

GROWING TO BE MORE LIKE HIM

Cover artwork: Primrose Northrop 'Discipleship' paper collage on recycled card

February 2025

Calendar of Prayer February 2025

1 Sat Canterbury: Cathedral and Metropolitical Church of Christ

The Dean: David Monteith Archdeacon: William Adam Canon Librarian: Tim Naish Canon Missioner: Emma Pennington Canon Treasurer: Andrew Dodd Precentor, Residentiary Canon Designate: Wendy Dalrymple Non-Executive Members of Chapter: Jane Ibbotson, Pim Baxter, Guy Perricone, Paul Sylva, Richard Oldfield Receiver General, Chief Operating Officer: Kathryn Beldon Director of Finance and Planning: Julie Wood

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Lomega – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

2 Sun Praying Together: for Pastoral Carers in our Diocese

Loving Father,

We thank you that nothing is hidden from you.

Strengthen and empower all those who faithfully minister to the needs of others within our Diocese. Grant them discernment and compassion in their work and help them to seek times of refreshing themselves.

We pray for all those who receive ministry, that they may be blessed and encouraged in every aspect of their lives. For those who feel they are invisible or too unimportant to be noticed, we ask that you bring them to the attention of those who can help them. We ask these things in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

Prayer written by Dr Ali Poole - Authorised Lay Minister & Pastoral Assistant at Wye: St Gregory & St Martin with Hinxhill: St Mary

Anglican Communion: 4th Sunday of Epiphany The Presentation of Christ in the Temple The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

3 Mon Praying with the East Bridge Deanery: for its Clergy and People Area Dean: Estella Last Lay Chair: Vacant Secretary: John Andrews Treasurer: Michael Gallagher

Gracious Lord, we lift to you your servants in the East Bridge Deanery, both clergy and laity, who are dedicated to spreading your word and serving Your people. Grant us wisdom and strength as we navigate the challenges of ministry. May we find comfort in your unfailing love and be renewed in our faith as we seek to serve in our Parishes. May we come together as a Deanery to support and care for one another. Help us to build each other up, demonstrating your love through our actions. Guide us, Lord, as we strive to be your faithful followers, serving and uplifting one another. Amen.

4 Tue Praying with the East Bridge 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:

Nigel Hale, Lizzie Hopthrow, Rex Morton, Barbara Way

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Long Island – The Episcopal Church

5 Wed Praying Together: for those in need

Lord of all, we bring before You all who are sick and distressed, lonely and in despair, and give hope and ask you to give courage to those who live in fear. We pray that all who suffer are able to place themselves in Your hands in loving trust so that they will find comfort and peace.

Amen.

Prayer written by Jenny Clifton - Authorised Lay Minister & Pastoral Assistant at St Paul's Church, Maidstone

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Los Angeles – The Episcopal Church

6 Thurs Praying with the East Bridge 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.

In particular, please pray today for the Chaplains ministering in East Bridge Deanery:

Lorraine Apps-Huggins, Hilary Hills, Ray Horton, Helen Jones

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Louisiana – The Episcopal Church

7 Fri Barham Downs with Adisham and Aylesham Benefice Clergy: Stefan Thomas, Nick Ratcliffe Assistant Curate: Clary Read Readers: Esther Jonas, Simon Pooley School: Adisham CE Primary School Barham CE Primary School

8 Sat The Bridge Benefice

Clergy: Estella Last Assistant Curate: Miriam Bier Hinksman School: Bridge & Patrixbourne CE Primary School

Heavenly Father Life is full of joys and challenges. Help us live in each moment, Lord, thankful you are continuously by our side. Lead us Father, as we stand beside our brothers and sisters within our Parish. We listen for God's direction through our weekly Prayer Group and spiritually grow together sharing the good news of the gospel at our weekly Communion services, through Messy Church and our Songs of Praise services and through our primary school where our bond grows stronger than ever. Lead us Lord, as we continue to spread your word to all. Amen.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Luapula – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

9 Sun Praying Together: for Mission and Outreach

Heavenly Father,

Help us to grow closer to you in every aspect of our lives. In our Church: May we find strength and inspiration. Guide our leaders as they shepherd us, and help us to support one another in love and unity. In our Schools: Bless our teachers and students. May our schools be places of learning and growth. In our Homes: Strengthen our families, Lord. May our homes be sanctuaries of peace and love, where we nurture each other in faith. As we journey, may we draw closer to you, deepen our faith, and become more like Christ in all we do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Nigel Genders - PTO Clergy at Sandwich Deanery

Anglican Communion: 5th Sunday of Epiphany The Anglican Church of Australia

10 Mon Canonry Benefice

Clergy: Caroline Turvey Readers: Janice Willett, Anne Talbert Schools: Ash Cartwright & Kelsey CE Primary School, Goodnestone CE Primary School, Nonington CE Primary School

Our Benefice covers seven churches and there are many people who enable mission and ministry to happen in each one for whom we give thanks.

We are aware, coming into this New Year, that there is a lot to do as we work together to see God's light and love reaching out to all.

We give thanks for our new Benefice prayer group which meets weekly to pray specifically into this.

Please join in our prayer for God's provision - for more people to rise up offering support; for strength for those giving so much already; for our teams to grow; for new ministries to emerge; for boldness and courage as we become more invitational to our neighbours and friends, and for growth of our own faith, especially as we experience God in new ways.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Lucknow – The Church of North India (United)

11 Tue Nonington: The Living Well

Chaplain of The Living Well: Lorraine Apps-Huggins Assistant Chaplains: Hilary Hills, Ray Horton, Helen Jones

We give thanks for the many answered prayers for healing that we have been noticing or have been reported to us recently.

Many have come through the ministry of our prayer chain: prayer@the-living-well.org.uk We give great thanks for those who pray with us.

We look forward to repairs on the building that are currently taking place being completed and the difference it will make to our comfort.

As we renew our fourth cabin this Spring, we look forward to seeing guests blessed and eased by the gift of rest and refreshment in the presence of the Holy Spirit. This cabin has been known as 'The Hut', small, simple, and hermit like, it will be replaced with a slightly bigger space, but still retain the simplicity and view of the surrounding fields which guests value.

Please pray as these changes happen among us, and others, that we will continue to faithfully serve and be upheld, as we offer our gifts and time to guests and the diocese.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lui - Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

12 Wed Praying Together: for Anna Chaplains

Faithful God, you have promised in Christ to be with us to the end of time. Come close to those who have lived long and experienced much. Help them to continue to be faithful and, within the all-age kingdom of God, to find ways to go on giving and receiving your grace, day by day. For your glory and your kingdom. Amen.

Prayer written by Judith Andrews - Licensed Lay Minister & Anna Chaplain at St Laurence-in-Thanet

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Lusaka – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

13 Thurs The Little Stour Benefice Clergy: Lesley Hardy Reader: Katharine Harris

Schools: Wickhambreaux CE Primary School, Littlebourne CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

14 Fri Praying with the Reculver Deanery: for its Clergy and People

Area Dean: Simon Tillotson Lay Chair: Malcolm Waller Secretary: Vacant Treasurer: David Kemp

We pray for fresh vision, new energy, deeper unity, greater mutual understanding and a closer walk with our Lord. We pray for our upcoming vacancy in the Reculver Parish and for wisdom in future planning. .We pray for greater co-operation across the Deanery in mission and sharing ideas. We pray for plans to develop in person Safeguarding training for those not able to access online training easily, and for our new cross Deanery committee exploring eco friendly alternatives to conventional heating and lighting. We give thanks for the depth of sharing within our chapter and our recent retreat.

Anglican Communion:

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

15 Sat Praying with the Reculver 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:

Denise Critchell, John Currie, Jenny Hadlow, Donald Lugg, Chris Morgan-Jones, Stephen Parrett, Chris Seppala, Chris Skingley, Carol Smith, David Springthorpe, Pat Strowger, Howard Such

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Northern Luzon – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

16 Sun Praying Together: for all who live in the Canterbury Diocese

Loving God, thank you for our homes, families and friends. We pray for joy in homes where there is hopelessness and unrest, and for forgiveness in relationships that are struggling and breaking down. We pray for the young people in this Diocese, and for older people who may be lonely or just feeling their age. Bless us all with the gifts of humility and understanding, so that, in your name, we can go out into our communities as your disciples. Amen.

Prayer written by Jenny Clifton - Authorised Lay Minister & Pastoral Assistant at St Paul's Church, Maidstone

Anglican Communion: 6th Sunday of Epiphany Septuagesima The Church of Bangladesh

17 Mon Praying with the Reculver 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.

Jayne Edinboro

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Lweru – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

18 Tue Praying with the Reculver Deanery: for IGNITE Hub

Please pray for the Ignite communities in the Reculver Deanery. Praying particularly for our Families and Bay Ignite Enabler; Simon Fellows. May he be upheld and enthused in his ministry and mission. And we pray for all those who are involved, in whatever 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: Missionary Area of Macau – Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

19 Wed Praying Together: giving thanks for those who offer Pastoral Care

Heavenly Father, thank you that in your love and compassion you call each one of us to come to you with all our cares and burdens.

We pray especially for all those providing pastoral care and support to the lost, lonely, troubled and sick in Jesus' name.

Give them wisdom, sensitivity and love and strengthen them through your Holy Spirit.

In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Prayer written by Ruth - Authorised Lay Minister, Pastoral Assistant & Reader-in-Training at Folkestone: St John the Baptist

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Machakos – The Anglican Church of Kenya

20 Thurs Praying with the Reculver Deanery: for Missional Learning Communities

Please pray today for the Missional Learning community 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.

21 Fri Herne Bay: Christ Church (Hampton: St Andrew) Clergy: Anthony Everett, Simon Fellows

Assistant Curate: Denise Parrett

We thank God for his goodness to us as a church family in the last year. We have grown numerically and spiritually seeing people come to faith. We ask for prayer for this year that we will act justly and love mercy and walk humbly with our God. this verse is our motto verse for the year.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Madhya Kerala – The Church of South India (United)

22 Sat The United Benefice of Reculver

Clergy: Sue Martin Assistant Curate: Lawrence Tuck School: Reculver CE Junior School

Please pray for The Parish of Reculver as they say goodbye to Rev Sue Martin on 26th January and go into a Vacancy. Pray for the team of clergy and laity who will be continuing ministry in the Parish and for the Church Wardens at St. Mary the Virgin Reculver, St. Bartholomew Herne Bay and Holy Cross Hoath. Please also pray for The Community Hub at St. Bart's, The Ukrainian Collection Point, Messy Church and other outreach opportunities.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Madi and West Nile – The Church of the Province of Uganda

23 Sun St Martin's, Herne with St Peter, Greenhill Clergy: Chris Carnaby-Denyer Reader: Deborah Waller

We pray for continued discernment in planning ahead – with energy to embrace the new and courage to let go where necessary. We pray especially for our new initiatives, such as Bubble Church, and continued growth of ministry in our schools, toddler groups, and with families and young people. We pray that we can share the good news to those moving into our community, reaching out to new



neighbours in the growing housing developments. We pray for all who give of their time, resources, energy and financial support to enable our ministry, and pray for these gifts to continue to increase!

Anglican Communion: 2nd Sunday before Lent Sexagesima Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

24 Mon Giving thanks for Fresh Expressions in St Martins, Herne and St Peter's Greenhill

Give thanks today for the Fresh Expressions of Church taking place in our churches. Please pray for our Messy Church and 'Sausage Sarnie Sunday,' both of these are monthly events at St Peter's. Lord, we ask you to bless all those who attend, may they be encouraged and inspired to find out more about you. And may we witness to your love with generosity and joy. We give thanks today for all who volunteer their time and talents. And we pray too for our plans to start Bubble Church in St Martin's. Lord, as we prepare for this new ministry, please bless our team with your words, your wisdom and your love. This we ask in Jesus' name, Amen.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Madras – The Church of South India (United)

25 Tue Whitstable Team Ministry

Clergy: Rachel Webbley, Paulette Stubbings, Simon Tillotson Assistant Curates: Claudette Gayle, Jayne Edinboro Readers: Denise Barker, David Wright, Isobel Legg, Ann Price Anna Chaplain: Jayne Edinboro Schools: St Alphege CE Infant School and Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed CE Junior School

Please pray with us today,

- For Changes and developments in children's and youth ministry across the parish, and for the children and young people we serve.

- For all those exploring their vocation, lay and ordained.

- Giving thanks for newcomers in all five of our churches, that they will feel at home and amongst friends soon.

- For those from the parish serving in the wider diocese and national church.

- For generosity and financial sustainability.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad – The Church of South India (United)

26 Wed Praying Together: as we prepare for the Lenten season

Our loving Heavenly Father - as we prepare for Lent, may the prospect of the fresh awakening that Spring brings, stimulate the vitality of our new life in Christ, your Son our Lord and Saviour.

As we seek to deepen our trust and dependence on your Son through the Holy Spirit, may our discipleship bring us closer to our guide in these challenging times and may we always stay close to our Redeemer and seek to walk in his footsteps. Amen.

Prayer written by Roger Thornington - PTO Reader in the Canterbury Deanery

Anglican Communion:

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

Area Dean: Philip Musindi Lay Chair: Judith Andrews Secretary: Judith Andrews Treasurer: Len Reed

Thank God for all those who came to services over Christmas across the deanery and heard the gospel and took away literature. Pray for the Holy Spirit to water these seeds. Praise God for those working hard to nurture the faith of children and young people in various settings in the deanery. Pray for more workers and resources to bring in the Harvest. Pray for all the benefices in interregnum, that the people of God's choice would be selected to serve Him here. As a deanery, pray we remain able and willing to serve God in the communities He has placed us in and are able to work out our deanery plan in collaboration with each other under God.

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

28 Fri Praying with the Thanet 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:

Phil Barnes, Malcolm Bradshaw, John Chater, Gary Colville, Vicky Coneys, Michael Cooke, Ken Cox, David Frost, Peter Gausden, Brian Griffiths, Denis Hartley, Beatrice Musindi, Peter Russell, Brian Sharp, David Tate, Kerry Thorpe, Alysoun Whitton, Susan Wing, Sue Woan

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Maiduguri – The Church of Nigeria

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