

Cycle of Prayer

12 January 2020 - 09 May 2020



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Chester

Key:

C = Clergy

LM = Licensed Lay Minister
(Reader)
(Pastoral Worker)
(Youth Worker)

Diocesan entries from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer are in italics.

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Foreword



Who will you be praying for in 2020? No surprises if I tell you I'm praying for the next Bishop of Chester. I will use some of the prayers prepared for the diocese and found on the website and I hope to go to one of the prayer meetings arranged for us to pray together.

I hope I will be praying on my own in my own words, sometimes not using words at all, experiencing what St Paul says in Romans 8.26: 'Likewise the Spirit helps us

in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.'

Have a look at Psalm 34. I've been listening to a wonderful gospel setting of the Psalm from the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir which you can find on YouTube. Go back to the words of just this one psalm; notice the emotive language:

'I will bless the Lord at all times;'

'O magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt his name together;'

'O taste and see that the Lord is good.'

This is prayer coming from the heart, being expressed in praise, and not forgetting to express prayer as a 'cry':

'When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hear,' prayer offered because the psalmist knows, 'the Lord is near the broken-hearted, and saves the crushed in spirit' (Ps 34.18).

May our prayer in 2020 (whether for the next bishop or not) be shaped by this kind of prayer.

May the Lord hear our cry!

With love in Christ

+Keith

Go to www.chester.anglican.org/YourBishList to download prayer resources and find details of two prayer meetings to be held on 29th January and 12th March, in the days leading up to the meeting of the Crown Nominations Commission.



Welcome

'We pray then because there is pain and love in life, because we both suffer and rejoice, because we try to find meaning in it, because we want to share this with another.' So wrote Alan Ecclestone, surely one of the greatest Anglican teachers of prayer in the twentieth century, in his book *Yes to God* (1975). Ecclestone's insistence on sharing – with God and with one another – as fundamental to the practice of prayer is a principle that underlies this publication. Here we aim to share with each other our intentions, our longings, and our concerns so that our prayers before God can be both informed and mutual.



To that end please do send prayers and topic suggestions to us at Church House. Occasionally contributions have to be edited, generally for reasons of space or layout, but we try hard to include everything submitted. Our aim is that necessary brevity should not stifle mutual sharing. Don't hesitate therefore to propose topics and specific prayers. Ideas for inclusion, whether parish entries or Sunday topics, should be submitted to jane.hood@chester.anglican.org at least eight weeks prior to the cover date of the edition concerned (for example, that will be 13th March for the next edition).

Christopher Burkett
Editor and Director of Ministry

12 January - Called to Serve

The Baptism of Christ (The First Sunday of Epiphany)

Called to Serve is an opportunity for all Christians in the Diocese to explore their potential future within representative faith vocations. It focusses on the four licensed ministries found in this diocese: Pastoral Worker, Reader, Priest and Church Army; as well as exploring children and youth ministries, and spiritual direction.



Alongside hearing from people currently in these different vocations and discovering at first-hand what each role entails, there is space for detailed questions and supportive discussion.

There will also be a chance for younger people to speak with a young curate and ask questions about their ordained ministry.

Information will also be available to people who wish to explore traditional religious life or find out more about new monastic communities.

By the end of the day, you can expect to be clearer about how these ministries differ to each other and the training involved in each one.

Called to Serve is on Saturday, 25th January 0900 to 1500, at Foxhill House and Woodlands, Frodsham. Lunch is provided. To book go the Events page on the Diocesan Website. Enquires to peter.bacon@chester.anglican.org or phone 01928 718834 ext 237.

Pray for all involved in Called to Serve.

Sovereign God, as you call us into your marvellous light, may our lives bear witness to your truth and our lips never cease to proclaim your praise.

Epiphany Evening Prayer

Bishop Charles Mthetheli May, Highveld (Southern Africa). Bishop Matthias Mededues-Badohu, Ho (West Africa). Bishop Brian Thom, Idaho (The Episcopal Church, USA).

13 January - New Brighton St James with Emmanuel

C: Heather Atkinson. LM: Ron Jones, Mike Collins.

Lord Jesus Christ, shine your truth into the hearts of young people. May they see you through the wonder of creation and in the people who love them. By your Holy Spirit at work, draw them to yourself. May they find vision in their interests, opportunities for their talents and aspirations for their abilities. May the youth of today come to know you.

Archbishop Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu, Primate of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai & Bishop of Hokkaido, Japan. Bishop Lloyd Allen, Honduras (TEC, USA). Bishop Saw Mark Maung Doe, Myanmar (Burma).

14 January - Poulton

C: Peter Cooper, Elaine White. LM: Lesley Roberts, Rob Woodburn, Kerri Douglas.

Bishop Linda Nicholls, Huron (Canada).

15 January - Seacombe

C: Peter Cooper, Elaine White. LM: John Riddiough.

Bishop Kaleem John, Hyderabad (Pakistan).

16 January - Wallasey St Hilary

C: Alan Ward, Richard Avery. LM: John Tomkins, Valerie Sparks, Catherine Godfrey.

Pray for our ministry to youth and children following changes to our Fusion project. Ask the Lord for vision, faith and imagination as we reach out to local homes and schools with the gospel of Jesus.

Archbishop Joseph Akinfenwa, Ibadan; Bishop Segun Okubadejo, Ibadan North; Bishop Adkintunde Popoola, Ibadan South (Nigeria).

17 January - Wallasey St Nicholas

C: Jeff Staples. LM: Louise Jones.

Bishop Joseph Musa, Idah (Nigeria).

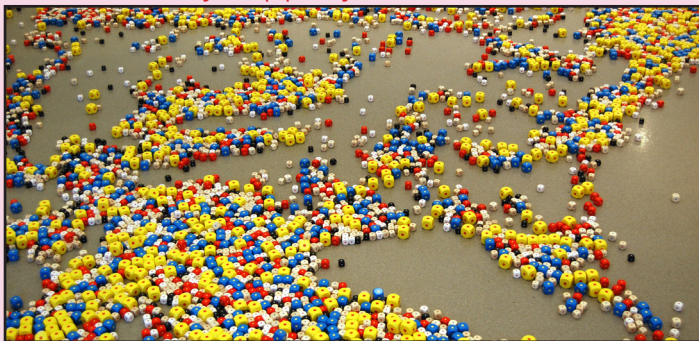
18 January - Moreton

C: Graham Cousins, Betty Turner, Debbi Stott. LM: Kat Taylor.
Moreton Christ Church C of E School.

Archbishop Caleb Maduoma, Ideato; Bishop Ezekiel Dahunsi, Idoani (Nigeria).

19 January - Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Second Sunday of Epiphany



In *Unusual Kindness*, the material published for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we are asked to accompany the churches of Malta, praying with and alongside them, praying also for them in their Christian journey as they seek the unity for which Christ prayed. And we rejoice with them that Malta traces its Christian origins back to the time of the Apostles. And in so doing, we enter into the drama of St Paul, those that travelled with him, and the inhabitants whom they met, to discover our shared unity, and in so doing recognise the importance of unusual acts of kindness (Acts 28:2) that bear witness to the Gospel of peace and reconciliation.

Material taken from <https://ctbi.org.uk> from which site further resources are available.

Pray for local Christians of traditions other than your own.

May God the Holy Spirit, who is Lord and giver of life, strengthen us to endure the shipwrecks of life and reach the shores of salvation.

From CTBI order of service.

Bishop Olubunmi A Akinlade, Ife; Bishop Oluseyi Oyelade, Ife South (Nigeria).

20 January - Mottram Deanery

Bishop Nathaniel Oadejo Ogundipe, Ifo; Bishop Emmanuel Adekola, Igbomina; Bishop Olajide Adebayo, Igbomina West (Nigeria).

21 January - Dukinfield St John

C: Tim Hayes, Chris Viney. LM: Stuart Phillips, Pat Bradshaw.
Dukinfield St John's C of E School.

Bishop Ezekiel Awosoga, Ijebu; Bishop Solomon Kuponu, Ijebu North (Nigeria).

22 January - Dukinfield St Mark

C: Karl Williams, Jenny Dunlop. LM: Chantelle Tunnicliffe.

Pray for the development of our new relationship with Ravensfield school, and for continual development of our work with our children and youth groups.

Bishop Joseph Olusola, Ijesa North East; Bishop Isaac Oluyamo, Ijesha North (Nigeria).

23 January - Gee Cross

C: Helen Scarisbrick. LM: Wendy Stockton, Wendy Slinger.

Gee Cross Holy Trinity C of E School.

Bishop Paul Olarewaju Ojo, Ijumu; Bishop Yusuf Janfalan, Ikara (Nigeria).

24 January - Hattersley

C: Denise Hayes. LM: Pam Whittaker.

Father, please help us in this new phase of our journey; help us to work together so we may be as one in Your name and radiate Your love. Grant us courage to serve You in new ways as You direct and lead us. Protect us from expecting You to serve us in ways that are comfortable and safe. Help us to get out of the boat so we may reveal Your love, hope and peace in the turmoil and storms of this world. Lord in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Bishop Emmanuel Maduwike, Ikeduru; Bishop Peter Onekpe, Ikka (Nigeria).

25 January - Hollingworth

The Conversion of Paul

C: Bruce Perrin. LM: Joyce Blundell, Stephen Cook, Janet Malpas.

Bishop Blessing Enyindah, Ikwerre; Bishop Kenneth Ifemene, Ikwo (Nigeria).

26 January - Praying for the next Bishop of Chester

The Third Sunday of Epiphany

Not for over a quarter of a century, has the Church of England appointed someone to the role of Bishop of Chester.

On the 3rd February, the Crown Nominations Commission will meet for the first time. Please pray for them as they discuss the appointment and discern together who it is God is calling to be the next Bishop of Chester.



Bishop Keith has invited everyone to pray for the Diocese of Chester during this time of transition and change. A special prayer has been written, and a selection of prayer resources have been produced. Bishop Keith will also be leading a prayer meeting at Foxhill on Wednesday 29th January. All are welcome to join him.

To access and download the prayer resources, and for details about the prayer meeting, go to: www.chester.anglican.org/YourBishList

Bishop Chigozirim Onyegbule, Ikwuano; Bishop Fredrick Olugbemi, Ilaje (Nigeria).

27 January - Hyde St George with St Thomas

C: Jeremy Bentliff, Callum Boothroyd. LM: Susan Nykorak, Marjorie Trueman, Barbara Hollington, David Hollington, Diane Deakins, Katy Jones.

Hyde St George's C of E School.

Bishop Samuel Olubayu Sowale, Ilesa; Bishop Samuel Egbeunmi, Ilesa South West (Nigeria).

28 January - Millbrook

C: Tim Hayes, Chris Viney.

Bishop Jennifer Baskerville Brown, Indianapolis; Bishop Alan Scarfe, Iowa (The Episcopal Church, USA).

29 January - **Mottram-in-Longdendale**

C: Vacant. LM: Allen Standeven, John Walker.

Pray for our parish representatives and everyone involved in the appointment of a new vicar that God will direct us to the person He wants to lead our parish.

Broadbottom C of E School. Mottram C of E School.

Vacant, Iran (The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East). Felix Akinbuluma, Eseodo (Nigeria).

30 January - **Newton in Mottram with Flowery Field**

C: Sheila O'Flaherty. LM: Linda Marshall, Sara Burgess.

Bishop Isaac Nwaobia, Isiala-Nga South (Nigeria).

31 January - **Stalybridge Holy Trinity**

C: Gary Kennaugh. LM: Clive Hustwick, Barry Edge, Bea Calow, David Monday.

Bishop Manasses Chijiokem Okere, Isikwuato (Nigeria). Archbishop Prem Chand Singh, Moderator of CNI & Bishop of Jabalpur (North India).

01 February - **Stalybridge St Paul**

C: Emma Handley. LM: Jacintha Manchester, John Clements.

We give thanks to God for the success of Messy Church and for the new worshipping community that has grown up around this. We continue to pray and search for ways in which to connect with those areas of our parish which we don't see represented in our congregation.

Stalybridge St Paul's C of E School.

Bishop Daniel Selvaratnam Thiagarajah, Jaffna (South India). Bishop Foreman Nedison, Jalingo (Nigeria).

02 February - Fulfil our Hope

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)

'In honour of the divine mystery that we celebrate today, let us all hasten to meet Christ. Everyone should be eager to join the procession and to carry a light. Our lighted candles are a sign of the divine splendour of the one who comes to expel the dark shadows of evil and to make the whole universe radiant with the brilliance of his eternal light. Our candles also show how bright our souls should be when we go to meet Christ.



The light has come and has shone upon a world enveloped in shadows; the Dayspring from on high has visited us and given light to those who lived in darkness. This, then, is our feast, and we join in procession with lighted candles to reveal the light that has shone upon us and the glory that is yet to come to us through him. Let us hasten all together to meet our God.'

From a sermon by Sophronius, Bishop of Jerusalem, c. 638

Dispel the darkness of our souls, Lord of light and hope.

Bishop Howard Gregory, Jamaica & The Cayman Islands (West Indies).

Bishop Timothy Adewole, Jebba (Nigeria).

03 February - Tintwistle

C: Bruce Perrin. LM: Joyce Blundell.

Tintwistle C of E School.

Archbishop Suheil Dawani, Jerusalem (Jerusalem & the Middle East). Bishop

Stephen Mosimanegape Moreo, Johannesburg (Southern Africa).

04 February - Wirral North Deanery

Pray for Wirral North Deanery, for church members to be encouraged in their own faith, growing in a knowledge and trust in the grace of God in Jesus Christ. Please pray that they would have imagination and energy in their mission to their communities, and that people would see their good deeds and praise their Father in heaven.

Archbishop Benjamin Kwashi, Jos (Nigeria). Archbishop Justin Badi Arama, Juba (South Sudan).

05 February - Barnston

C: Peter Froggatt, Chris Murphy. LM: Marjorie Burden, David Williams, Anne Vassie, Carol Jordan, Chrissie Irlam, David Reed, Jane McCallum, Lynn Alexander, Ali Johnson, Eileen Hindley, John Putman.

Bishop Steven Akobe, Kabba (Nigeria). Bishop Andudu Adam Elnail, Kadugli and Nuba Mountains (Sudan).

06 February - Bebington

C: David Vestergaard, Al Rodgers, Al Metcalfe. LM: Ian Halliday, Helen Thomas, David Jack, Amy Haigh, Judith Battersby.

Pray that we may grow in praying together and in our outreach to the community; and for a successful conclusion to our lighting project, that it may make a positive impact on all who enter the building.

Bebington St Andrew's C of E School.

Bishop Timothy Yahaya, Kaduna (Nigeria). Bishop Marcus Dogo, Kafanchan (Nigeria).

07 February - Frankby with Greasby

C: Ken Owen.

Bishop Gadiel Katanga Lenini, Kajiado (Kenya).

08 February - Great Meols

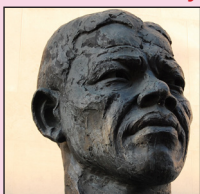
C: Gillian Rossiter. LM: Lesley Young, Alan Fryer, David Moss, Julia Johnson, Chris Branch.

Pray for all the Syrian families who visit our joint swap at Leasowe.

Bishop Emmanuel Murye Modi, Kajo Keji (South Sudan). Bishop Sabiti Tibafa Daniel, Kamango (Congo).

09 February - Release of Nelson Mandela, 30th Anniversary

The Third Sunday before Lent



On 11 February 1990, Nelson Mandela was released from prison after 27 years in custody. Although imprisoned for all those years he had been the unquestioned figurehead of the campaign to end apartheid – the enforced social segregation of black citizens from the ruling white minority – in South Africa. For the first 18 years of his incarceration he was jailed in the

notorious Robben Island Prison. Confined to a small cell with no bed or plumbing, he had to do hard labour in the island quarry. Although restricted to writing one letter every six months, and only allowed a visitor for 30 minutes once a year, his resolve was unbroken. Later prison conditions were less harsh.

Mandela was elected South Africa's first black president in 1994. He retired from politics in 1999, remaining an international advocate for peace and social justice until his death in 2013.

'As I walked out the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison'

Nelson Mandela

God of the generous heart,
teach us that same spirit of sharing and care,
that is the fruit not of necessity, but simple love.

Archbishop Stanley Ntagali, Archbishop of Uganda & Bishop of Kampala (Uganda). Bishop Zakka Nyam, Kano (Nigeria).

10 February - Heswall

C: Martin Cannam, Jacky Wise, Lyn Weston, Josh Carlson. LM: Brenda Wilson, Peter Twin, Jennie Hewitt, Andrew Field-Davies, Michael Barritt. We give thanks to God for his provision towards building The Lighthouse Church. Please join us in praying for final confirmation of the new building design and the appointment of the right builder. Heswall St Peter's C of E School.

Vacant, Kansas (TEC, USA). Vacant, Kanyakumari (South India).

11 February - Higher Bebington

C: Mike Loach, Euncie Blackmore. LM: Jill Wright, Pam Hollinshead, June Fogg, Ted Jones.

Pray for us as we work towards joining with St Paul's, Tranmere. May God's grace and love bring us close and be a light that shines in our new parish.

Bishop Isaac Deu Chol, Kapoeta (South Sudan). Bishop Paul Korir, Kapsabet (Kenya).

12 February - Hoylake

C: Paul Rossiter, John Harrison. LM: Jill Rawcliffe, Ruth Calcott, Peter Ham.

Hoylake Holy Trinity C of E School.

Bishop Sadiq Daniel, Karachi (Pakistan). Bishop Joseph Abura, Karamoja (Uganda). Bishop Reuben Mark, Karimnagar (South India).

13 February - New Ferry

C: Andy Greenhough, Peter Chamberlin. LM: Jim Cartwright, Mike Gillam.

Bishop Prasana Samuel, Karnataka Central; Bishop Ravikumar J. Niranjan, Karnataka North; Bishop Mohan Manora, Karnataka South (South India).

14 February - Newton West Kirby

C: Cheryl Coverley, Ailsa Whorton. LM: Anthony Hart, Martin Smith.

Vacant, Kasai (Congo). Bishop John Okude Omuse, Katakwa; (Kenya).

15 February - Thurstaston

C: Jane Turner. LM: Alan Jones.

Give thanks for those who have served faithfully in the past year and pray for more people to be inspired to volunteer to serve God and the parish through the role of church warden or PCC members.

Thurstaston Dawpool C of E School.

Bishop Bertin Subi, Katanga (Congo). Bishop Jonathan Bamaiyi, Katsina (Nigeria).

16 February - Sustainability

The Second Sunday before Lent

A new publication from the World Council of Churches, *The Sustainability Book* offers online texts and resources about the Sustainable Development Goals for use by congregations, gatherings, and individuals. It aims to be a toolbox that will help people fight for a better world.



Its editors write, 'In our everyday lives, we can choose climate-friendly solutions, we can buy clothes that are ethically manufactured, and we can pick up plastic along the beach,' [but] 'In order to change the basic structures that create conflict, injustice and environmental degradation, we must be united in our cause.' The book gives resources to be just that.

Edited entry from the World Council of Churches Media Centre. *The Sustainability Book* is available free at <http://sdgbook.com/>

Lord, Father of all, you who created us for each other, Let us understand that we are all sisters and brothers. Forgive us when we forget this truth and reawaken our brotherly and sisterly love. Let us walk side by side towards a better future. Let your kingdom come! We commit everything and everyone, into your hands, Lord.

The Sustainability Book.

Archbishop Edmund Akanya, Archbishop of the Province of Kaduna & Bishop of Kebbi (Nigeria). Bishop David Ashdown, Keewatin (Canada).

17 February - Upton (Overchurch)

C: Nicola Eastwood, Stephanie Warrell. LM: Rhonda Anson, Laura Arnold, Gaynor Kydd, Malcolm Kydd, Cat Farrell, Lorraine Williams, Peter Davies, Alison Collins, Kenneth London, Malcolm Haigh, Rebecca Steele.

Bishop Terry White, Kentucky (The Episcopal Church, USA). Bishop Ernest Kiprotich Ng'eno, Kericho (Kenya).

18 February - West Kirby St Andrew

C: Vacant. LM: Ken Jones.

Archbishop Ezekiel Kumir Kondo, Archbishop of the Province of Sudan & Bishop of Khartoum (Sudan). Bishop of Kibondo, Sospeter Ndenza (Tanzania).

19 February - West Kirby St Bridget

C: John Bleazard, David Chester. LM: John Smith, Graham Crowder, Brian Dodd.

Our Rector, John Bleazard, retires at the end of February. Please pray for the ongoing ministry of the parish during the vacancy period, and for the recruitment of a new incumbent.

West Kirby St Bridget's C of E School.

Bishop Emmanuel Ntazinda, Kibungo; Bishop Louis Muvunyi, Kigali (Rwanda).

20 February - Poulton Lancelyn

C: Roger Wiles. LM: Michael Clarkson, Alan Jones.

Bishop Assiel Musabyimana, Kigeme (Rwanda). Bishop George Bagamuhunda, Kigezi (Uganda).

21 February - Nantwich Deanery

Pray for new colleagues in the deanery, as incumbents, deacons and lay Readers, that they may feel at home and valued in all they offer, and for the parishes they serve.

Bishop Ferran Glenfield, Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh (Ireland). Bishop Oswald Swartz, Kimberley and Kuruman (Southern Africa).

22 February - Acton

C: Anne Lawson.

Give thanks for the many opportunities which are emerging to make contact with the wider community. Tea at the Tower takes place every Sunday afternoon. A monthly 'Pop-Up Police Station' with the local PCSOs is now established, and occasional events such as concerts and talks are all helping to build up contacts and relationships in the community.

Acton C of E School.

Archbishop Zacharie Masimango Katanda, Archbishop of the Congo & Bishop of Kindu (Congo). Bishop Dan Zoreka, Kinkizi (Uganda).

23 February - The Sunday of Forgiveness

The Sunday Next Before Lent

In the Orthodox Church the Sunday next before Lent is often called 'the Sunday of Forgiveness.' As the faithful look towards the keeping of a holy season and the renewal of their relational with Christ expressed in Lenten devotion and practice, they turn first to relationships with their neighbours. In asking for the forgiveness of others and giving forgiveness in turn, they seek to make mutual love the foundation of the Lenten fast.



'No amount of thought will ever result in any greater formulation than the three words, 'Love one another,' so long as it is love to the end and without exceptions.'

The words of Mother Maria Skobtsova, also known as St Mary of Paris (1891-1945). A brilliant theologian she opened her home to anyone who needed assistance. She was imprisoned for aiding Jews and others from her Paris house of hospitality and died a martyr's death in Ravensbrück concentration camp.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Bishop Achille Mutshindu, Kinshasa (Congo). Bishop Joseph Kibichwa, Kirinyaga (Kenya).

24 February - Audlem

C: Helen Chantry. LM: Ann Draper, Jill Williams.

Pray that we may continue to offer friendship to the families with whom we have good connections through our church school and work with pre-school families and support the vulnerable in our community.

Audlem St James' C of E School.

Bishop Lambert Funga Botolome, Kisangani (Congo). Bishop Zerubbabel Katsuichi Hirota, Kita Kanto (Japan).

25 February - Baddiley

C: Alison Fulford, Dorothy Woods. LM: Ron High, Cynthia Gorton, Elizabeth Falding, Roger Howarth.

Bishop Stephen Kewasis, Kitale (Kenya). Bishop Isaiah Chambala, Kiteto (Tanzania).

26 February - Burleydam

Ash Wednesday

C: Alison Fulford, Dorothy Woods. LM: Ron High, Cynthia Gorton, Elizabeth Falding, Roger Howarth, Debbie Rowlands.

Bishop Wilson Kitara, Kitgum (Uganda). Bishop Josephat Mule, Kitui (Kenya).

27 February - Church Minshull

C: Anne Lawson.

Give thanks that the long-planned and eagerly awaited re-ordering project can finally take place, making the church easier to use both for Café Church and Messy Church, and also for events in the wider community.

Bishop Augustin Ahimana, Kivu (Rwanda). Bishop Augustine Naoaki Kobayashi, Kobe (Japan).

28 February - Coppenhall

C: John Leal.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order: grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven, so, at your command, they may help and defend us on earth.

Bishop Felix Odei Annancy, Koforidua (West Africa). Bishop Sandeep Suresh Vibhute, Kolhapur (North India).

29 February - Crewe All Saints and St Paul

C: Vacant, Catherine Cleghorn. LM: Anne Marshall.

Pray for our relationships with the other churches in Crewe, and for all areas of our ministry to continue to flourish.

Bishop Oommen George, Kollam - Kottarakkara (South India). Bishop Given Gaula, Kondoa (Tanzania).

01 March - Keeping Lent

The First Sunday of Lent

'... growing closer to God. That is at the heart of a good Lent. We come to a time of fasting, discipline and study, in order that we may renew our knowledge of His presence. That involves a stripping of those things that divide us from God, developing our obedience to His call and venturing deeper into the fire of His love.'

Archbishop Justin Welby in a foreword to *I Am With You* (2015) by Kathryn Greene-McCreight.



God whose name is love. I wish I knew how to love, that my love were as much a delight to you as your love is to me.
(after Margery Kempe, c. 1373-1432)

Pray for wisdom in the keeping of Lent. May we all learn of Christ and witness to Christ in what we do.

Bishop Gabriel Thuch Agot, Kongor (South Sudan). Bishop Jonah Ibrahim, Kontagora (Nigeria).

02 March - Crewe St Andrew with St John the Baptist

C: Vacant, Catherine Cleghorn.

Pray for our continued work in the community, in our schools and with the other churches in Crewe.

Bishop John Elswood Privett, Kootenay (Canada). Bishop George Cornelious Tanteputi, Krishna-Godavari (South India).

03 March - Crewe St Barnabas

C: Ralph Powell.

Bishop Duke Akamisoko, Kubwa (Nigeria). Bishop Danald Jute, Kuching (South East Asia).

04 March - Crewe St Peter

C: Vacant, Catherine Cleghorn. LM: Jim Shepherd.

Pray for our work in the community, especially for our projects with Crewe Town Council, and our links with the other churches in Crewe.

Archbishop Daniel Sarfo, Primate & Metropolitan, CPWA; Archbishop of the Internal province of Ghana and Bishop of Kumasi (West Africa). Bishop Edison Irigei, Kumi (Uganda).

05 March - Crewe Green

C: Jane Lloyd. LM: Anne Thompson, Linda Clarke, Ron Taylor.

Bishop Keerthisiri Fernando, Kurunegala (Ceylon). Archbishop Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Moderator, Church of Bangladesh & Bishop of Kushtia (Bangladesh).

06 March - Doddington

C: Helen Chantry.

Give thanks for the faithful team and the welcome they give in our community.

Bridgemere C of E School.

Bishop Jeremiah Ndana Kolo, Kutigi (Nigeria). Archbishop Olusegun A Adeyemi, Archbishop of Province of Kwara & Bishop of Kwara (Nigeria).

07 March - Haslington

C: Jane Lloyd. LM: Anne Thompson, Linda Clarke, Ron Taylor.

Bishop Paul Zamani, Kwoi (Nigeria). Bishop Stephen Takashi Kochi, Kyoto (Japan).

08 March - Praying for the next Bishop of Chester

The Second Sunday of Lent

Students at Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School have produced a selection of prayers for the vacancy process, for the person God is calling to be the next Bishop of Chester, and the people who are tasked with discerning God's will for our diocese.



Dear God,

I pray that whoever is appointed is the right person and a great bishop. I know it is a difficult and complicated process and pray that those making the decisions are guided by your hand.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Amen.

Dear Lord,

We pray for the group of people involved in recruiting the next Bishop of Chester. We pray that you will give them wisdom and guidance in recognising the right person. We know that you have plans that far exceed our own and we pray that the group are able to act with sensitivity and discernment.

We know you have great plans for Chester and the local area, and we're excited to see who will be appointed.

We pray for a wise and spiritual choice and that your will be done.

Amen.

The CNC is due to meet on the 16 March. A public meeting will be held on 12 March to bring people together to pray for the CNC as it makes its decision. Go to www.chester.anglican.org/YourBishList for full details.

Suffragan See of Birkenhead

Keith Sinclair consecrated Bishop of Birkenhead (York Minster, 2007).

On this anniversary of his consecration, pray for Bishop Keith's ministry.

Bishop Luke Ken-ichi Muto, Kyushu (Japan). Bishop Godwin A Robinson, Lafia (Nigeria).

09 March - Leighton-cum-Minshull Vernon

C: Philip Goggins. LM: Elizabeth Morris.

Bishop Humphrey Bamisebi Olumakaiye, Lagos; Bishop Akinpelu Johnson, Lagos Mainland, Bishop James Olusola Odedeji, Lagos West (Nigeria).

10 March - Nantwich

C: Mark Hart, Bernard Moss, Paul Wheeler. LM: Herbert Roswell. Dot Roxby, Mary Harris, Lynne Marsh, Paul Ramsey, Susie Boxhall, Sue Caunt.

Bishop Irfan Jamil, Lahore, (Pakistan). Bishop Eliaba Lako Obede, Lainya (South Sudan).

11 March - Weston

C: Rachael Griffiths. LM: Gaynor Bracey, Margaret Hodgkinson, Sara Randle, Ginny Lewis.

Bishop Francis Kaulanda, Lake Malawi (Central Africa). Bishop Mathayo Kasagara, Lake Rukwa (Tanzania).

12 March - Wistaston

C: Mike Turnbull, Paul North. LM: Ann Stubbs, David Illing.

Bishop Alfred Olwa, Lango (Uganda). Bishop Stanley Fube, Langtang (Nigeria).

13 March - Worleston

C: Anne Lawson. LM: Ann Nicholas, Isobel Burnley.

Give thanks that the School Communion, planned and led by the school Ethos Team is now established in the life of the school and church.

St Oswald's Worleston C of E School.

Bishop Carlos Simao Matsinhe, Lebombo (Southern Africa). Bishop Nicholas Baines – Leeds, Bishop Toby Howard – Bradford, Bishop Jonathan Gibbs – Huddersfield, Bishop Paul Slater – Kirkstall, Bishop Helen Ann Harlley – Ripon, Bishop Anthony Robinson – Wakefield (Leeds).

14 March - Wrenbury

C: Alison Fulford, Dorothy Woods. LM: Ron High, Elizabeth Falding, Cynthia Gorton, Debbie Rowlands, Roger Howarth.

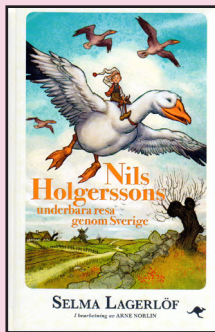
Bishop Martyn Snow – Leicester, Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani – Loughborough (Leicester). Bishop Adam Taaso, Lesotho (Southern Africa).

15 March - Selma Lagerlöf

The Third Sunday of Lent

Tomorrow is the seventieth anniversary of the death of the Swedish author Selma Lagerlöf. Despite writing an impressive number of adult novels, Lagerlöf is globally famous for the children's story, *The Wonderful Adventure of Nils Holgersson* in which a boy is reduced to thumb-size and travels the country on the back of a goose as he through many adventures comes to love nature.

In 1909 her novel, *The Saga of Gosta Berling*, won the Nobel prize for literature – the first woman to do so. The judges' citation described her winning as 'in appreciation of the lofty idealism, vivid imagination and spiritual perception that characterize her writings.' Lagerlöf had read the complete Bible by the age of 10 and her familiarity with biblical cadences stayed with her in her writing. In 1914 she became the first woman to be granted membership of the Swedish Academy. Part of her pioneering contribution to literature lies in this proper recognition of her talent.



Pray for due recognition of talent in all aspects of life.

Bishop Mark van Koevering, Lexington (The Episcopal Church, USA).

Archbishop Jonathan Bau-Bau Bonaparte Hart, Archbishop for the internal province of West Africa and Bishop of Liberia (West Africa).

16 March - Wybunbury

C: Helen Chantry.

Pray for the links with our two church schools, for the staff, pupils and their families and the governors - that the schools will shine with God's love.

Wybunbury Delves C of E School. Stapeley Broad Lane C of E School.

*Bishop Michael Ipgrave – Lichfield, Bishop Mark Rylands – Shrewsbury,
Bishop Geoffrey Annas – Stafford, Bishop Clive Gregory – Wolverhampton
(Lichfield). Bishop Kenneth Kearon, Limerick & Killaloe (Ireland).*

17 March - **Wettenhall**

C: Anne Lawson. LM: Ann Nicholas, Isobel Burnley.

St David's is a Millennium Church which was converted for community use. Further development of the facilities on offer are needed if the church is to better serve the community. Pray as plans are developed and drawn up to improve the facilities.

Bishop Christopher Lowson, Lincoln, Bishop Nicholas Chamberlain – Grantham, Bishop David Court – Grimsby (Lincoln). Bishop Alfredo Morante, Litoral Ecuador (USA).

18 March - **Warmingham**

C: Philip Goggin. LM: Elizabeth Morris, Helan Isherwood, Peter Noden. Warmingham C of E School.

Bishop Paul Bayes – Liverpool, Bishop Beverley Mason – Warrington (Liverpool). Bishop Joseph Aba Nicanor, Liwolo Area (South Sudan).

19 March - **Wheelock**

Joseph of Nazareth

C: Jane Lloyd. LM: Patricia Baker.

Bishop June Osborne, Llandaff (Wales). Archbishop Emmanuel Sokowamju Egbunu, Archbishop of the Province of Lokoja & Bishop of Lokoja (Nigeria).

20 March - **Wirral South Deanery**

Archbishop Paul Benjamin Yugusuk, Archbishop of Central Equatoria & Bishop of Lomega (South Sudan).

21 March - **Backford**

C: Steve Mansfield.

Mollington St Oswald's C of E School.

Bishop and Rt Hon Sarah Mullally – London, Bishop Robert Wickham – Edmonton, Bishop Jonathan Baker – Fulham, Bishop Ric Thorpe – Islington, Bishop Graham Tomlin – Kensington, Bishop Adrian Newman – Stepney, Bishop Peter Broadbent – Willesden (London).

22 March - Not Just Sunday

The Fourth Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)

Sunday morning is a time to draw closer to God, to reflect on the week gone by, and to prepare for the week to come. Many of us leave church with a spring in our step; fellowship and joy we experience at church can fill us with the hope and encouragement we need to live and share our faith confidently with others.



However, harnessing that confidence to sustain us and to guide our words and actions through the whole week doesn't always come easy: this year's Lay Conference aims to help.

The Conference, taking place on the weekend of 15-17 May, will explore how we can encourage each other to live out our faith confidently every day of the week, Not just Sunday. We pray that all participants will gain:

a clearer sense of their Christian identity in everyday life, individually and collectively;

an increased confidence to express their everyday faith; and

an idea of how the gathered church can resource everyday faith.

Pray for the organising committee as they finalise plans for the Conference, and for all those who will attend that they might find it an uplifting, fun occasion, learning from and encouraging each other in fellowship and love.

Bishop Lawrence Provenzano, Long Island; Vacant, Los Angeles (The Episcopal Church, USA).

23 March - Bromborough

C: Jenny Gillies. LM: Lynne Whittaker.

Bishop Morris Thompson, Jr, Louisiana (The Episcopal Church, USA). Bishop Robert Mumbi, Luapula (Central Africa).

24 March - **Burton**

C: Cathy Helm. LM: Basil Keys, Ruth Abbott, Ann Rudd, John Morris-Best.

Burton Bishop Wilson C of E School.

Bishop Peter Baldev, Lucknow (North India). Archbishop Stephen Dokolo Ismail Mbalah, Archbishop of Amadi & Bishop of Lui (South Sudan). Bishop David Njovu, Lusaka (Central Africa).

25 March - **Capenhurst**

The Annunciation of Our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary

C: Steve Mansfield. LM: Jo Pemberton.

Capenhurst C of E School.

Bishop Jorge Pina Cabral, Lusitanian Church (Portugal). Bishop Eridard Kironde Nsubuga, Luwero (Uganda).

26 March - **Eastham**

C: Beth Glover, Mark Turner. LM: David Colenso, Dot Christiansen, Anne York, Ray Bonnard, Simone Llewellyn, Andrew Bradley-Gibbons.

As our parish changes shape and rhythm, please pray that the Spirit will continue to lead guide and sustain us.

Millfields C of E School.

Bishop Godfrey Mbelwa, Lweru (Tanzania). Bishop Joseph Mutungi, Machakos (Kenya).

27 March - **Ellesmere Port**

C: Gordon McGuinness, Gordon Welch, Gill Foster. LM: Ricky Montgomery, Julia McGuinness, Frank Mawdsley.

Ellesmere Port Christ Church C of E School.

Archbishop Thomas Kanjirappally Oommen, Moderator of CSI & Bishop of Madhya Kerala (South India). Bishop Charles Collins Andaku, Madi & West Nile (Uganda).

28 March - **Great Saughall**

C: Steve Mansfield.

Saughall All Saints' C of E School.

Bishop George Stephen Jeyaraj, Madras (South India). Bishop Marialouis Joseph, Madurai-Ramnad (South India).

29 March - Mental Health and Your Church

The Fifth Sunday of Lent

We have a Christian calling to heal and to care, including healing and caring for those with mental health problems. Part of that pastoral ministry requires us to mitigate those circumstances which may cause poor mental health and to work to create those conditions which promote good mental health. We are part of a dynamic which sees all things being reconciled, and made new, in Christ (Colossians 1.20, Revelation 21.5).



Good mental health is not just a matter for doctors and psychiatrists. We are all involved, directly or indirectly, wittingly or unwittingly, in matters affecting the mental well-being of others and ourselves. In partnership with mental health professionals and those working for stronger communities, churches can do much to promote mental health.

Many aspects of church life can help create the conditions for good mental health and parishes can also offer valuable support to those with an existing mental health problem and to their carers. Local response can be a life-line.

Extracted from Mental health and your church: a resource for church communities, available on the diocesan website.

Pray for all that makes for mutual support and care.

Bishop Ogeno Charles Opoka, Magwi (South Sudan). Vacant, Mahajanga (Indian Ocean).

30 March - Great Sutton

C: Antony Dutton.

Bishop Emmanuel Morris, Maiduguri (Nigeria). Bishop Stephen Lane, Maine (The Episcopal Church USA).

31 March - Hooton

C: Keith Howard. LM: Peter Vaughan.

Little Sutton C of E School.

Bishop Peter Gatbel Kunen Lual, Maiwut Area (South Sudan). Archbishop Martin Blaise Nyaboho, Archbishop of Burundi & Bishop of Makamba (Burundi).

01 April - Neston

C: Alan Dawson, Judith Calvert. LM: Frances Skinner, Richard Skinner, Elizabeth Joyce, Tony Cooke, Chris Storer, Lesley Irvin.

Thank you Lord for the growth in the people of the parish. We ask that you would bless our ministry to combat isolation within our communities; to grow our younger church initiatives and for inspiration to build up all generations within the Churches of the parish.

Bishop Francis Mboya Matui, Makueni (Kenya). Bishop Nathan Nyitar Inyom, Makurdi (Nigeria).

02 April - Shotwick

C: Cathy Helm. LM: Basil Keys, Ruth Abbott, John Morris-Best.

Bishop Royce Manoj Victor, Malabar (South India). Bishop Samuel Sahu, Malaita (Melanesia).

03 April - Thornton Hough

C: Vicky Barrett.

Thanks to God for his faithfulness! We ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit, so that we can be a beacon of love, joy and peace.

Bishop David Kiir Mayath, Malakal, Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan. Bishop Jacob Lesuuda, Maralal (Kenya).

04 April - Willaston

C: Stephen Bazely, Lyndon Bannon.

Thank God for our community and pray we may live out our calling to Love God, Love Others and Make Disciples. Pray for those leading our church improvement project.

Willaston C of E School.

Bishop Peter Joh Abraham Mayom, Malek; Bishop Peter Marial Agok, Malek Rip (South Sudan).

05 April - The Way of the Cross

Palm Sunday

Who knows exactly what goes on in everything we do and say? Our lives are complicated webs of involvements and influences. So too with nations and societies; we strive to link cause and effect, claiming a knowledge that belongs to God alone.

In Luke's Gospel (23.34) Christ says from the cross, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' His words assure us that the limits of our perspectives do not condemn us. Forgiveness is ours through Christ's limitless self-giving love.

That is not to say, however, that human responsibility is denied. Our understandings are indeed limited but that does not overturn culpability. We depend on a God who in mercy excuses the inexcusable. Such is the mystery and the hope of the cross.

(from an idea by J. Neville Ward)

Father, forgive me; renew me; send me out as a usable instrument, that I might take seriously the meaning of your cross.

A South African Christian.

Bishop Lawrence Dena, Malindi (Kenya). Bishop David Walker, Manchester; Bishop Mark Ashcroft, - Bolton; Bishop Mark Davies, Middleton (Manchester).



06 April - The Ellesmere Port C of E College

Bishop David Nyi Nyi Naing, Mandalay (Myanmar). Bishop Erick Ruwona, Manicaland (Central Africa).

07 April - Stockport Deanery

Bishop Alfred Cooper, Maper (South Sudan). Bishop George Okoth, Mara (Tanzania).

08 April - Stockport with Brinnington

C: Lynne Cummings. LM: Rita Waters, Brenda Baxendale.

Bishop Madhukar Kasab, Marathwada (North India). Bishop Wilson Elisa Kamani, Maridi (South Sudan).

09 April - Offerton

Maundy Thursday

C: Christine Rablen. LM: Marie Flint.

Bishop Eugene Sutton, Maryland (The Episcopal Church, USA).

10 April - Edgeley and Cheadle Heath

Good Friday

C: David Brewster, Julie Johnson. LM: David Brown, Heather Adams.

Bishop James Almasi, Masasi (Tanzania). Bishop Joshua Owiti, Maseno East (Kenya).

11 April - Stockport St Peter

C: Vacant.

Bishop Charles Kaskan Asilutwa, Maseno North; Bishop Charles Ong'injo, Maseno South, Bishop Joseph Wasonga, Maseno West (Kenya).

12 - April - The Day of Resurrection

Easter Day

Hell took a body, and discovered God.
It took earth, and encountered Heaven.
It took what it saw, and was overcome by what
it did not see.

O death, where is thy sting?
O Hell, where is thy victory?

Christ is Risen, and you, o death, are annihilated!
Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down!
Christ is Risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is Risen, and life is liberated!



Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of its dead;
for Christ having risen from the dead,
is become the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

To Him be Glory and Power forever and ever. Amen!
The Easter sermon of John Chrysostom (circa 400 AD), published by
Anglicans Online.

Living Christ, you are risen from the dead!
Love reigns!
You are stronger than death; raise our eyes to see you
as the new day dawns.

A New Zealand Prayer Book

*Bishop George Kasangaki, Masindi-Kitara (Uganda). Bishop Alan McIntosh
Gates, Massachusetts (The Episcopal Church, USA).*

13 April - Stockport St Saviour

C: Diane Cookson. LM: Madeleine Watts.

Pray for our vicar, Diane, as she prepares to retire this summer and for
the parish during the vacancy. May God direct our thoughts as we pray
for the right appointment to be made for someone to take our church
through this new decade.

*Bishop Godfrey Tawonezwi, Masvingo; Bishop Cleophas Lunga,
Matabeleland (Central Africa).*

14 April - Stockport St George

C: Elaine Chegwin Hall, Janine Arnott. LM: Audrey Manzano, Peter Hall, Michael Coupe.

We ask for continued prayers for outreach and growing relationships with our community especially as we explore the way forward for growth at St Gabriel's in Adswood.

Bishop Seth Ndayirukiye, Matana (Burundi). Bishop Stephen Diseko, Matlosane (formerly Klerksdorp) (Southern Africa).

15 April - Norbury Hazel Grove

C: Josh Askwith, Val Hindmarsh. LM: Val Gilchrist, Alan Brown, Lynn Smith, Richard Crocker, Peter Cheslett, Cath Downs.

Bishop Ian Gerald James Ernest, Mauritius (Indian Ocean). Bishop Chamberlain Chinedu Ogunedo, Mbaise (Nigeria).

16 April - Birkenhead Deanery

Bishop Henry S O Okeke, Mbamili (Nigeria). Bishop Moses Masamba Nthukah, Mbeere (Kenya). Bishop Elliot Williams, Mbhashw (Southern Africa).

17 April - Bidston

C: Ron Iveson. LM: Jayne Morsley, Rob Morsley.

Bishop Patricia Louise Storey, Meath & Kildare (Ireland). Bishop A C Solomon Raj, Medak (South India).

18 April - Birkenhead Priory

C: Paul Bentley. LM: Denise Price.

Archbishop Philip Leslie Freier, Archbishop of Melbourne & Primate of Australia; Bishop Kate Prowd, Bishop Bradly Billings – Melbourne; Bishop Genieve Blackwell – Marmingatha Episcopate; Bishop Paul Barker – Jumbunna Episcopate; Bishop Philip Huggins – Oodthenong Episcopate; Bishop Ian Lambert, Anglican Bishop to the Australian Defence Force (Australia).

19 April - Foundations for Ministry

The Second Sunday of Easter

Over 1150 individuals have successfully completed the Foundations for Ministry (FfM) course since its inception. FfM's unique blend of vocational discernment alongside theological study aims to help people examine what God is calling them to do.



Many people use the course as a step towards authorised ministry within the Church – and over 300 currently serving ministers, lay and ordained – began with FfM. Others have used the course to advance their sense of vocation in many other walks of life. Having a developed sense of God's calling in occupational, family or voluntary roles is a real encouragement.

Many on the course choose to follow the assessed pathway which leads to a Church Universities' Certificate in Ministry (CUCM), validated by the University of Chester. The modules of the CUCM are part of the subsequent awards used in both Pastoral Worker and Reader training. More information on the diocesan website, click 'Foundations for Ministry' under the Ministry tab.

Pray for those currently undertaking FfM and for those considering it for the future.

Bishop Charles Mwendwa, Meru (Kenya). Bishop Carlos Touche-Porter, Mexico (Mexico).

20 April - Birkenhead St James with St Bede

C: Keith Addenbrooke.

Please pray for our vision to reach everyone in our parish with the good news of Jesus over the next 10 years.

Bishop Wendell Gibbs, Michigan; Bishop Steven Miller, Milwaukee (The Episcopal Church, USA).

21 April - Birkenhead Christ Church

C: Gerri Tetzlaff, Allan Goode. LM: Jackie Harness, Judith Newburn, Janice Gilbert.

Bishop Daniel Abu Yisa, Minna (Nigeria). Bishop Brian Prior, Minnesota (The Episcopal Church, USA).

22 April - Oxton

C: Joe Kennedy, Tina Dixon. LM: Denis Jones, Lisa Kelly, Tracey Williams. Dear Lord, Grant us generous hearts and wise minds as we respond to the opportunities you give us to serve you.

Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, Bishop of Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh (Canada). Vacant, Missionary District of Oeste-Brasil (Brazil).

23 April - Prenton

St George

C: Matt Graham. LM: Carol Vague, Peter Earp, Robert Vague, Brian McEvoy, Brenda Tollady, Anne Wise.

As our 125th anniversary approaches, please pray for wisdom as we seek to make our buildings fit for purpose and purposefully friendly, in order that nothing may keep people from hearing the invitation of life in Jesus.

Bishop Brian Seage, Mississippi; Bishop Wayne Smith, Missouri (The Episcopal Church, USA).

24 April - Rock Ferry

C: Chris Slater, Peter Chamberlin. LM: Lucy Slavin, Dave Casson.

Bishop Stephen Kaziimba, Mityana (Uganda). Bishop Alphonse Mwaro Baya, Mombasa (Kenya).

25 April - Tranmere St Catherine

St Mark

C: James Terry. LM: Shirley Bailey, Charlotte Kirkham.

Give thanks for the recent Wirral Gospel Partnership mission with Glen Scrivener that St Catherine's was involved with. Pray for good fruit and follow up from that and from our Easter services. Pray for an encouraging time at our AGM.

Bishop Richard Pain, Monmouth (Wales). Bishop Franklin Brookhart, Montana (The Episcopal Church, USA).

26 April - Australia

The Third Sunday of Easter

This week (on the 29th) marks the 250th anniversary of Captain James Cook and the company of the ship Endeavour making landfall in what he named Botany Bay in New South Wales on the east coast of modern-day Australia. Cook was an expert astronomer, navigator and surveyor, charged with making astronomical observations from the south Pacific and determining the existence of a southern continent. Undoubtedly a hero of the age of exploration, Cook's contribution to the establishment of the Australian nation is probably as much emblematic as actual. Nevertheless, this anniversary is significant.



The twenty-three dioceses of the Anglican Church of Australia are a visible outworking of that history. Committed to being intimately related with the culture, social order, political life, and natural fabric of the contemporary Australian nation, its social welfare and education provisions are impressive. Various crises, including the need to better ensure the churches are safe environments for all people, have prompted greater national cooperation as well. Reworking its English heritage in an increasingly multi-cultural society, better supporting indigenous people, and evangelism in a secularising society, are prominent concerns.

Holy God, earth and air and water are your creation, and every living thing belongs to you: have mercy on us as climate change confronts us. Give us the will and the courage to simplify the way we live, to reduce the energy we use, to share the resources you provide, and to bear the cost of change. Forgive our past mistakes and send us your Spirit, with wisdom in present controversies and vision for the future to which you call us.

Anglican Church of Australia Trust Corporation.

Sources: websites of the WCC and the ACA.

Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, Montreal; Bishop Thomas Corston, Moosonee (Canada).

27 April - **Tranmere St Paul with St Luke**

C: Jane Parry. LM: Trish Thornley.

Pray for our going forward to join our mission with that of Christ Church, Higher Bebington, and for the fortitude to carry on with the reorganisation to benefit the mission and the community in this area.

Archbishop Mark Strange, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church & Bishop of Moray, Ross & Caithness. Bishop James Kenyi Elia, Morobo (South Sudan).

28 April - **Woodchurch**

C: Christine Broad, Josie Tuplin. LM: Paul Jackson, Jan Lupton.

We give thanks for the resources with which the Lord is blessing us at this time and pray particularly for the growth of our work with children and families, that more young people would come to faith.

Bishop Godfrey Sehaba, Morogoro (Tanzania).

29 April - **Woodchurch High School**

Bishop Timothy Gichere, Mount Kenya Central; Bishop Timothy Ranji, Mount Kenya South; Bishop Joseph Kagunda, Mount Kenya West (Kenya).

30 April - **Bowdon Deanery**

Bishop Stanley Elilekia Hotay, Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania). Bishop Daniel Kgomosoth, Mpumalanga (Southern Africa).

01 May - **Altrincham St George**

Ss Philip and James

C: Edmund Betts, David Law.

Bishop Jacob Erasto Chimeledya, Mpwapwa (Tanzania). Bishop Hummingfield Ndwandwe, Mthatha (Southern Africa).

02 May - **Ashley**

C: Karen Stanton.

Bishop Cranmer Mugisham Muhabura; Bishop James William Ssebagala, Mukono (Uganda).

03 May - A Most Memorable Night

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

The moving of this week's bank holiday to next Friday, the 8th of May, marks what Her Majesty the Queen has described as 'one of the most memorable nights of my life.' On that day in 1945, Prime Minister Winston Churchill in his Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) announcement said, 'We may allow ourselves a brief period of rejoicing,' and that is exactly what the nation did. Vast crowds, many dressed in red, white and blue, gathered outside Buckingham Palace and in other significant civic venues across the land.



After the London throng had cheered King George VI and his family on the palace balcony, Princess Elizabeth and her sister, Princess Margaret, were allowed to go secretly into the crowd to celebrate with them. This is the experience the Queen has described as being so memorable, saying that her memory is of being swept along on a tide of happiness and relief. This week's seventy-fifth anniversary offers the opportunity of keeping alive that memory of hope and celebration born of so much suffering and stress for so many.

Let us give thanks for the selfless and courageous service and sacrifice of those who brought peace to Europe, and for the good example they have given us.

Westminster Abbey, 70th Anniversary Service.

Bishop Leo Rodrick Paul, Multan (Pakistan). Bishop Prakash Patole, Mumbai (North India).

04 May - Ashton upon Mersey St Martin

C: Shaun Conlon.

Bishop Joseph Wandera, Mumias (Kenya). Bishop Bismark Monday Avokaya Azumu, Mundri (South Sudan).

05 May - Ashton upon Mersey St Mary Magdalene

C: Steve Rankin, Jane Beaumont. LM: Gillian Hart, Stewart Darlow, Jonny Davies, Mags Holt, Outi Rankin, Brian Macfaden, Lynne Raphael, Ann McBurney.

Bishop Samuel Lomude Eluzai, Mundu Area; Bishop Julius Karanu Wa Gicheru, Muranga South (South Sudan).

06 May - Bowdon

C: Ian Rumsey, Jessica Piper. LM: Alan Marriott, John Fenton, Kirsten Wood.

Heavenly Father, we pray your help and inspiration for our mission to invite more people into your Kingdom, and for your blessing upon our endeavours to adapt our St Mary's church building as a resource for the parish community.

Bishop Paisible Ndacayisaba, Muyinga (Burundi). Bishop John Zau Li, Myitkyina (Myanmar).

07 May - Broadheath

C: Daud Gill, Lisa Redfern. LM: Peter Johnson.

Bishop Paul Dupare, Nagpur (North India). Bishop Joel Waweru Mwangi, Nairobi (Kenya).

08 May - Dunham Massey St Margaret

C: Vacant.

Heavenly Father, we pray that you will bless all those who are working together for you in the Parish of St. Margaret, Dunham Massey. We thank you for the historical ministry of this church and we pray that, during the period of change which we are undergoing, you will give us all love, wisdom and a desire to further your gospel within our parish.

Bishop Joseph Muchai, Nakuru; Bishop Robert Magina Barasa, Nambale (Kenya).

09 May - Chester Cathedral

C: Tim Stratford, Jeremy Dussek, Jane Brooke, Sarah Fenby. LM: Chris Jones.

Bishop Luke Pato, Namibia (Southern Africa). Bishop Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira, Namirembe (Uganda).



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Chester