

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



For more information about Wonder, visit
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Cover painting: 'As with Gladness' watercolour on recycled card



January 2025

1 JAN PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THE CANTERBURY DIOCESE

As 2025 opens, holding opportunities and challenges as yet unknown, we pray for the life of our diocese. We pray for each other, for our parishes and deaneries, for Bishop Rose and our archdeacons, for our Cathedral and the staff of Diocesan House and the Bishop's Office. May we journey together and support each other as we seek to build the Kingdom in our part of Kent. Loving God, help us to care for each other and for all those in our communities; make us effective stewards of your Creation; strengthen and uphold us in our faith.

Prayer written by Caroline Spencer - LGBTQIA+ Chaplain in the Canterbury Diocese

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Kwoi – The Church of Nigeria

2 JAN THE BENEFICE OF ROMNEY MARSH

Clergy: Chris Hodgkins, Jack Greenhalf, Shuna Body, Jacky Darling

Readers: Les Carter, Penny Lowe, George Faulks, June Noakes

Anna Chaplain: Helen Sanderson

Schools: Brenzett CE Primary School, Brookland CE Primary School, School: St Nicholas CE Primary Academy

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Kyoto – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

3 JAN THE SAXON SHORELINE

Clergy: Geoff Abasolo-Munnery

Reader: Anne Loat

We ask prayers for our Benefice as we respond to our two Mission Days 'Sowing the Seeds of Hope.' We pray that through prayerful discernment, we might begin to action our missional priorities in each of our parishes, and begin to develop our individual parish mission action plans in this year. Help us also to look at ways and patterns of worship that are sustainable and will lead our parish communities into growth.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Kyushu – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➔ CHANGING LIVES

**Jesus Christ,
You rise upon us like the sun in all its brilliance,
Disperse the shadows of old sorrows,
Warm our hearts with the promise of new hope,
And germinate in us the seeds of vision and
vocation,
As we embrace your abundant life.
Amen.**

Planting living things can be a great aid to reflection. Take time to plant something, either indoors or in the garden. As you wait and watch for its growth, invite God to teach you about new life.

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Image: 'Room for All the World' by Primrose Northrop 2024

THE WONDER OF PRAYER



EPIPHANY – THE LIGHT OF LIFE

“In him was life, and the life was the light of all people.” (John 1:4, NRSV)

Lord of light and life -

- Shine on us, that we might radiate your light and brim over with your life.
- Spark new life wherever our worship has become dry and stale.
- Give life to the seeds we plant as we share your love with those around us.
- Guide us as we seek to support life-giving activities in our local communities.
- Teach us to partner in restoring to life those places in the world where drought and famine scar the earth.



4 JAN

PRAYING WITH THE SANDWICH DEANERY: FOR ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE

Area Dean: Chris Spencer

Interim Area Dean: Seth Cooper

Lay Chair: Ian Stephen

Secretary: Ian Stephen

Treasurer: Trevor Longman

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lafia – The Church of Nigeria

5 JAN

PRAYING WITH THE SANDWICH 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 today for:

Martin Clark, Martin Cleeve, Christopher Dent, Anthony Fletcher, David Flewker, Nigel Genders, Sharon Greenwood, Wendy Jackson-Hill, Patrick Kavanagh, Frank Kent, Jean Kerr, Paul Kerr, Jeanne Males, Roger Marsh, Michael Morris, Howard Pashley, Jasmine Roberts, Mark Roberts, Simon Roscoe, David Willis, John Winn, Pat Wright, Stephen Young

Anglican Communion:

2nd Sunday of Christmas

The Church in Wales

6 JAN

PRAYING TOGETHER: THE EPIPHANY

The Magi travelled far to welcome and honour Jesus, the babe.

As we travel with hope into the New Year, may we welcome and honour Jesus the man in our worship, our praise and our prayer.

We give grateful thanks that our Diocese, its Churches and our Cathedral Church afford so many people, so many opportunities to engage with the Creator.

Help us, omnipotent God, to be aware of those for whom the Church is no longer a source of hope and spiritual blessing, that we may, following the example of all the saints, show others the light and love of Jesus in our lives. Amen.

Prayer written by Don Martin TSSF – Authorised Lay Minister at St James the Great, Staple

Anglican Communion:

Epiphany

The Diocese of Lagos – The Church of Nigeria

7 JAN PRAYING WITH THE SANDWICH 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.

Mary Donaldson, Jean Kerr, Paul Kerr, Liz Larner, Sally Murray

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lagos Mainland – The Church of Nigeria

8 JAN PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR OUR MISSION TO THE WORLD

Bountiful God,

You welcome us with lavish kindness, and send us to a world in need. Teach us the joyful paradox of generosity, that in giving we receive, and in sharing we find treasure. Amen.

Prayer written by Lyndall Bywater - Diocesan Changing Lives Prayer Network Co-ordinator

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lagos West – The Church of Nigeria

9 JAN DEAL: ST ANDREW

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwarden: Vacant

Anglican Communion:

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

10 JAN DEAL: ST GEORGE THE MARTYR

Clergy: Chris Spencer

Anna Chaplains: Mary Donaldson, Jean Kerr, Paul Kerr, Liz Larner

Anglican Communion:

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

30 JAN THANINGTON: ST NICHOLAS & ST FAITH

Clergy: Nick White

Assistant Curate: Christa Brodie-Levinsohn

Pray with us today. Over the summer, we felt God calling us to invite local Christians from different churches to come together to pray for Thanington. So we started monthly prayer gatherings at St Faith's Hall and have sensed God's presence as we cry out to God for our neighbourhood. We pray for people by name and have seen some encouraging answers. People from five different churches have been involved and we look forward to welcoming more. Please join us today in praying for God's kingdom to come and God's will to be done in Thanington, as in heaven.

Anglican Communion:

Missionary Area of Lodwar – The Anglican Church of Kenya

31 JAN ALMSHOUSES CANTERBURY

Please pray today for the life and witness of the Hospitals of St John the Baptist, Canterbury, and St Nicholas, Harbledown.

For our Abbot, Archbishop Justin Welby, our Prior, the Very Reverend Dr Michael Chandler, our Chaplain, the Reverend Grahame Whittlesea, our Chair of Trustees, Jonathan Potter, and all our trustees.

For our General Manager, Administrator, Wardens, and the assistant staff.

For all the residents of the hospitals with their many and various needs; that we may live in peace and harmony together.

Amen.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lokoja – The Church of Nigeria

28 JAN STURRY: ST NICHOLAS WITH FORDWICH: ST MARY THE VIRGIN & WESTBERE: ALL SAINTS WITH HERSDEN

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Jane Freeman, Martin Pilgrim

Local Preacher: Ron Chadwick

School: Sturry Church of England Primary School

Loving God, we pray that you guide us, and that you will give us wisdom as we discern your will in the future of our Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Anglican and Methodist churches in our benefice, shortly after nationally we have commemorated the 21st anniversary of the Covenant between our traditions. We ask for your help as we try to meet the needs of our rapidly growing and changing population locally. And we thank you for the way in which both denominations and our local church family have risen to the challenge of change and uncertainty.

Anglican Communion:

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

29 JAN PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THE OUTREACH OF THE KENT WORKPLACE MISSION

Most people work; some are paid, others do roles voluntarily; some enjoy their roles, others don't. Their workplaces vary from factories to shops, white vans to lorries, streets to homes.

Lord Jesus, we pray for all workers and those who seek to support them as chaplains in their many and varied workplaces – whether in fixed locations or moving from place to place. Help Kent Workplace Mission to be able to put chaplains in places to encourage Christians in their workplaces and to show your love and compassion to all, especially those who unfortunately no longer see churches as places of love or help. Amen.

Prayer written by Canon David Slater - Joint Lead for Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme, Hon. Secretary Kent Workplace Mission & Lead Chaplain to the Port of Dover & the Channel Tunnel

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Llandaff – The Church in Wales

11 JAN PARISH OF UPPER DEAL AND GREAT MONGEHAM

Clergy: Monica Cameron

Assistant Curate: Lynn Overington-Hickford

Self-Supporting Minister: Patrick Kavanagh

Reader: Nicholas Tomaszewski

Schools: Sholden CE Primary School, Deal Parochial CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese on the Lake – The Church of Nigeria

12 JAN EASTRY AND WOODNESBOROUGH

Clergy: Andrew Brown

Assistant Curate: Hilary Baldwin

Reader-in-Training: Susan Brearley

Schools: Eastry CE Primary School, Northbourne CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

1st Sunday of Epiphany

The Church of the Province of West Africa

13 JAN SANDWICH AND WORTH

Clergy: Sebastian Hamilton

Reader: Derek Kirkaldie

Pray today for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we live out 'The Warm Welcome Project', a five-year vision to safeguard our fabric, and grow our missional life within the community - in particular in these six areas: Children & Young People Teaching & Praying Eco Church Pastoral Care Tourism & Visitors Little Gardens of Sandwich.

Anglican Communion:

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

14 JAN WALMER AND CORNILO

Clergy: Seth Cooper

Assistant Curates: Norman Gilliland, Paul Henderson, Malcolm Sawyer

Schools: The Downs CEPS, Kingsdown & Ringwold CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

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

15 JAN PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THOSE IN NEED

Living Lord Jesus, we pray for organisations and volunteers who work to support those people who struggle to meet their basic needs of shelter, warmth, clothing and food.

We pray especially at this time of year as demands on families are high post-Christmas and the cold weather increases the need for warmth and nutritious food. Lord Jesus, we ask you to intervene in a way that prioritises these services nationally, giving them healthy budgets and favour in their grant applications. We pray that the cost of living will fall and all will be able to meet their own basic needs. Amen.

Prayer written by Debbie Ellisdon - Diocesan Ignite Project Lead

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Langtang – The Church of Nigeria

16 JAN PRAYING WITH THE CANTERBURY DEANERY: FOR ITS CLERGY AND PEOPLE

Area Dean: Jo Richards

Lay Chair: Roger Vickerman

Secretary: Harry Macdonald

Treasurer: John Morrison

We pray for the success of the community Winter Night Shelter Scheme, which 4 of our churches are involved with, along with the Baptist Church, Cathedral & Umbrella Centre; providing shelter for our homeless community from mid-December to mid-March. We give thanks too for the vital work of Catching Lives and Porchlight. We ask for prayer for the ongoing development of our Deanery Mission Plan, and continue to hold in pray our Chapter, which includes chaplains from our universities and schools, along with colleagues from our Cathedral.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Lebombo – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

26 JAN HARBLEDOWN: ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

Clergy: Peter Harnden

Please join us in giving thanks for:

- The new members of our church family, some of whom are travelling a significant distance to be with us;
- Our 'Stay & Play' group, its children, parents & grandparents;
- Those who organise and run our community lunches, craft days, and social events;
- All those who visited the church during Advent & Christmas.

And please join us in praying for:

- Continuing signs of growth, numerically and spiritually;
- An improvement in our finances, so that we may adequately resource all that we seek to do;
- Those members of our church family who have long term illnesses.

Anglican Communion:

3rd Sunday of Epiphany

The Episcopal / Anglican Province of Alexandria

27 JAN ST DUNSTAN, ST MILDRED & ST PETER CANTERBURY BENEFICE

Clergy: Jo Richards

Readers: John Morrison, Tessa Taylor, Margaret Wells

For our Benefice please can the Diocese give thanks for the work that is carried out by our volunteers and church officers, many of whom are in their later years, as they work tirelessly for the mission and ministry of the Benefice, along with maintaining three grade 1 listed buildings. Prayers especially for three upcoming quinquenials, and the work that that may entail in seeking funding and volunteers to help us implement any work that is required. We give thanks for the work of our Mother's Union and ongoing success of our Open Table community, supporting LGBTQIA+ people, and friends and allies.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Liverpool – The Church of England

24 JAN CANTERBURY: ST MARY BREDIN

Clergy: Barney De Berry, Stephen Carter

Assistant Curate: Joy Dunton

Reader: Martin Collings

Give thanks with us, because this term we've had a few more adult baptisms, a newcomers lunch, and Stephen has been running The Parish Tour! Our ministry with children and young people continues to grow, and grow more diverse too. We give thanks too for our Christmas services, and the opportunity to share the good news. We pray that those who received invitations, will choose to attend our Alpha course, which starts this month. In this season the Lord has laid it on our hearts to pray ever more fervently for those who don't yet know Him.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Lincoln – The Church of England

25 JAN HACKINGTON: ST STEPHEN

Clergy: David Vannerley

Assistant Curate: Sally Pickersgill

Chaplain: Dawn Watson

Anna Chaplain: Sally Pickersgill

School: The Archbishop's School

Pray with us today as we are still in vacancy, and although we have had some meetings with archdeacons and area deans, and many many prayers have been offered, we are still unsure about our future.

May we continue to move forward in faith, and we ask for wisdom and discernment as we consider what would work best for our existing congregation and be most beneficial in our mission goals to bring more of our community 'into the fold'.

We give thanks that we have some confirmation candidates and at least one person is currently exploring their vocation.

Although we are in vacancy, we are not standing still, we are growing in faith.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Litoral Ecuador – The Episcopal Church

17 JAN PRAYING WITH THE CANTERBURY 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 today for:

Carl Fredrik Arvidsson, Clive Barlow, John Barton, Sara Bimson, Richard Bolton, Martin Burrell, Perry Butler, Julia Butterworth, William Campen, Helen Connoll, Nina Coulthard, Diane Fawcett, Peter Freeman, David Houghton, Reg Humphriss, Peter Ingrams, Christopher Irvine, Brian Kelly, Lorraine Lawrence, Brian McHenry, Derek Mottershead, Peter Ould, Geoff Pearson, Peter Richmond, David Roper, Eileen Routh, John Spriggs, Sue White, Grahame Whittlesea, Ken Wilkin, Paul Wilton, Lindsay Yates

Pray too for Mary Butcher and Roger Thornington - (Readers with PTO)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Leeds – The Church of England

18 JAN PRAYING TOGETHER: WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Almighty God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - three Persons yet one God; teach us to cherish our variety as we deepen our unity as children of your Word. Forgive us when we fail to follow your example of limitless love. Inspire us with a new longing for your kingdom and bless us with the fruits of your Spirit so, supported by the bonds of your love, we may share that love with all your world. Blessed be God forever. Amen.

Prayer written by Chris Robinson - Reader at Canterbury: St Martin and St Paul

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Leicester – The Church of England

19 JAN PRAYING WITH THE CANTERBURY 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 Canterbury Deanery:

Lindsay Collins, Alison Walker, Stephen Laird, Joy Atkins, Jeremy Law, Martin Robbins, Dave Stroud, Kevin Maddy, Helen Connoll, Geoff Pearson, Jo Richards, Sally Waters, Peter Joyce, Dawn Watson, Tricia Hill, Thomas Pote, Angie Stupple, Caroline Spencer, Lucy Sullivan

Anglican Communion: 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity The Church in the Province of the West Indies

20 JAN **BLEAN: ST COSMUS & ST DAMIAN**

Clergy: Stephen Laird, Stacey Rand

Reader: Peter Clough

Reader-in-Training: Henrik Schoenefeldt

Pray with us today. We are excited about this new year, and the ways in which we continue to engage with our varied local community, which includes students; for our plans to renovate our small church hall; and how we are enhancing our active link with our friend Revd Olivier and his parishes and communities in Madagascar.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Lesotho – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

21 JAN **CANTERBURY: ALL SAINTS**

Clergy: Patrick Ellisdon

Assistant Curate: Angela Swindley

Reader: Gavin Netherton

School: St John's Church of England Primary School

Please thank God that work has been carried out on our Building Project, making the church more accessible to get into. Please pray for Gods provision, so that there are sufficient funds for further work needed.

Please pray for the setting up of an Ignite project in the area. Pray for wisdom and guidance as to how best to proceed and that connections to those that Ignite would be right for would be made.

Please pray for All Saints children's and youth ministry that God would strengthen and encourage it's leaders and volunteers, and pray that the children and young people at All Saints would flourish and grow in their faith and knowledge of our God of love.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Lexington – The Episcopal Church

22 JAN **PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE KENT WORKPLACE MISSION**

Dear Lord, Kent Workplace Mission does what it says in the title; on a mission to take knowledge of you into workplaces across Kent. As we seek to balance volunteers, training, and places wanting chaplains, give us the people, resources and contacts to gain access so that we can be present, and being present win trust, and being trusted encourage those we meet to want to follow, and become disciples.

In your name,

Amen.

Prayer written by Canon David Slater - Joint Lead for Kent Emergency Chaplains Scheme, Hon. Secretary Kent Workplace Mission & Lead Chaplain to the Port of Dover & the Channel Tunnel

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

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

23 JAN **CANTERBURY: ST MARTIN & ST PAUL**

Clergy: Vacant

Assistant Curate: Charlotte Sleigh

Readers: Samuel Keeler-Walker, Chris Robinson, Rosemary Walters, Mary Butcher

We give thanks for the active volunteering and compassionate relationships that have sustained us through an interregnum. We pray that in partnership with our new rector we will: build up our worship at St Martin's; build further upon our activities at St Paul's; and build out into the community with the love of God.

Anglican Communion:

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Diocese of Lichfield – The Church of England