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Cover artwork: 'Easter Hope' by Primrose Northrop acrylic on cotton



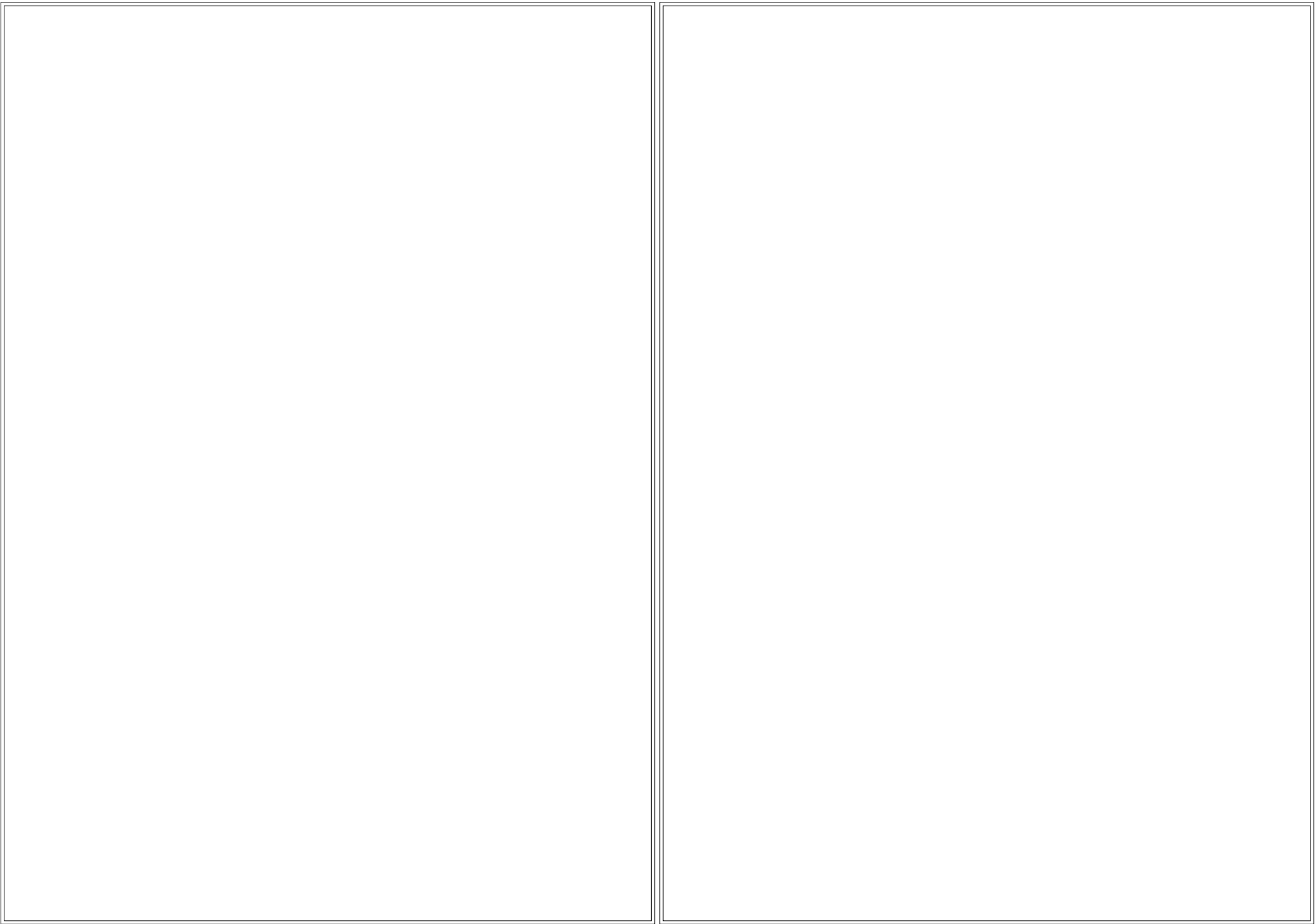
Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➞ CHANGING LIVES

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



May 2025





Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➔ CHANGING LIVES

Jesus Christ, whose rising heralded the new creation,

Give us courage to follow you into the new:

To embrace the unfamiliar,

To explore the uncharted,

**And so to become the Church which the world needs us
to be.**

Amen.

Nicodemus went from fearful questioner to unashamed disciple; from a nervous enquiry by night to a public act of service in broad daylight. What might help us and our churches to become more courageous?

To find out more about the Changing Lives Prayer network, visit canterburydiocese.org/prayer or email Lbywater@diocant.org

Image: 'The Easter Hope of Nicodemus' by Primrose Northrop 2025

1 Thurs Len Valley Benefice

Clergy: John Huggins

Readers: Pamela Cuerden, Karen Bates

Schools: Ulcombe CE Primary School, Harrietsham CE Primary School

Pray today with our wonderful Benefice. In response to our verse for the year, "For I am the Lord your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, 'Do not fear; I will help you'" (Isa 41:13), please pray with us that the Wonderful Counsellor will guide us to face leadership challenges ahead, and that we will see God at work in local encouragements- for example, food banks, meals for the poor, community events, building projects and plans to revitalise our worship.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Del Norte de México – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

2 Fri North Downs Benefice

Clergy: Rob Tugwell

Readers: Peter Roberts, Alison Callway, Ann Harrison

Anna Chaplain: Jackie Saunders

Please pray for the ongoing mission and ministry in the North Downs. We have many beautiful churches, committed congregations and welcoming communities in which to minister. However, as many deaneries will be experiencing, our ancient buildings need significant care and our congregations can only do so much. We'd love God's wisdom and guidance in where we set our focus over the months ahead.

We give thanks for schools engagement and occasional offices, as well as local events, all of which afford us huge opportunities. Please pray for continued open doors and effective sharing of the Good News of Christ.

We have ongoing movement in stipendiary clergy across the deanery and pray that committed ministers will be called to the North Downs as opportunities arise in the future. As with any community, we are journeying with people facing significant health challenges and bereavement. Please join us in praying for them.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Michigan – The Episcopal Church

THE WONDER OF PRAYER

EASTER – DELIGHTING IN THE NEW



'Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, came now in broad daylight...' (John 19:39, The Message)

God who makes all things new -

- Lead us from the night-time of our fears into the bright daylight of new possibilities.
- Give your Church wisdom to treasure what is precious from our traditions whilst also welcoming the new and untried.
- Breathe your Holy Spirit over the new Fuse worship events which gather young people in our diocese for prayer and worship.
- Bless the entrepreneurs in our communities, those with the courage to start new ventures, that their endeavours will bear good fruit.
- We pray for the World Health Organisation's 'Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures' initiative, a year-long campaign for improvements to maternal and newborn health around the world.



3 Sat Praying with the Ospringe Deanery

Area Dean: Vacant

Lay Chair: Miranda Ford

Secretary: Peter Willcock

Treasurer: Hilary Tulett

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Eastern Michigan – The Episcopal Church

4 Sun Praying Together: for those in exile

Dear Lord, as you shared in our suffering by your humanity, so by your divine power bring the joy of Easter hope to our broken world. We pray that those forcibly exiled from their homes, loved ones and nations, may find welcome, sanctuary, and know the transforming grace of your love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayer written by The Revd Jonathan Arnold - Executive Director of the Social Justice Network

Anglican Communion: 3rd Sunday of Easter

The Church of Ireland

5 Mon Ospringe Deanery: 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:

Sharran Ireland, Peter Lock, Ros Parrett, Don Ruddell, Lou Seear, Sue Smith, Andrew Sweeney, Douglas Turton, Sarah Williams

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Northern Michigan – The Episcopal Church

6 Tue Ospringe Deanery 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.

Ros Parrett, Caroline Ramshaw, Simon Rowlands

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Western Michigan – The Episcopal Church

7 Wed Praying Together: for Healing and Wholeness

May the blessing of being present be on you calming your concerns, comforting your worries. May the tenacious strength of early spring flowers and the soft feathers and detailed colouring of the birds remind you of your even greater value and worth in the eyes of God. May an eternal, kingdom perspective that is rooted in the here and now unclench from your hands the future worries we hold for the world, freeing you to pick up what we can attend to in our place and time. And may God bring you His wholeness and healing as you gently allow Him to transform you more and more into His likeness for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Prayer written by Hilary Hills - Assistant Chaplain at The Living Well

Anglican Communion:

The Missionary District of Micronesia – The Episcopal Church

31 Sat Praying Together: for our Cathedral Prayer Morning

Please pray with us for all those attending our Prayer Morning today at Canterbury Cathedral, entitled 'The Lord's Prayer – A Deeper Dive.' As we encounter this ancient prayer in poetry and music, and as we explore it using our senses, pray that God will give us fresh insights from these familiar words. Pray for our speakers, and pray for Bishop Rose as she presides at the Eucharist and shares her own heart for prayer with us. Pray that all who attend will feel encouraged and renewed in their journey of prayer.

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

Anglican Communion:

Thy Kingdom Come

The Diocese of Mount Kenya West – The Anglican Church of Kenya

29 Thurs Praying Together: Ascension Day

Lord God, you raised your Son Jesus Christ to the heaven of heavens and transformed our human nature: as we exalt in his glory, may we recognise the dignity of all who are made in your image and long to see your reign over all the world, through the same risen and ascended Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Canon Christopher Irvine - PTO
Clergy in the Canterbury Deanery

Anglican Communion:

Ascension Day

Thy Kingdom Come

The Diocese of Mount Kenya Central – The Anglican Church of Kenya

30 Fri Tunstall with Bredgar Benefice

Clergy: Alan Pinnegar, Richard Braddy

Readers: Pat Tatchell, Clive Jacobs

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

Pray today with us as the challenge of managing diminished resources in our Deanery continues to affect us all. Pray for a willingness to hear God's voice as we seek ways to address these challenges; the ability to identify God's gifts in others and to empower people to use them in the service of God; gratitude for the relationships we have within our churches and in the wider community, especially our local church and state schools.

Anglican Communion:

Thy Kingdom Come

The Diocese of Mount Kenya South – The Anglican Church of Kenya

8 Thurs Ospringe: Praying for Deanery 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 Milwaukee – The Episcopal Church

9 Fri Boughton-under-Blean

Clergy: Catherine Ngangira

Reader: Patricia Saunders

School: Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk MP, Hernhill CE Primary School

Please pray and give thanks with us today!
We are excited and grateful to God for the ways He is guiding us. We are experiencing a growing sense of consistency and depth in our worship services, as we continue to explore new ways of connecting with God. We thank God for the new people He has brought into our community, and we pray that they may grow in their knowledge and love of Him, becoming committed members of our church family. Please join us in praying as we shift our focus to how we can further serve and impact our communities.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Minna – The Church of Nigeria

10 Sat Faversham Benefice

Clergy: Simon Rowlands, Daniel Corcoran

Reader: Kevin Swinney, Lisa Nissen, Graham Dorkins

School: Ospringe CE Primary School, St Mary of Charity CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Minnesota – The Episcopal Church

11 Sun Praying Together: for the homeless

Lord Jesus, we pray for those who live on our streets that they may know the grace and strength of your risen power this Easter. May we, following your Gospel of justice and mercy, work together to end the injustice of inequality in our society, and bring hope to the homeless with compassion and love. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Prayer written by The Revd Jonathan Arnold - Executive Director of the Social Justice Network

Anglican Communion:

4th Sunday of Easter

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

27 Tue Sittingbourne with Bobbing

Clergy: David Ridley

Assistant Curate: Karen Burgess

Readers: Jan Phillips, Gill Price, Tracy Williams

Please pray for our benefice in a time of change. We give thanks for our life, worship and service together, and for all who generously support the ministry and mission of our Churches as we seek to serve Christ. We give thanks for the signs of growth, new life and hope, and we ask for prayer and discernment as we enter the process of appointing clergy to the benefice.

Anglican Communion: Saint Augustine of Canterbury

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

28 Wed The Six

Clergy: Amanda Lane

Readers: George Hulme, Elisabeth Willmet

Anna Chaplain: Elisabeth Willmet

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

Please pray for our benefice as we enter interregnum – pray for Andrea and Julian Staniforth as they retire and look forward; pray for us: o as we discern how to live Christ's presence in our six diverse villages; o in our ministry in schools and with the elderly, through community gatherings; o giving thanks that all our churches have achieved Eco Church awards – part of the journey, not the destination; o giving thanks for opportunities to share the Good News in a hurting world: 'the labourers are few' – but that's never a reason not to engage with the harvest!

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

25 Sun Praying Together: for Wisdom

Creator God, we pray that there may be hope for the world you have so lovingly brought into being through your Word. May we know the risen Christ in caring for our environment and may our public policies and private actions reflect your divine will for your creation. In the name of Jesus, our risen saviour. Amen.

Prayer written by The Revd Jonathan Arnold - Executive Director of the Social Justice Network

*Anglican Communion: 6th Sunday of Easter
Anglican Communion Sunday The Anglican Church of Kenya*

26 Mon Milton Regis with Murston, Bapchild & Tonge

Clergy: Simon Young
Assistant Curate: Jane Barker
School: Bapchild & Tonge CE Primary School

Please give thanks for our work among children and youth, especially our schools work, Messy Church and Youth Group (The Hub). Please ask God to give us wisdom in helping occasional worshippers to make a deeper commitment. Please ask God to enrich our musical ministry with musicians and a choir. Thank you! Amen.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Port Moresby – The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*

12 Mon Kingsdown, Creekside and High Downs

Clergy: Paula Jardine-Rose, Jim Pye
Readers: Pim Baxter, Caroline Ramshaw
Anna Chaplain: Caroline Ramshaw
School: Teynham Parochial CE Primary School

Dear Lord,

We thank you that we can see the fruits of your Creation around us in the fields, woodlands and orchards. We give thanks for our rural communities and pray for those whose livelihood is in the land. Father we ask that you are alongside all those who are finding this way of life challenging and burdensome. Bring light to their darkness and fresh hope to their future plans. As we see new life in the Benefice, Lord help us to feel renewed and refreshed both physically and spiritually. Hear us when we strive to grow in faith and discipleship, turning those first shoots of the Spirit into the glorious blossom and, in time, into the full grown fruit. Amen.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Mishamikoweesh – The Anglican Church of Canada*

13 Tue Shepherds Lees

Clergy: Peter Newell
Reader: Lesley Brookes
School: Selling CE Primary School

*Anglican Communion:
The Missionary District – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil*

14 Wed Praying Together: for our Diocese

Loving God,

We pray for our Diocese and all those who make it a wondrous place in your glorious name.

Knowing you are with us all at all times, we ask you graciously give everyone the knowledge they are held in your loving embrace.

As many challenges are faced, please gift us with strength and guidance to follow your lead.

Please grant each of us understanding, patience, gratitude and courage to do your work so that we can spread your message of love, hope and joy.

Amongst the reawakening of spring into summer, please help us see and share the signs of light-filled growth in your world of loving Grace.

Prayer written by Jacquie Town CIPD - PA to Head of Vocations & Diocesan Director of Ordinands

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Mississippi – The Episcopal Church

15 Thurs Praying with the Sittingbourne Deanery

Area Dean: Vacant

Lay Chair: Elaine Appleton

Secretary: Andrea Staniforth

Treasurer: David Gilbert

Deanery Minister: Nick Carpenter

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Missouri – The Episcopal Church

23 Fri Praying Together: for the Borden Community

Please pray today for the Borden community. Giving thanks today for the regular church events, the coffee mornings, seasonal bible studies and all those who work tirelessly to maintain the church and offer outreach and pastoral support to the wider community. We give thanks for our Readers Janet and Jill, for Fr Jane and Fr Colin for their dedication to our church. And we give thanks for all the clergy who continue to give generously of their time and talents to lead worship during this time of interregnum. Bless the children of Borden C of E Primary School, and thank you for the wonderful encouragement the children get to live Christian lives, and for the headteacher Mrs Ingram. We are united in praying for our church's future, and that of the deanery, and look forward to welcoming a new priest as soon as practical, praying that the right candidate will be raised up. In the meantime, we look forward to what blessings God has in store for the church as we move forward.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Moosonee – The Anglican Church of Canada

24 Sat Eastchurch with Leysdown and Harty

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Sue Hopper, Yvette Gutheil, Amber Hopper

School: Eastchurch CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness – The Scottish Episcopal Church

22 Thurs Borden: St Peter & St Paul

Clergy: Vacant

Assistant Curate: Jane Barker

Reader: Jill Petts

Churchwardens: Kathy Collins, Bernadette Lyons

School: Borden CE Primary School

Heavenly Father, we pray today for our church, for the things we struggle with and for the ways in which we are flourishing. Help the Churchwardens, Kathy and Berni, the PCC, associated clergy Fr Jane and Fr Colin, our readers Janet and Jill, and all members of the church, to continually look to you for guidance and support, and to help us remain united in faith and love for you. We ask that as we seek discernment not only for the future of our parish, but also in our deanery, you will bring the right people to lead and guide us spiritually, and to build us up as a congregation. We want to feel Your presence in our midst and Your love in action in our community. Amen.

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Montreal – The Anglican Church of Canada

16 Fri Sittingbourne Deanery: 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:

Christopher Baker, Pam Beckinsale, Jacky Davis, Tim Foreman, Colin Johnson, Ronni Lamont, Paul Longbottom, Ann Mackenzie, Ron Partridge, Sue Samson, Chris Shipley

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of West Missouri – The Episcopal Church*

17 Sat Sittingbourne Deanery 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.

Elisabeth Willmet, Paul Wintle, John Njoroge, Simon Young, Nicholas Ash, Ken Wilkin

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Mityana – The Church of the Province of Uganda*

18 Sun Praying Together: for a fairer sharing of resources

Lord of justice, mercy and peace, we pray for a fairer sharing of our world's resources that those who have the least may experience the hope and joy of generosity and gracious compassion by those who have the most. May our governments and leaders work for the day when all may know the hope of a fairer tomorrow. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Prayer written by The Revd Jonathan Arnold - Executive Director of the Social Justice Network

*Anglican Communion:
5th Sunday of Easter
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East*

19 Mon Sittingbourne: Praying for Ignite Deanery Communities

Please pray for the Ignite communities in the Sittingbourne Deanery. 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: The Diocese of Mombasa – The Anglican Church of Kenya

20 Tue Sittingbourne: Praying for Deanery 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 Monmouth – The Church in Wales

21 Wed Praying Together: for Hope

Risen Jesus, as pilgrims in search of hope, we cling to you. We turn our backs on death and open our hearts to you, for you are Life itself. Dear Lord, help us to tell of Your wondrous love and mighty acts; to our friends, our neighbours, people we encounter, and to those that come after us. Visit our homes and our churches with Your bright blessing of peace and life. Our hearts sing out your praise! In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer written by Steve Short - Verger at St Saviours, Westgate-on-Sea

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Montana – The Episcopal Church