leads us. May we be a means by which the love God has for the world is shared. Through our acts of loving service and discipleship, may we share the good news.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Sheffield – The Church of England*

3 Sat Borden: St Peter & St Paul

Clergy: Vacant

Assistant Curate: Jane Barker

Reader: Jill Petts

Churchwardens: Kathy Collins, Bernadette Lyons

School: Borden CE Primary School

Please pray with us as we look forward to welcoming a new priest into our midst, and continue to pray that God is leading the right person to us. Please give thanks with us for those who are maintaining a regular pattern of worship within our church, as well as the upkeep of the physical building. We ask for prayers for the staff and students of Borden CofE primary school whose enthusiasm and joy inspire us all. We look forward to restarting our monthly family worship and ask for prayers that this will reach out to those who might not otherwise attend church.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Shinyanga –
The Anglican Church of Tanzania*

4 Sun Praying Together: For new beginnings

Almighty God, with you as the example of all new beginnings, be with all parishes and ministers, lay and ordained, as we enter 2026. Make us instruments of peace and truth. Renew your church with a deeper desire to rest in you; guide and lead us in faithfulness as we display your love and light in a world longing for peace. Grant us conviction of spirit to love from a pure heart, a good conscience, and a sincere faith (1 Tim 1:5), that we may be true examples where you have called us. Bless all supporting ministries in our diocese with wisdom and steadfast faith.

“Steer the ship of my life, good Lord,
toward Yourself,
the tranquil haven of all storm-tossed souls.
Command the winds and waves.
Let this new year be one of calm and blessing.”
St Basil the Great - Prayer of God’s Mercy

Prayer written by Revd Tim Gosden - assistant Curate at St John’s Church,
Folkestone

*Anglican Communion:
2nd Sunday of Christmas
The Church of the Province of Central Africa*

5 Mon Eastchurch with Leysdown and Harty

Clergy: Vacant
Churchwardens: Sue Hopper, Yvette Gutheil, Amber Hopper
School: Eastchurch CE Primary School

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Upper Shire – The Church of the Province of Central Africa*

6 Tue Praying Together: The Epiphany

Lord, as the Wise Men brought their gifts to you in a humble stable so long ago in Bethlehem, may we lay before you the gifts you have so graciously bestowed on us: gifts of love, compassion and service. Amen.

Prayer written by Andrew Snowdon - Reader at the North Downs Benefice

*Anglican Communion:
Epiphany
The Diocese of Shyira – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda*

7 Wed Milton Regis with Murston, Bapchild & Tonge

Clergy: Simon Young

Assistant Curates: Jane Barker, Tracy Williams

School: Bapchild & Tonge CE Primary School

Give thanks for the growth of our congregation at Bapchild and for the young people who have enjoyed our bi-monthly youth club (The Hub). Please pray that more families would engage with our Family Services, and more adults, young and senior, would enjoy our worship and join our fellowship. Pray also for more musicians and singers to lead our music. Please pray for the children and staff of Bapchild school.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Shyogwe – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

8 Thurs Sittingbourne with Bobbing

Clergy: Vacant

Readers: Jan Phillips, Gill Price

Heavenly Father, help us to see your will in the changes to our deanery, especially those to our benefice of Sittingbourne and Bobbing as it becomes St Michael's Sittingbourne, Murston, Bapchild and Tonge. Inspire us to be guiding lights to our communities, places of welcome to those who come; and a prayerful and worshipful presence for them to be part of, including through our musical and civic church tradition. May your guidance be there to help us through the challenges and share in our joys of bringing new sheep into the inclusive love, safety, and warmth of your fold. Amen.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Sialkot – The Church of Pakistan (United)

9 Fri The Six

Clergy: Amanda Lane

Reader: George Hulme

Reader-in-Training: Teresa Parker

School: Hartlip Endowed CE Primary School, Newington CE Primary School

Pray with us today. In the benefice of The Six, we are currently in interregnum, which we are facing in good heart, but with a clear understanding of the challenges we live with. We would welcome prayer for the appointment of a new incumbent, hopefully quite soon, who will work with us and lead us as we discern where God is already at work in our villages and congregations, and seek to join in.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Singapore – Church of the Province of South East Asia

10 Sat Tunstall with Bredgar Benefice

Clergy: Alan Pinnegar, Richard Braddy, Karen Burgess

Readers: Pat Tatchell, Clive Jacobs

Schools: Bredgar CE Primary School, Milstead & Frinstead CEPS, Tunstall CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Sittwe – The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

11 Sun Praying Together: for renewal and discipleship

Dear Lord,

In this New Year, we pray for our continued discipleship in Christ:

that we may not lose heart,

that we may be encouraged by our communities of faith, and

that we may be confident in our interpretation of the Gospel to a needy, confused and sometimes angry world.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,

Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Brian McHenry CBE - Assistant Area Dean for the
Canterbury Deanery

Anglican Communion:

1st Sunday of Epiphany

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

12 Mon West Sheppey

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Angela Cummings, Julie Palmer, Mary Shoebridge, Brenda Smith, Ashley Sheil

Reader: Roxane Lee-Affonso

Schools: St George's CE Primary School

Lord, we lift up Sheppey and all who live on its island.

We ask that You continue to guide, strengthen and unite us as we seek the new team who will lead our churches into the future.

Grant us patience, wisdom and hope as we follow Your direction.

Amen.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Sodor and Man – The Church of England

13 Tue Praying Together with the Weald Deanery

Area Dean: David Commander

Lay Chair: Graham Codling

Secretary: Julia Collard

Treasurer: Graham Codling

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Sokoto – The Church of Nigeria

14 Wed Praying Together with the Weald Deanery for: Clergy with Permission to Officiate

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

Jack Bateson, Diana Bourne, Judy Darkins, Neville Gallagher, Lesley Hardy, Stephen Hardy, David Jones, Jean Mayhew, John Sykes, Monica Taylor, David Trustram

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Central Solomons – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

15 Thurs Praying Together with the Weald Deanery for: Chaplains

Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work where ever they go.

Sonja Drew, Rodney Dreyer, Tracey Bateson, Nicky Harvey, Serena Willoughby

Anglican Communion:

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

16 Fri Benenden: St George & Sandhurst: St Nicholas

Clergy: David Commander, Ylva Blid-Mackenzie

School: Benenden CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Southwark – The Church of England

17 Sat Cranbrook: St Dunstan

Clergy: Richard King

Assistant Curate: Shelley King

Reader: John Mulrenan

School: Colliers Green CE Primary School, Cranbrook CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham – The Church of England

18 Sun Praying Together in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

God of light,

you have called us out of darkness into your light.

May our response to your call lead us to actively seek reconciliation and share your light in the world.

Amen.

A question to consider

How does reflecting on the “calling to which you have been called” as described in Ephesians 4:1 inspire you to actively contribute to unity within your local and wider church communities?

Extract from resources prepared by the World Council of Churches

Anglican Communion:

2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

19 Mon Goudhurst: St Mary the Virgin with Kilndown: Christ Church

Clergy: Rachel Robertson

Reader and Anna Chaplain: Sonja Drew

School: Goudhurst & Kilndown CE Primary School

We value prayer for all ages who this January find their mental well being challenged by circumstance or underlying health issues.

We appreciate prayer for the Weald Family Hub, which helps pay for professional counselling delivered in primary schools across the Weald, supporting young children with their mental health.

Please pray for many of our 18-25 years olds whose mental health is fragile (whether at university, in further training, employed, volunteering or unsure of their next steps). May they seek help and find it in abundance.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain – (Extra Provincial)

20 Tue Hawkhurst: St Laurence with All Saints

Clergy: Vacant

Reader: Stephen Ringer

School: Hawkhurst CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Spokane – The Episcopal Church

21 Wed Praying Together: for our communities

Lord Jesus Christ,
you show us how to be patient with one another in humility and gentleness. May the light you have shone on our path lead us towards unity
and help us heal the wounds of division and indifference
that often break communities apart.
Amen.

A question to consider

How can the virtues of humility, gentleness, patience and tolerance, as mentioned in the letter to the Ephesians, help us as believers navigate and overcome divisions within our local Christian communities?

Extract from resources prepared by the World Council of Churches

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Springfield – The Episcopal Church

22 Thurs Praying Together: for hope for the world

Jesus Christ,
you have brought us together in all our diversity as your family and church.
In the face of so many situations on earth where hope has given way to despair and wounded hearts, renew our hope in the Holy Spirit's work of changing the world.
Move us to spread this hope to everyone everywhere.
You are the true Light, who casts out the darkness of sin,
and shines into our hearts the joy and hope of your eternal love.
Amen.

A question to consider

In what ways can we, as a church or community, embrace the challenge of our one calling, while maintaining our unique identity and traditions?

Extract from resources prepared by the World Council of Churches

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

23 Fri Headcorn and the Suttons

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Blair Gulland, Stephen Morrison, Anne-Marie Trustram, James Gover, Julia Ireland

Reader-in-Training: Russell Anderson

Pray with us as we seek a new incumbent for our Benefice. Our churches are working well together, and we give thanks for all those who offer ministry and pastoral support, and for all the many volunteers, who give of their time so willingly. Please pray that we will soon fill our vacancy.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Sul Occidental – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

24 Sat Marden: St Michael & All Angels

Clergy: Nicola Harvey

Assistant Curate: Vicki Young

We give thanks for the signs of growth we are seeing and pray that we can respond. Pray especially for our preparations for our new Cafe style church 'Together @ 4' starting in January. We pray for those who have joined our worshipping community during this year, that they may continue to grow in faith, confidence and commitment. We pray for our Messy Church community and our Youth Group. We pray too for all those who will have attended our carol services and Christingles over the festive season. We pray that they will be left with a sense of the mystery of your story - its joy and hope - and that some may seek to know you more.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

25 Sun Praying Together for: Christian Unity

Lord God our Father, we are your children here on earth.
Help us to live and work in harmony.
Within our own churches and Parishes,
there are many different ideas and ways of doing things,
even more when we join with other churches and denominations.
Help us Father to celebrate these differences
to see them as strengths
to use in our daily lives as we go about our task of growing your Kingdom.
Unite us Lord, make us one with you.
Help us to come together in love and peace to the glory of your name.
Amen

Prayer written by Sue Cox - Reader in the Thanet Deanery

*Anglican Communion:
3rd Sunday of Epiphany
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Iglesia Anglicana de Chile*

26 Mon Sissinghurst: Trinity Church with Frittenden: St Mary

Clergy: Vacant

Reader: Tony Staples

Schools: Frittenden CE Primary School, Sissinghurst CE Primary School

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Sur – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile*

27 Tue Staplehurst: All Saints

Clergy: Silke Tetzlaff

We give thanks for God's faithfulness and for signs of renewal in the life and ministry of All Saints. Please pray for our ongoing building work: for safety, steady progress, wise decisions, and the financial provision needed to complete what has begun. Pray also that the Holy Spirit will draw new people into the worship and witness of our church, so that we may serve the village of Staplehurst with depth, joy, and generosity.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Del Sureste – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico*

28 Wed Praying Together with the Ashford Deanery

Area Deans: Jeremy Worthen, Sandra Marsh

Lay Chair: Sally Lees

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Anthony Crouch

The first of our Deanery 2030 Outcomes begins: 'Every rural benefice or urban church community is supporting at least twice the number of children and young people in discipleship compared to 2023.' Please pray for on-going work in this area, including ministry with schools, intergenerational Sunday worship, groups for children and young people, and holiday activities, that they draw more children and young people into knowing God and following Jesus. Pray too for energy, imagination and openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we seek to discern new initiatives by which we could reach further into our communities.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon – The Church in Wales

29 Thurs Praying Together with the Ashford Deanery for: Clergy with Permission to Officiate

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

Bonnie Appleton, David Bannerman, Alex Bienfait, Marian Bond, Ian Campbell, Philip Cox, William MacDougall, Paul Miller, Linda Schryver, Gilbert Spencer, Sue Starkings, Richard Webb

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Sydney – The Anglican Church of Australia

30 Fri Praying Together with the Ashford Deanery for: Chaplains

Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work wherever they go.

Geoff Walters, Ian Rich, Tricia Hill, Cat Darkins

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Tabora – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

31 Sat Praying Together with the Ashford Deanery for: Ignite Deanery Communities

Please pray for the Ignite communities in the Ashford Deanery. We pray for all those who are involved, in what ever way. Please pray that each person will know that they are loved and valued, and may they find faith in the risen Lord, as friendships are shared, generosity offered and the joy of community experienced. Pray that the outreach of God's people will continually remind us of God's love for all.

Anglican Communion:

Te Pihopatanga o Te Tai Tokerau – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

For more information about Wonder, visit canterburydiocese.org/wonder

To sign up for regular updates from the Changing Lives Prayer Network, visit canterburydiocese.org/prayer or email lbywater@diocant.org

Cover photo: Walking in Hope watercolour on recycled paper by Primrose Northrop
