



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES → CHANGING LIVES

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



September 2024

1 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: VALUING GOD'S CREATION

Creator God,

You have fashioned a universe of wonders and made it our home.

Forgive us when busyness blinds us to beauty,

When indifference dulls our delight. Awaken us again to marvel at your works,

And to cherish the world you have given us. Amen.

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

Anglican Communion:

14th Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation

Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

2 SEPT

PRAYING FOR: THE MAIDSTONE IGNITE HUB

Please pray for the Ignite communities in the Maidstone Deanery. Praying particularly for our Ignite Enabler; Angela Frost. May she be upheld and enthused in her 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:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ikeduru – The Church of Nigeria

3 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: GIVING THANKS FOR THE NATURAL WORLD

Loving God,

Today, as we turn on our computers and begin the task of answering emails make us aware that our feet are planted on your earth, your soil, from which you made us.

May we feel our lungs moving in and out
constant reminders that the air we breathe is your gift to us.

Seeing the screen is not as life-giving as being in the colours of your creation ...

So draw us back over and over again along those ancient paths
to your primal words at the dawn of time -

the Genesis Great Commission to care for your world on your behalf.

We each do what we can to make this world a better, more abundant place for all
purely out of love for your dear Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ ...

and for one another, both the human and the non-human world.

Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Joyce Addison - Priest-in-Charge St Martin's Maidstone & Diocesan Eco Champion

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ikwerre – The Church of Nigeria

4 SEPT

ALLINGTON: ST NICHOLAS WITH MAIDSTONE: ST PETER

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Nigel Smetham, Jennifer Stone

Anna Chaplain: Erika Catchpole

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ikwo – The Church of Nigeria

5 SEPT

LOOSE: ALL SAINTS

Clergy: Steve Price, Chris Thom, Chris Conn

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ikwuano – The Church of Nigeria

6 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ALL SAINTS WITH ST PHILIP WITH ST STEPHEN (TOVIL)

Clergy: John Richardson

Anna Chaplain: Katja Svarts

School: Archbishop Courtenay CE Primary School

We give thanks today for the good things that are happening in our parish.

In June we had a ten day Celebrating Life Festival with 37 events, which were attended by over 5,500 adults and 1,500 children. We served over 1,600 meals!

We are planning a series of regular follow up events, building on the foundations of the conversations and reactions. People were shown, through music and the arts, creation and literature, prayer and worship, what it means to seek to follow Christ in every stage of their daily lives. For this we give thanks and praise.

New children and staff are starting at our church school this week, and the rest are returning after the summer holiday. They come from over 40 nations (many of whom speak English as a second or third language). They will build on the SIAMS and OFSTED inspections which were rated good for the first time in their history. For this we also give thanks.

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ilaje – The Church of Nigeria

7 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AS THEY RETURN TO EDUCATION

We give thanks for all our children and young people as they return to school, college and university this September. We pray a blessing over each individual and ask God to go before them as they enter their new term of learning, friendship and development.

We particularly ask for prayer for those children and young people for whom school, college and university brings a level of anxiety. We pray that they will feel the presence of God who holds them in all circumstances.

Finally, we give thanks for our children and young people, their enthusiasm, joy and eagerness for change.

Prayer written by Jen Tobin - Diocesan Lead Officer for Children and Young People Ministry

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ile-Oluji – The Church of Nigeria

8 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST ANDREW (BARMING HEATH)

Clergy: Liz Walker

Churchwardens: Julius Gnanamoney, Graham Chandler

We give thanks for the growth and unity of St Andrew's over the last few years. We have seen God at work amongst our young people through Confirmations, a new Choir and a Young people's group. We give thanks for the four adults training as Lay Worship Leaders at St Andrew's - and for the united effort over 6 months of our multi-cultural congregation to raise money needed for repairs. We invite prayers for our new Priest, Rev Anthea Mitchell, and we share with you our sense that God is, indeed, a God of surprises!

Anglican Communion:

15th Sunday after Trinity Season of Creation

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

9 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST FAITH

Clergy: Arthur Houston

Reader: Sue Shaw

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ilesa – The Church of Nigeria

10 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: GIVING THANKS FOR CREATION

Thank you Lord for your wonderful Creation.

We give thanks for each other, especially our young people who are recognising and sharing the need to make change, as we together try to change habits of greed and carelessness for the sake of our world. Help us to recognise that sustainable consumption and resource conservation need to be companions in our protection of your heritage. May just one change in every person lead to greater change across your world, as we learn to protect your gift of Creation given to us.

Loving Father, you sent Jesus to save us, help us to save your world.

Amen.

Prayer written by Canon Miranda Ford - Chair of the House of Laity & Diocesan Eco Champion

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Ilesa South West – The Church of Nigeria

11 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Clergy: Gareth Dickinson

Assistant Curates: Hollie Butler, Barbara Lewis

Reader-in-Training: Nat Croft

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

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

12 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST MARTIN

Clergy: Joyce Addison

Assistant Curate: Robin Fassenfelt

Anna Chaplain: Sue Yeo

Parish Pioneer: Angela Frost

Please pray today for our parish. There has been a lot of movement in the community of St. Martin's which is exciting. We would appreciate prayers of thanksgiving as God's Spirit is bringing us joy and new life with the ordination to the Diaconate of Robin Fassenfelt and the transition of Angie Frost from Ignite Enabler to Parish-Based Pioneer. Given these our outward-facing roles, please pray that Robin and Angie will deepen our relationships with our neighbours, especially given the Shepway Regeneration scheme which is taking place nearby.

Our plans to instal an accessible toilet/baby change area plus a raised path at the church entrance are moving forward. So please keep in your prayers our fundraising efforts, especially for the Gift Weekend and Harvest celebration from 4-6 October 2024 when the Mayor of Maidstone and his wife will visit to judge a scarecrow competition involving our local (non-church) primary schools! We have sadly lost a few members of our congregation and we miss them terribly. However, we draw strength and much joy from our thriving Sunday Club and Youth Group. They are very precious to us, so prayers for their safety, well-being and a strong faith are always welcome!

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Northern Indiana – The Episcopal Church

13 SEPT

PARKWOOD: CHRIST CHURCH

Clergy: Vacant

Reader: Linda Thatcher

Please pray for the Good News of Jesus to reach the people of Parkwood which is a large estate of mainly social housing. Please pray that the Lord would guide us as to how to minister to the needs of those around us. We are a small congregation but growing so please pray more people would join us. Many members have health issues or financial issues and many struggle with mental and emotional needs and therefore need prayer to sustain them and us! We are blessed in having several children who have joined us recently and need guidance and helpers to provide for their needs. We thank the Lord for all he is doing in this very special place. Thank you for your prayers

Anglican Communion: Season of Creation

The Diocese of Indianapolis – The Episcopal Church

14 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THE DIOCESAN GENEROUS GIVING TEAM

Today we pray for The Revd Lindsay Yates and Vicky Alford, our Diocesan Generous Giving Team and for an outpouring of generosity throughout the Church and especially in this Diocese of Canterbury.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for all your gifts to us. Help us, we pray to be grateful for all that we receive and to respond by being generous ourselves, after the example of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Lindsay Yates - Diocesan Generous Giving Advisor

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Inhambane – Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola

15 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Clergy: John Ainslie

Reader: Eleanor Relle

Schools: St Michael's CE School Federation (Infant), St Michael's CE Junior School

Please pray for the building up of our Lay Leadership Team, and especially for our new PCC Treasurer Lee. For growth of our church in faith and in numbers. For the newly established Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham in our Parish, which will honour Mary and pray for the work of Mission and Ministry in our Parish. And for the further development in the coming academic year of already strong links with our two fantastic church schools of St Michael's Primary and Junior.

Anglican Communion:

16th Sunday after Trinity Season of Creation

The Church of Nigeria

16 SEPT

MAIDSTONE: ST PAUL

Clergy: Vacant

Assistant Curate: Anthea Mitchell

Churchwardens: Brian Beswick, Mark Turner

Please pray for St. Paul's as we continue our search for a new Priest-in-Charge (to be shared with St. Nicholas, Allington). Both churches have been on quite a journey with God in vacancy and are now better placed to welcome a new leader and fulfil our potential. Please pray that the right person notices our advert at the right time, and is inspired by it.

Pray also for our fledgling Bubble Church which is such an exciting opportunity for us to engage well with children and families, and share with them the hospitality, love and good news of Jesus.

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Iowa – The Episcopal Church

17 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR OUR PARISHES

We pray for parishes as they encourage their congregations and wider communities to be generous in their support of the mission and ministry of the Church throughout the Diocese.

God of love, send your Spirit of generosity into the hearts of all your people that they might discover the joy of giving generously towards the work of your Church enabling your love to be shared with more and more people and your name to be glorified throughout the world.

Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Lindsay Yates - Diocesan Generous Giving Advisor

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Iran – The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and The Middle East

18 SEPT PRAYING WITH THE NORTH DOWNS DEANERY

Area Dean: Peter Callway

Lay Chair: Rhian Banham

Secretary: Mary Tasker

Treasurer: Peter Roberts

Please pray today for our Deanery. That the right people will be appointed to three vacant parishes in the deanery, and that the two clergy in post, along with those with PTO's and our lay ministers are able to build on the exciting things and new growth happening across the North Downs.

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Irele Ese-Odo – The Church of Nigeria

19 SEPT NORTH DOWNS DEANERY: PRAYING 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:

Peter Callway, Robin Gill, Millie Hart, Lesley Ludlow, Yvonne Salmon, Richard Love

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Isi Mbano – The Church of Nigeria

20 SEPT NORTH DOWNS DEANERY: PRAYING 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.

Jackie Saunders, Peter Ashford

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Isiala Ngwa – The Church of Nigeria

Clergy: Vacant

Readers: David Parry, Christine Holland

Churchwardens: Peter Holland, Carol Parry

Both St Peter's Church and Junction, our Fresh Expressions Church plant, would appreciate prayers for growth spiritually and numerically during this time of vacancy, that we stay strong and committed, focus on God and His Word, and develop ministries in the church body. We would also like to pray that God is preparing the right person to come to fill the vacancy.

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Isiala-Ngwa South – The Church of Nigeria

Loving God

We thank you for calling us to discipleship, sharing your Good News in, and through our everyday lives.

We thank you for those who have responded to your call to licensed lay ministry as ministers of the Word, serving you in the church and the wider world.

We pray for Ann, Janet and Nigel who are to be admitted to the office of Reader and we pray for Karen who will be licensed with them to exercise a public ministry in our diocese.

We pray for Frances and John and give thanks for their many years of faithful service as they become Reader emeritus.

We pray for all who minister in your name; may they be steadfast in faith as they seek to share in the work of building your kingdom on earth as in heaven.

We ask this in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Pray particularly today for:

Those to be admitted and licensed as Readers: Ann Friedlos, Nigel Poole and Janet Butcher-Weisner.

Those to be welcomed and licensed: Karen Bates (formerly of Chelmsford diocese).

Those to be granted Emeritus on retirement from Reader ministry: Frances Morgan and John Vaughan.

Prayer written by Nigel Collins - Diocesan Warden of Readers and Pastoral Secretary

Anglican Communion:

17th Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation

The Church of North India (United)

23 SEPT

LEN VALLEY BENEFICE

Clergy: John Huggins

Reader: Pamela Cuerden

Schools: Ulcombe CE Primary School, Harrietsham CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Isikwuato / Umunneochi – The Church of Nigeria

24 SEPT

NORTH DOWNS BENEFICE

Clergy: Rob Tugwell, Mark Pavey

Readers: Peter Roberts, Alison Callway, Ann Harrison

Anna Chaplain: Jackie Saunders

Pray today for the North Downs team, as we go through a time of change and look to discern the way forward. Pray for Rev Rob Tugwell and Area Dean Peter Callway as they look to navigate the churches through the impending interregnum, (following Rev Mark Pavey's appointment to a new role).

Please pray that God continues to raise leaders within the churches and that they continue to listen to God and the community so we can better serve them.

As always, we are hugely thankful for the many PTOs, lay ministers, PCC members and volunteers who help us continue to minister into our parishes. Occasional offices are in great demand and we minister into many local institutions such as schools and residential care homes. As with many contexts, opportunities are great but we are very stretched. Mostly, we continue to pray for God's presence and a continued deepening of discipleship as the churches seek God's leading going forward.

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Western Izon – The Church of Nigeria

25 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: FOR THE TAPESTRY OF LIFE

Creator God, thank you for this intricate tapestry of life that is this fragile world we share. As the crown of your creation, we are called to be good stewards, yet we forget our interdependence on the many facets of life in the seas and on the land of this planet. Help us in our growing awareness to do better, and to be a Church that adds its voice to speak out against climate change and to lead by example. Direct our small and big steps to protect and restore the wonders of your creation. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Chris Carnaby-Denyer - Priest-in-Charge St Martin in Herne with St Peter's Greenhill & Diocesan Eco Champion

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

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

26 SEPT

PRAYING WITH THE OSPRINGE DEANERY

Area Dean: Andrew Sweeney

Lay Chair: Miranda Ford

Secretary: Peter Willcock

Treasurer: Hilary Tulett

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Jaffna – The Church of South India (United)

27 SEPT

OSPRINGE DEANERY: PRAYING 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:

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

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Jalingo – The Church of Nigeria

28 SEPT

PRAYING TOGETHER: THE WISDOM TO CHERISH GOD'S CREATION

Our God

You hold all creation in your hands, and hear its groaning.

Make us eager to love it with passion and energy,

and to live as those who would

restore rather than abuse,

nurture rather than exploit,

challenge rather than ignore hard truths;

that we might have eyes that see, ears that hear

and minds that treasure all that you have made,

so that all created things can live in your light and freedom,

and we can all share in your bountiful goodness and fullness of life.

Amen.

Prayer written by Revd Amanda Lane - Associate Priest with The Six & Diocesan Eco Champion

Anglican Communion:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Jamaica and The Cayman Islands – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

29 SEPT

OSPRINGE DEANERY: PRAYING 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.

Ros Parrett, Caroline Ramshaw, Simon Rowlands

Anglican Communion:

18th Sunday after Trinity

Season of Creation

The Church of Pakistan (United)

30 SEPT

OSPRINGE DEANERY: 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:

Season of Creation

The Diocese of Rio de Janeiro – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil



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 painting: Primrose Northrop 'Autumn Hare' acrylic on recycled cotton fabric