

PRAYER DIARY

MAY - AUGUST 2025



Diocese of
Leicester

Launde Abbey is a retreat house in the heart of the country with God at its centre

Retreats

at Launde Abbey 2025

For more information and to book please call or see our website

Launde Abbey, East Norton
Leicestershire LE7 9XB

MAY

- 05 - 08 *IN-BETWEEN TIMES* with Emily Owen
- 19 - 23 *ICON PAINTING RETREAT*
with Peter Murphy *****FULLY BOOKED*****
- 19 - 23 *GARDENING RETREAT*
'May God bless the work of our hands'
with the Launde Abbey Community
- 22 - 23 *RURAL MISSION HUB RESIDENTIAL*
led by Rural Ministries and the
Launde Abbey Community

JUNE

- 02 - 06 *THE SOUND OF MUSINGS*
led by Bryony Wood
- 22 - 25 *CONTEMPLATIVE AND CHARISMATIC:
A Rooted & Grounded Retreat* led by
Renovaré & the Launde Abbey Community
- 28 - 29 *THRIVING IN RETIREMENT RETREAT*
led by Florence & Clive Morton

JULY

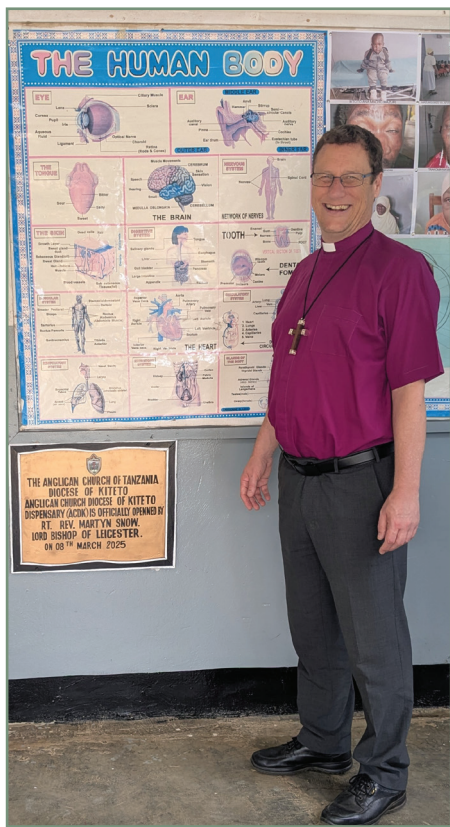
- 14 - 18 *INTO THE SILENT LAND*
Five Day Meditation Retreat led by
Chris Whittington *****FULLY BOOKED*****
- 21 - 24 *MINDFULNESS RETREAT*
led by Nicola Smith
- 22 - 25 *THE SPACE BETWEEN:
Contemplative Photography Retreat*
led by Morna Simpson

AUGUST

- 04 - 07 *PARADOXES OF FAITH: Rediscovering
Transfiguration* with Andrew Mayes
- 18 - 22 *TEXTILES RETREAT*
'Gardens: Gardens in the Bible,
God as Gardener' led by Claire Goode
- 18 - 22 *GARDENING RETREAT*
'May God bless the work of our hands'
with the Launde Abbey Community
- 24 - 31 *INDIVIDUALLY GUIDED RETREAT*
led by Rhona Knight and team


Launde Abbey
prayer • hospitality • community • sanctuary

FOREWORD FROM THE BISHOP OF LEICESTER



Earlier this year, both +Saju and I had the privilege of participating in the consecration of the new Bishop of Kiteto in Tanzania. Their practice is to have a farewell service for the outgoing bishop on the Saturday, and the consecration of the new bishop on the Sunday – so we were able to be there for both services.

As always, I was struck by the vitality and joy in both services. There was lots of dancing and singing, colourful outfits, and a genuine sense of a community of churches coming together to give thanks to God. It was beautiful to see.

Of course, this is combined with real material poverty. Kiteto is a very rural area where many people live a fragile existence. Even when we were there, people were commenting on how the main rainy season was late in starting and this meant crops in the fields were dying – *“many people will be hungry again this year”* said Bishop Isaiah to me.

In our prayers, the joy of the Gospel meets the pain of the world. We hold these two together in a mysterious way, and this is the meaning of hope. We are hopeful because death was not the end for Jesus Christ – he was raised from the dead. And so the pain of this world will not have the last say – it will be overcome by the joy of resurrection.

Thank you for your continued prayers for the diocese and our ministers – may we continue to hold together the pain of the world and the joy of the Gospel.

+ Martyn Snow

+Martyn Snow
Bishop of Leicester



Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Welcome to the late spring and early summer edition of the Diocese of Leicester Prayer Diary for May through to August 2025.

As you will receive this, we will be well into the Easter season celebrating our Lord's triumphant resurrection, heading for Ascension Day and the joyful celebration of Pentecost Sunday; hope for all across the world.

Every day we pray for Bishops and our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world using the Anglican Cycle of Prayer and the Porvoo prayer calendar (www.porvoochurches.org) – these are included in italics at the bottom of each Sunday. You will also find one of our own partner dioceses featured throughout.

The Anglican Communion have changed their practice and now only include the name of the diocese, asking us to pray for the people, clergy and Bishops of the named dioceses. The names of Diocesan Bishops in Great Britain have been added.

We have also added on a Sunday the places on the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle from the World Council of Churches: these will be prefixed by **EPC**. In addition, we have added Principal Feasts (PF), Holy

Days, Festivals, Lesser Festivals and also Commemorations from the Common Worship Lectionary, all in **bold** type.

The key to the parish entries is as follows: C = Clergy; GFM = Growing Faith Minister; R = Reader; PA = Pastoral Assistant; Pio = Pioneer Minister; AM = Associate Minister; Evng = Evangelist; PTO = Permission to Officiate.

Do let the Bishop's Chaplain know if you've got a story to feature on a Sunday in a future edition – with as much notice as possible please! Email: bishops.chaplain@leicestercofe.org or phone 0116 270 3390 or send it c/o Bishop's Lodge, 12 Springfield Road, Leicester, LE2 3BD.

If you know of anyone else who would like to receive a paper copy of this publication, then please contact James Pickersgill, the Bishop's Chaplain as below. It can also be downloaded from www.leicester.anglican.org/everyday-faith/calendar-or-prayer/

We are very grateful to Revd Canon Brian Davis for his work on gathering parish prayer requests, to Peter Collett, Gemma Starkings and Steve O'Rourke for their ongoing assistance and to all our contributors as always in this edition.

To the best of our knowledge, all details are correct at the time of publication.



THURS 1 MAY

Launde Deanery

Co-Area Deans: Jonathan Dowman Lay Chair: Madeleine Wang.

We pray that God will draw us closer together as a Minster Community, help us to work in partnership and serve our communities in love. Our parishes and congregations are often very small, but they are faithful and are seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit for their futures.

Philip and James, Apostles (PF)

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life; that, following the steps of thy holy Apostles, Saint Philip and Saint James, we may steadfastly walk in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Del Norte (Mexico)

FRI 2 MAY

PTO Clergy in the Launde Deanery Minster Community: Christine Blodwell, Ian Gemmell, Martin Hathaway, Jeffrey Hopewell, Rhona Knight, Philip Norwood & John Taylor.

Athanasius, bishop, teacher of the faith, 373

Almighty ever-living God,
who raised up the Bishop Saint Athanasius
as an outstanding champion of your Son's divinity,
mercifully grant that, rejoicing in his teaching and his protection,
we may never cease to grow in knowledge and love of you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Michigan (Episcopal Church)

SAT 3 MAY

Eastern Michigan (Episcopal Church)

SUNDAY 4 MAY 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER



3rd Sunday of Easter

Deaf Awareness week runs from 5th to 11th May 2025

The church of the Good Shepherd provides a ministry for Deaf and Hard of hearing people based within the Diocese of Leicester. We are a congregation of worshippers who communicate in British Sign Language (BSL). All services and events are accessible for Deaf people, their hearing friends and family. BSL students are welcome and people who may have used BSL in the past.

Our church is based within the Deaf ministry space in 12 Frog island Leicester. LE3 5AG. We are knitted within Leicester Deaf centre and the local Deaf community.

Here are some useful websites:

Leicester Deaf Centre <https://leicesterdeafcentre.org.uk/elementor-429/>
Christian BSL <https://christianbsl.com/>
Signs of God <https://www.signsofgod.org.uk/>
Go Sign <https://www.gosign.org.uk/>
BSL bible translation project <https://bslbible.org.uk/>
Open Ears (Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship) <https://www.openears.org.uk/>
Dear Anglicans Together <https://deafanglicanstgether.org.uk>

A prayer from Christian BSL

*Lord, thank you for this beautiful sign language you have given to us.
We thank you for the Deaf community and for Deaf culture.
We thank you for all the times sign language has helped remove communication barriers.
We pray for those learning sign language, that you will encourage them in their learning.
We pray for those teaching sign language, that you will support them in their work.
We pray for those who interpret and translate, that you will help them in their processing.
We pray for those who work in Deaf education, and for Deaf children and students, and we pray that you give them insight and understanding as they teach, support, and learn.
We pray for greater recognition of British Sign Language throughout the UK.
We pray for those who feel alone, without people to communicate with in their own language, that they will know your presence and your love.*

Amen.

The Revd Rowena Bass

Rector at Aylestone St Andrew with St James

Church of England:

Diocese of Southwark, Bishop Christopher Chessun, Bishop Martin Gainsborough, Bishop Rosemarie Mallet, Bishop Alastair Cutting

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Björgvin, Bishop Ragnhild Jepsen

EPC: Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

The Church of Ireland

MON 5 MAY

Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Northern Michigan (Episcopal Church)

TUES 6 MAY

Launde Deanery Minster Community

We are keen to have all the encouragements, challenges and requests reflecting our corporate identity. So for example the ministry of Growing the Faith across all our four primary schools of Hallaton, Church Langton, Billesdon and Tugby. Please pray for us as we seek to cover all four schools.

Western Michigan (Episcopal Church)

WED 7 MAY

Launde Deanery Minster Community

Please pray for us as we try the initiative Food For Thought seeking to engage with those on the fringes or unchurched over a pub meal and a talk from a Christian speaker reflecting on their careers and the impact of their faith. The family orientated monthly Teatime services, building on our work through the schools, held at Tur Langton and Hallaton.

Micronesia (Episcopal Church)

THURS 8 MAY

VE Day – Service at Leicester Cathedral at 5.30pm – all welcome.

Julian of Norwich, spiritual writer, c. 1417

Triune God, Father and Mother to us all, who showed your servant Julian revelations of your nurturing and sustaining love: Move our hearts, like hers, to seek you above all things, in giving us yourself you give us all. **Amen.**

Milwaukee (Episcopal Church)



FRI 9 MAY

The Launde Deanery Minster Community

We have a valuable, well supported and much appreciated weekly Zoom congregation led by a lay team. The challenges of supporting and developing the small elderly faith communities across 24 parishes with a limited team! Prayers for discernment, cooperation, stamina and courage to reimagine our churches.

Minna (Nigeria)

SAT 10 MAY

Launde Minster Community

Jonathan Dowman (Oversight Minister); David Palmer (Pastoral Outreach Enabler)

In Tur Langton we share a monthly contemporary Evensong with families seeking to explore faith in a reflective and engaging way, and we have active pastoral ministry happening in all four of our deanery schools with regular retreats for staff and pupils.

Minnesota (Episcopal Church)



Amelia with her 4-year-old daughter, Yakelin, surveying the tragedy of their dying banana trees during an intense heatwave.

Christian Aid's 80th Anniversary

For 80 years, Christian Aid has been fighting poverty and injustice. We've partnered with communities and organisations across the world to support people of every faith and none. We know that eradicating poverty can seem like an impossible task. But over these 80 years, we've harnessed something formidable. Something so full of love that it can't be silenced. We call it the unstoppable power of hope. Hope has compelled us to stand up for communities in crisis and support people living in poverty. And right now, we need it more than ever. As tragic events unfold across the world, from Gaza to Ukraine and South Sudan, we need your support to offer hope to communities in crisis. Over many years churches in the Diocese of Leicester have been at the forefront of supporting the most marginalised in the world. Find out more at caid.org.uk

This year's **Christian Aid Week (11-17 May)** is focusing on Christian Aid's work in Guatemala, Central America, where the climate crisis is causing the seasons to intensify and shift erratically. As a result, farming communities have to battle devastating floods and intense heatwaves. Water sources are drying up and vital crops are failing, plunging farming families into hunger and poverty.

old farmer, and a mother of two, from the Alta Verapaz region. She said the situation is very worrying: *'In the past three years, we've been experiencing high heat and a lack of rain. One of the biggest issues is the lack of water... my plantations have been dying... and there is no food for my family.'*

Despite the challenges families like Amelia's are facing, the unstoppable power of hope drives people to look for ways to push back. With training from Christian Aid's partner, Congcoop, Amelia's gaining the skills and knowledge to cultivate native seeds that are better suited to the changing climate.

Amelia's also a leader in her community, sharing her knowledge with other households, so that one day, no family will worry about their children going without food.

If you would like to have a speaker from Christian Aid speak at your church Book a speaker, plan an event or find out more about how we can work with your church. Visit caid.org.uk/Church or caid.ie/BookASpeaker for details.

Peter Yates

Global Affairs – Social Responsibility Panel

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary:

Read 1 Peter 4:7-11

Loving God, Help us to serve one another, sharing our gifts and talents. Fill us with generosity and compassion. Amen.

Church of England:

Diocese of Gloucester, Bishop Rachel Treweek, Bishop Robert Springett

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Västerås, Bishop Mikael Mogren

EPC: India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka

The Anglican Church in Japan

MON 12 MAY Diocese of Kiteto

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'Let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.'* (Amos 5:24) Read Amos 5:11-15 and 21-24

Lord, you love justice and righteousness. As we quench our thirst for you in prayer, refresh our commitment to doing your will. In Jesus' name, Amen. Mishamikoweesh (Canada)

TUES 13 MAY Bishop's Leadership Team meeting

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'The earth dries up and withers... the earth lies polluted under its inhabitants for they have transgressed laws, violated the statutes, broken the everlasting covenant.'* (Isaiah 24:4-5). Read Isaiah 24:4-8

Gracious God, the earth lies polluted. We have failed to care for your world. Forgive us. Give us the strength to raise our voices and challenge the powerful. May we work together for the healing of creation. Amen. Igreja (Brasil)

WED 14 MAY Matthias the Apostle (PF)

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'The land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live on it securely.'* (Leviticus 25:19) Read Leviticus 25:1-19

Holy Lord, feed our determination, and nourish our spirit. Send us out to share your proclamation of Jubilee. Sustain us as we put our faith into action. Amen. Mississippi (Episcopal Church)

THURS 15 MAY Bishop's Study Day – Nurturing a listening heart

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'...let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...'* (Hebrews 10:24-25) Read Hebrews 10:23-25

Jesus, give us tender hearts, make us encouragers. Fill us with compassion for our global neighbours. May we be inspired by passionate changemakers. Spur us on to do your work of love. Amen.

Missouri (Episcopal Church)

FRI 16 MAY

Caroline Chisholm, social reformer, 1877

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.'* (John 15:12) Read John 15: 9-17

Jesus, you love us beyond measure. Help us to grow into your likeness, showing love to one another. Bless those facing an uncertain future. Open our eyes to the challenges our global neighbours face each day. Amen. Leeds (England)

SAT 17 MAY Diocesan Synod

Christian Aid's 80th anniversary: *'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.'* (Romans 15:13) Read Romans 15:1-13

God of justice, Pour out your Spirit, that we may abound with hope. When we feel defeated, give us courage, and remind us that nothing is impossible with you. Amen.

Find out more at caid.org.uk

Mityana (Uganda)

SUNDAY 18 MAY 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Leicester Cathedral Revealed

The scaffolding and hoardings are coming down, and passers-by can now see the spectacular extension to the Cathedral, which is awash with contractors and sub-contractors as we close the Leicester Cathedral Revealed capital works project and make plans to move in.

This is the final stretch. The Cathedral will soon fully open to its volunteers and the public, who can enjoy the new facilities including exhibition gallery with captivating interpretation and the learning space with splendid views of the spire and the gardens. Externally to the south, turf will be laid, and with help from some April showers the gardens will be restored to their former condition. We count the days until the Cathedral can welcome everyone to such a beautiful outdoor space. Now, with an increased capacity, added storage and enhanced facilities, the Cathedral is ideally positioned to provide its exciting programme of events that take us towards our centenary year.

The vision to restore the Cathedral and restate its position as the beating heart of City and County will be realised, and we thank everyone who has contributed so magnificently to a very complex, but very worthwhile project.



Please pray . .

- In gratitude for all who have given time, money and skill in the renewing and building of Leicester Cathedral and for God's journeying with us over many years.
- For the volunteers and staff of the Cathedral as they learn to use the new building that they may continue to provide a warm welcome and to create a safe space for all.
- For all those who will come through the doors of the renewed cathedral and new Heritage & Learning Centre that they may gain a glimpse of God's love.

Richard Norman

Chief Operating Officer, Leicester Cathedral

Church of England: Diocese of Guildford, Bishop Andrew Watson, Bishop Paul Davies

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Viborg, Bishop Henrik Stubkjær

EPC: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal

The Anglican Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

MON 19 MAY Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Dunstan, Archbishop, monastic reformer, 988

Mombasa (Kenya)

TUES 20 MAY House of Bishops Residential (20th to 22nd May)

**Six Saints circa Holt
Stephen Bishop (C)**

Please give thanks for: Our recent Warm Space project in Medbourne; our links with our farming community, expressed through celebrating the rural calendar together, and through our shared concern for the environment; creativity in worship and in reaching out to our growing communities. Please pray for: Our six churches; our ongoing work with Bringham School and with families and children.

Alcuin, deacon, abbot, 804

Monmouth (Wales)

WED 21 MAY

Helena, protector of the Holy Places, 330

Most Merciful God, who blessed your servant Helena with such grace and devotion to you that she venerated the very footsteps of our Savior; Grant unto us the same grace that, aided by her prayers and example, we also may always behold your glory in the cross of your Son. Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Montana (Episcopal Church)

THURS 22 MAY

Loddington with Launde Abbey

Alison Myers, Chris Webb (C); Catherine Wright (Chaplain) Fran Grasham (Chaplain)

Give thanks for the beautiful farmland setting of the church and for the congregation from Loddington village, the scattered houses of Launde, and others who seek us out. Pray for us as we work out how best to share ministry with our friends in neighbouring villages.

Montreal (Canada)

FRI 23 MAY

The Whatborough Parishes

Jonathan Dowman, David Palmer (C)

Thanks for those working towards united and caring village communities. For increasing numbers helping and meeting together at Coffee and Chat, Tilton and the festivals. For wisdom and a realistic vision for the parishes of the Launde Minster Community.

Moosonee (Canada)

SAT 24 MAY

John and Charles Wesley, evangelists, hymn writes, 1791 and 1788.

Have mercy upon this Kingdom and forgive the sins of this people. Turn Thee unto us, bless us, and cause Thy face to shine on our desolations. Amen.

Moray, Ross & Caithness (Scotland)

SUNDAY 25 MAY 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER




Launde
Abbey
Companions



Launde Abbey Companions

Supporting a place where the presence of God is more easily felt...

"I find Launde Abbey to be a 'thin place' – where the presence of God is more easily felt, and where prayer and devotion come freely and creatively."

These were the words of a recent guest to Launde Abbey.

Launde Abbey is a special place for so many. The Abbey's work and mission is supported by an onsite community and a dedicated team of staff. But it is the support from a dispersed community, the Launde Abbey Companions, which adds a vibrancy to the Abbey's life.

Our Companions are people who share in the life of the Abbey community, who pray for us, who give time to us, and who support us financially.

The Abbey relies on the generosity and friendship of people like you to enable it to fulfil its mission: the offer of prayer, hospitality, community and sanctuary to all who come through its doors.

Become a Launde Abbey Companion and as part of this wider community:

- We will keep you in touch with the life and work at the Abbey via a bi-monthly Companions newsletter
 - We will offer you priority booking for selected retreats and other events
 - You will be invited to a special event or two during the year
 - You will be able to visit the Chapel for prayer
- Join a growing and active community and help sustain the work of Launde Abbey for years to come.

We'd love you to join us.

For more information visit:

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/support-launde/companions/>

Church of England:

Diocese of Exeter, Bishop Mike Harrison, Bishop James Grier, Bishop Jackie Searle

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Nord-Hålogaland, Bishop Olav Øygard

EPC: Indian Ocean Islands

The Anglican Church of Kenya

MON 26 MAY Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Rogation Day

Augustine, archbishop 605

John Calvin, reformer 1564

Philip Neri, founder of the Oratorians spiritual guide, 1595

Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea)

TUES 27 MAY Rogation Day

The Coplow Benefice

Jonathan Dowman, David Palmer, Jeff Hopewell, Christine Blodwell (C) Andrea Grindley (R)

Billesdon & Church Langton CE Primary Schools

Each of the schools in Church Langton, Billesdon, Tugby and Hallaton plan and lead terminally services that invite parents, carers and family members to celebrate with us. The class his plan and lead the services from start to finish, choosing the songs, writing prayers, sharing and interpreting scripture and offering hospitality. It's wonderful.

Morobo (South Sudan)

WED 28 MAY Rogation Day

Lanfranc, monk, archbishop, scholar, 1089

*Merciful Lord, you know our struggle to serve you:
when sin spoils our lives and overshadows our hearts,
come to our aid and turn us back to you again;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Morogor (Tanzania)

THURS 29 MAY Ascension Day (PF)

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like as we do believe thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend, and with him continually dwell, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

Mount Kenya Central (Kenya)

FRI 30 MAY

Josephine Butler, social reformer, 1906

Joan of Arc, visionary, 1431

Apolo Kivebulaya, priest, evangelists, 1933

Mount Kenya South (Kenya)

SAT 31 MAY

Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth (PF)

Blessed be you, God of mercy and compassion, for you inspired Mary, the humble maiden of Nazareth, to visit her cousin Elizabeth and to assist her in her earthly needs. Help us, that following Mary's example we may remain always open to the needs and sufferings of others. Strengthen us with the nourishment of this meal, and bring us one day to love's eternal feast in your kingdom. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mount Kenya West (Kenya)

SUNDAY 1 JUNE 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Sunday after Ascension Day

This week is Volunteer Week. The label 'volunteer' covers a multitude of roles. Many in Church circles would not define themselves as volunteers – as they see it, they just serve in their local Church – as Wardens, sidespeople, servers, on the coffee rota, safeguarding co-ordinators... and so on. These are really ministers, in one shape or another – people giving their time tirelessly to the enhancement of God's Kingdom here on earth. Called to these roles. We should give thanks for them, encourage them in this ministry and pray for them.

One group of volunteers with a particular ministry are the Chaplains amongst us. At the Cathedral on a daily basis Chaplains encounter the raw issues of life – talking and praying with individuals, strangers often, who arrive at this place of spiritual sanctuary with so much on their hearts. Chaplaincy, in all its contexts, is a particular vocation finally finding its place as a core valued ministry, whether in schools, prisons, town centres, hospitals, police and fire, sports... or wherever. Not all, but many of these Chaplains are volunteers, operating beyond the conventional boundaries of parish and wider community. Let's celebrate and pray for them.

Then there are the volunteers who fall into the category of non-stipendiary or self-supporting priests. And, beyond them, lay ministers such as Readers, Pastoral Assistants, Evangelists... and so on. Sometimes we forget they are volunteers because they don't shout about it in those terms, and because these are key roles they faithfully discharge. Please hear this – if you fall into these categories, the wider Church

is grateful and give thanks for your faithful ministry and service.

And then let's cast the net wider – celebrate the volunteers who populate our foodbanks, our welcome cafes, the Cathedral 'shop floor'... and so on. Not all are overtly Christian but they share our values and faithfully discharge their duties. Let's give thanks for them, too.

What a rich mix! While our secular society might see them more as economic units, we can rejoice in them as precious individuals called by God. Gift indeed, to each and every one of our Church communities. God be praised!

Pray for:

- All who serve in our parishes as Wardens, sidespeople, PCC members... and so on;
- Chaplains in all their different contexts, whether paid or voluntary;
- Volunteers within the wider context of foodbanks, monetary advice centres, the Cathedral 'shop floor'... and so on;
- Non-stipendiary/ self-supporting priests;
- Lay ministers holding the Bishop's licence – Readers, Pastoral Assistants and others.

Revd Canon Alison Adams

Canon Pastor, Leicester Cathedral
Chair, Leicester's Homelessness Charter

Church of England:

Diocese of Hereford, Bishop Richard Jackson

The Lusitanian Church (Portugal):

Bishop José Jorge Pina Cabral

The Latvian Evangelical

Lutheran Church Worldwide:

Archbishop Lauma Zušēvica

EPC: Angola, Mozambique

The Anglican Church of Korea

MON 2 JUNE Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania)

TUES 3 JUNE

Hallaton & Allexton with Horninghold, Tugby, East Norton & Slawston

David Palmer, Jonathan Dowman (C)

Hallaton & Tugby CE Primary Schools

On-going thanks for all those who continue to serve their village communities through their church. For the thriving Café Morrell, Hallaton and Minster Community Zoom Service. For wisdom and a realistic vision for the parishes of the Launde Minster Community.

Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7

Mpumalanga (Southern Africa)

WED 4 JUNE

The Langtons and Shangton

Maxine Johnson (R), Jonathan Dowman, David Palmer, Martin Hathaway (C) Church Langton C of E School

We continue to pray for members of our congregation who are suffering illness and thank God our prayers were answered that one did not turn out to be cancerous. Lord continue to bless us and all who put their trust in you.

Petroc, abbot, 6th cent.

Mpwapwa (Tanzania)

THURS 5 JUNE

Welham, Glooston and Cranhoe and Stonton Wyville

Jonathan Dowman, David Palmer, Ian Gemmell (C)

Please pray for our parishes in the new Launde Minster Community who are working together to support regular worship, pastoral care and church buildings maintenance in our villages.

Boniface (Wynfrith), bishop, martyr, 754

Mthatha (Southern Africa)

FRI 6 JUNE

Gaulby

Hilary Painter (R), Jonathan Dowman, David Palmer (C)

We give thanks for the blessings received and for the increasing use of Gaulby church by the community. We look forward to welcoming visitors old and new for Saturday teas at Gaulby over the summer months.

Ini Kopuria, founder of Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945

Muhabura (Uganda)

SAT 7 JUNE

Called Together Service

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of the Church is governed and sanctified: hear our prayer which we offer for all your faithful people, that in their vocation and ministry they may serve you in holiness and truth to the glory of your name; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Mukono (Uganda)

SUNDAY 8 JUNE PENTECOST



Whit Sunday

Acts 2: 1-4: *The Coming of the Holy Spirit*

²When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

On this Pentecost Sunday, we offer ourselves afresh to work with you Father, Son and Holy Spirit, not just in our homes and faith community, but also to step out of our comfort zone, to pray and support your mission to the unreached. Enlarge our vision of the world we pray and give us strength, love and wisdom to reach all nations, peoples and tribes in your name and for your glory. Amen.



'Jesus is Lord' in different languages
(pronunciation is in brackets where available)

- **Jezusi është Zot** Albanian
- **Jesús es el Señor** Spanish (hez00s es el senyOR)
- **Jésus est le Seigneur** French
- **Sa Mesih Rab'dir** Turkish (ee-saa messy raab dear)
- **Jesus ist der Herr** German (yeazus-ist-der-hair)
- **Jesus is die Here** Afrikaans (yesus-us-dee-heera)
- **Yesus adalah Tuhan** Indonesian
(Yay-zuz ah-da-lah Too-hun)
- **Jesus do Tuhan** Batak Toba (Jay-zuz doh Too-hun)
- **Jesus é o Senhor** Portuguese (Yesus e o Senyor)
- **Yeshua huh ha Mashiach** Hebrew
- **Gesú é il Signore** Italian
- **Yesu karthavannuh** Malayalam
- **Tamil** (Yesuve karththar)
- **Arabic** (yessua howa el rab)
- **Panginoon si Jesus** Tagalog (Pang-e-no-on si he-sus)
- **Isus este Domn** Romanian (Isus yeste Dom)
- **Isus je nas** Gospod Bosnian (isos ye nash gospod)
- **Jesus är Herre** Swedish (Yesus er herre)

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland:
Bishop Gudrun Karls-Helgudottir, Bishop Kristjan Björnsson, Bishop Gisli Gunnarsson

The Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church:
Bishop Carlos Lopez Lozano

EPC: Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa

The Anglican Church of Melanesia

MON 9 JUNE Diocese of Kiteto

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Columba, abbot, missionary, 597

Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer, teacher of the faith, 373

Multan (Pakistan)

TUES 10 JUNE

Gartree Deanery

Area Dean: Steve Bailey; Assistant Area Dean: Alison Iliffe. Lay Chair: Liz Smith

Give thanks for all that God is doing in our churches and the stories we have to share with one another. Pray that we can encourage and support one another in our mission and ministry. *Mumbai (North India)*

WED 11 JUNE

Gartree Deanery PTO Clergy:

Tricia Allsopp, Pip Clements, Susan Cooper, Brian Davis, David Faulks, Martin Hathaway, Alistair Helm, Bernard Higgins, Mary Ireland, Diane Johnson, Cynthia Thomson & Jack Wixon.

Barnabas the Apostle (PF)

Mumais (Kenya)

THURS 12 JUNE Foxton with Gumley & Laughton

In vacancy.

St. Luke's Laughton represents a small but focal point of our community. Holy Communion Services are held on the fourth Sunday of each month; all are very welcome.

St Andrew's, Foxton: We give thanks that we are able to have a regular service every Sunday, and also a midweek service every week. We rejoice that Clive Hawley is training to be a Lay Reader.

Mundri (South Sudan)

FRI 13 JUNE Wistow, Fleckney & Kilby

Philip O'Reilly (C),

Kilby St Mary's & Fleckney CE Primary Schools

We look forward to welcoming Bishop Luke for his first visit to our Benefice at the end of March and pray for him as he begins his episcopal ministry. We pray too for the continuing success of the Saint Wistan annual Pilgrimage.

Mundu (South Sudan)

SAT 14 JUNE

Richard Baxter, puritan divine, 1691

Eternal, Almighty, and most gracious God: heaven is your throne, and earth is your footstool; holy and reverend is your name; you are praised by the angels of heaven, and in the gathering of your church on earth. Despite our unworthiness, you have invited us through our mediator, Jesus Christ, to present ourselves and our prayers to you. Receive us graciously. Help us by your Spirit. Let us stand in awe of you. Put your law into our hearts, and write it on our minds. Let your word come to us in power, and help us receive it in love, with attentive, reverent, and teachable minds. Through your word, allow us to taste the flavour of eternal life. Make us fervent in prayer and joyful in praise. Help us serve you this day without distraction, that we may find that a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere, and that it is good for us to come near to God; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Murang'a South (Kenya)



What it is like to be a host to a refugee family under the 'Homes For Ukraine' scheme? It has been an experience of two extremes: from having to stage a sit-in at County Hall to get school places for our two boys to witnessing the generous gift of a new bicycle so Mother can get to her job in the school kitchen. From hearing the horrors suffered by their grandparents under Russian occupation to being called 'My English Grandma' by my littlest Ukrainian. It has been frustrating, challenging and infinitely rewarding.

Prayer themes for this week.

1. Communication:

Give thanks for the translation Apps that have helped us to explain life here and get to know one another. Ask for confidence to speak out to our national leaders in support of refugees.

2. Peace:

Ask for a peaceful solution to the conflict in the Ukraine and the reuniting of our family with their loved ones. Give thanks that inner peace can be found in shared tears and hearing the children playing with new friends in our garden.

3. Trust:

Give thanks that the three strangers we welcomed into our home have become trusted friends. Ask that all refugees can find a place of safety with people whom they can trust.

4. Joy

Give thanks for the Ukrainian church family in Leicester and the concerts and parties they host. Ask that every refugee in our diocese will feel joy in their hearts today and have a reason to sing.

5. Welfare

Ask that the abilities of our family are recognised despite the language barriers and that they find rewarding work and achieve their deserved grades in their school exams. Give thanks for the dedication of NHS staff and teachers, who go beyond their duties, to keep our family well both physically and mentally.

6. Cultural Differences

Give thanks that we have had shared such differences as Christmas in January and eating borsch. Ask that no Ukrainian is ever the victim of racism or discrimination and that they can celebrate their culture.

7. Future

Give thanks that as God's people we all have hope and that we can help others to renew theirs. Ask that all refugees have the courage to 'start again' and find the strength to fulfil their dreams.

Jane Cox

Parishioner at Groby Church

Scottish Episcopal Church:

Diocese of Argyll & the Isles, Bishop David Raitlon

Church of Ireland: Diocese of Connor,

Bishop George Davison

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:

Diocese of Lolland-Falster, Bishop Marianne Gaarden

EPC: Botswana, Zimbabwe

The Anglican Church of Mexico

MON 16 JUNE Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Learning Disability Week (see article on page 20 – Sunday 29th June)

<https://www.mencap.org.uk/easyread/learning-disability-week-2025>

Retired Clergy Tea Party

Faith Leaders Forum gathering

Richard, bishop, 1253

Joseph Butler, bishop, philosopher, 1752

Murray (Australia)

TUES 17 JUNE DBE Gathering with GMH Staff

Market Harborough and The Transfiguration - Little Bowden with Lubenham and Great Bowden
Alison Iliffe, Hilary Corcoran, Vicky & Phil Bryson, Susan Cooper, Alistair Helm, Cynthia Thomson,
Diane Johnson (C), Elizabeth Allen (PA-PTO), Angela Hill (PA-PTO), Susan Meadows (R)

All Saints' Lubenham, Market Harborough CE Primary School & Gt Bowden Academy.
Little Bowden (Community) Primary School.

Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, social reformers, 1913 and 1936

Muyinga (Burundi)

WED 18 JUNE Bishop's Leadership Team Meeting

St Dionysius, Part of Harborough Team

Phil Bryson (C)

We give thanks to God that our Christmas services were well-received and well-attended. We pray for our reordering plans to come to fruition so we can be a more accessible space for worship and community use.

Bernard Mizeki, martyr, 1896

Mytkyjina (Burma)

THURS 19 JUNE Corpus Christi

Great Bowden St Peter & St Paul Part of Harborough Team
Hills Corcoran

Give thanks for the ongoing work with Great Bowden Academy and our work with children and young people. Please pray for this to continue, and also for our "post alpha" group of young disciples who are growing in faith and community.

Sundar Singh, sadhu (holy man), evangelist, teacher of the faith, 1929

Mzimvubu (Southern Africa)

FRI 20 JUNE

All Saints, Lubenham Part of Harborough Team
Pip Clements PTO

We give thanks for those who share worship with us, especially those who have joined us recently, from the very young in Lubenham Lambs to the congregation with the wisdom of age. Pray for us as we consider the challenges of Minster Communities – that it may not be a distraction from our on-going ministry to our local primary school and people of Lubenham.

Nagpur (North India)

SAT 21 JUNE

Nairobi (Kenya)



Link Diocese of Trichy

The Trichy Diocese serves a large section of the state of Tamil Nadu, situated in South-East India, stretching around 250 miles from the tea plantations of the western mountains to the coast of the Bay of Bengal in the East. The majority of its churches were founded by British Missionaries in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Christians make up around 6% of the population, but the traditionally good relationship amongst the different religions is now threatened by the rise of Hindu nationalism.

Trichy Diocese has a long tradition of social care, through schools, children's homes, hospitals and nursing colleges. Revd Suresh Kumar (whom many of us remember from his time serving as a priest here at St Phillip's Evington) is acting in a 'caretaker' capacity until their next Bishop is appointed.

Suresh has sent us the following prayer pointers:

- 1) We remember our past missionaries with gratefulness and in February Sr. Barnard Margaret's family visited Dharapuram and paid their respects (pictured).
- 2) Please pray for our Child Care Ministry which is going through a severe financial crisis. We have a Diocesan Fostership Scheme and collect money from our congregation which is not sufficient to feed all the children.
- 3) Please pray for Church of South India and its administration which is stalled by Court cases.
- 4) Pray for Trichy Diocese which we are running after the retirement of Rt. Rev. Dr. D. Chandrasekaran on the 6th of June 2024, with much difficulty.

- 5) Please pray for Valparai (tea-growing) area as the animal human conflict is increasing. Recently a German motor cyclist was killed by a wild elephant on the way to Valparai.
- 6) Please pray for peaceful co-existence among different religions. Our churches faced persecution in several villages during their routine Christmas functions in 2024.

Jonathan Kerry

Diocesan Secretary and Trichy Link



Church of England: Diocese in Europe, Bishop Robert Innes, vacancy – suffragan

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Visby, Bishop Erik Eckerdal

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark: Diocese of Copenhagen, Bishop Peter Skov-Jakobsen

EPC: Malawi, Zambia

The Anglican Church of Mozambique

MON 23 JUNE Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Etheldreda, abbess, c678

Nakuru (Kenya)

TUES 24 JUNE

Glen Magna cum Stretton Magna, Carton Curlieu & Burton Overy

In vacancy. Roger Flowers (AM), Angela Allen (R), David Lewis (Curate), Bernard Higgins (C-PTO), Gemma Herrick (C&F),

We are hosting the Bereavement Journey again this year. Our connections with local parents and school remain intact. We hope the minster community model provides a new season of growth. We are grateful for our partnership with our local Methodist congregation.

Birth of John the Baptist (PF)

Nambale (Kenya)

WED 25 JUNE

Ordination Retreat – Bishop Saju Leading

Ember Day

Namibia (Southern Africa)

THURS 26 JUNE

Kibworth with Smeeton Westerby & Saddington

Ludger Fremmer (C), Anne Flower (R), Eunice Hayes (Evng), Theresa Jackson (AM), Jacki Shorley (AM)

Please pray for our churches and congregations as we prepare for the changes, and challenges, of Minster Communities. We pray that we may keep the love of Christ foremost in our planning and address our conversations with the love for each other that Christ has taught us.

Namirembe (Uganda)

FRI 27 JUNE

Cyril, bishop, teacher of the faith, 444

Ember Day

Nampula (Mozambique)

SAT 28 JUNE

Irenaeus, bishop, teacher of the faith, c200

Ember Day

Ordination of Priests

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church: hear our prayer for your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love, and give to your servants now to be ordained the needful gifts of grace; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Nadyal (South India)



Ordination of Deacons

Peter and Paul, Apostles (PF)

Learning Disability Week

God's group is a fortnightly small group for young adults with Learning Disabilities. We meet once a month on zoom and once a month for a meal at a leader's home.

The group aims to encourage the young people to:

- Encounter God through worship and interactive prayer activities
- Learn about God through videos of bible stories and a quiz
- Find out what it means to live our lives as followers of Jesus as we think about ways to trust God in all situations, care for others and tell our friends the good news about Jesus

Through it all we hope to support the group to develop their friendships with one another (when friendships can often be tricky); have fun and to experience that God loves and cares for them deeply.

It is a joy to see them worshipping with amazing freedom that we could all learn from; talking to God about their lives; learning how to initiate conversations and get to know each other better; showing genuine care and concern for each other; and having a really good belly laugh! From eating together we have also seen them moving forward in learning to serve one another, turn-taking and that a meal together is more than just the food (though the food is greatly enjoyed too!).

Please pray for:

- Creativity in finding ways to deepen relationships with God and explain the Christian faith in accessible ways
- For sensitivity in meeting the needs of each individual in the group
- For the group members to encounter God and get to know Him for themselves
- For the friendships in the group to continue to develop and bring an increased sense of belonging and being valued for who they are
- For time and energy for the leaders to plan the sessions

Pauline Ndigirwa and Rosamund Blaylock

Church of England:

Diocese of Lincoln, Bishop Stephen Conway,
Bishop David Court, Bishop Nicholas Chamberlain

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Härnösand, Bishop Teresia Derlén

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Lapua, Bishop Matti Salomäki

EPC: Kenya, Tanzania

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

MON 30 JUNE Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Ordination of Michal Kmet, Deacon

Nasik (North India)

TUES 1 JULY Cornerstone Team

St Luke's, Thurnby (with St Mary's, Stoughton and Living Hope, Thurmaston) Tom Devas (C)

Pray we would grasp how wide, long, high and deep is the love of Christ. Give thanks and pray for our children, families, and youth work, outreach opportunities through Café Fifty Five, and growth of Living Hope Church plant in Thurmaston.

Cornerstone Team

St. Catharine's Houghton-on-the-Hill

Steve Ransley (C)

Praise God for 6 people attending an Alpha Course at the pub and who are keen to continue to meet to read through John's Gospel. Please pray they would come to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ. Please also pray for our 2025 Giving Campaign "Sustain and Build" as we look to sustain and build gospel ministry in Houghton for the years to come.

Henry, John and Henry Venn, priests, evangelical divines, 1797, 1813, 1873

Nasir (South Sudan)

WED 2 JULY Wigston

In vacancy, Jenny Barradell (PA)

All Saints CofE School, Wigston Magna.

We are thankful for God's goodness and new people joining our worshipping communities. We also pray for continued confidence to give ourselves to the Minster Community process, to be open to how God is (re)shaping the church in our time and place, and to see the kingdom vision lived and lived out of in partnerships and relationships.

Bishop's Leadership Team Meeting

Natal (Southern Africa)

THURS 3 JULY

Thomas the Apostle (PF)

Almighty and ever living God, who didst strengthen thine apostle Thomas with sure and certain faith in thy Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in thy sight; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Navajoland (Episcopal Church)

FRI 4 JULY Goscote Deanery

Area Dean: Rob Gladstone; Lay Chair: vacant

Please pray for the parishes in vacancy as they navigate the Minster Community process; giving thanks for those who serve to keep the flame of faith alive in their communities.

Ndokwa (Nigeria)

SAT 5 JULY Goscote Deanery

PTO Clergy: Nigel Elliott, Kerry Emmett, John Leonard, Nicky McGinty & Alison Prince.

Nebbi (Uganda)

SUNDAY 6 JULY 3RD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY



Strengthening partnerships and learning from our brothers and sisters in Tanzania

In March 2025 8 Diocesan reps, including 2 Bishops, 1 Dean, 2 clergy and a Lay Canon, made the journey from Leicester to Kiteto, one of our Tanzanian link dioceses, to celebrate Bishop Isaya's retirement and the appointment of his replacement, Bishop Bethuel. We joined a big congregation, fellow link folk from Wyoming, many Tanzanian Bishops, current and retired, the Archbishop of Tanzania and the Tanzanian Prime Minister at the service on 9 March 2025.

Bishop Martyn also unveiled a plaque commemorating the opening of Kiteto Dispensary on 8th March, marking its move to a new phase of working to provide more than eye care to the district.

Thank God for installation of Bishop Bethuel Mlula. Give thanks for the strong show of support from Leicester and Wyoming and the many new connections and friendships made.

- Pray that Bishop Bethuel will flourish in his new role. Please pray that a solution will be found to his most pressing issue; that of trying to run a diocese the size of Northern Ireland and Wales combined without a vehicle to get around. Pray too that as he refreshes the direction of mission for his diocese that the link dioceses will continue to support that vision.
- Pray for the work of the Dispensary, particularly for the need to attract and retain staff. Pray that Sister Sara's vision for better eye and primary care will be met.
- Pray too for the work of diocesan schools and Pastor Mapenduzi who heads it up.
- Pray for the success of our link visit to DMK and Kiteto in September 2025, that those going will be inspired and moved on in their faith journey and for the strengthening of our ties. Please pray that the funds needed for the trip will be raised.

David Shepherd & Michael Broadley
Kiteto & Mount Kilimanjaro Diocesan Links

Church of England:

Diocese of St Albans, Bishop Alan Smith,
Bishop Richard Atkinson, Bishop Jane
Mainwaring

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Linköping, Bishop Marika Markovits

EPC: Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda

The Anglican Church of Nigeria

MON 7 JULY

Diocese of Kiteto

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Nebraska (Episcopal Church)

TUES 8 JULY Rothley

Rob Gladstone (C), Valerie Joyce (R-PTO), David Wilson (AM)

Rothley CE Primary School

Please pray for us as we seek to build relationships with those moving into the new Broadnook Garden Village, and our hope to establish a worshipping witnessing Christian presence in the heart of the new community.

Nelson (New Zealand)

WED 9 JULY Sileby, Cossington & Seagrave

Duncan Beet (C), Heather Hall (C)

Cossington CE Primary School

Please give thanks for new families as we look forward to Easter baptisms. Please pray for us as we struggle with a teenager with a serious case of cancer.

Nevada (Episcopal Church)

THURS 10 JULY Syston and East Goscote

Ros Harper (C), John Leonard (PTO), Sue Essex (AM), Ruthie Leonard (Pio), SS Peter & Paul School, Syston

Please pray for our continued work with families through Little Fishes and Tots@10 toddler groups and through our links with schools. Please also pray for the process of installing new heating in Syston, we hope to be back in church soon.

New Bussa (Nigeria)

FRI 11 JULY Thurmaston

John Hewer (R) David Beck (Local Associate Minister)

Church Hill School, Thurmaston

Pray for us as we have been without heating since April last year (we are assured it will be working for the summer!). We run a busy food Bank every Monday and Coffee and chat each Thursday; we also run a mother and toddlers club each Wednesday assisting the Living Hope plant church.

Benedict, abbot, c.500

Gracious and Holy Father, give us the wisdom to discover You, the intelligence to understand You, the diligence to seek after You, the patience to wait for You, eyes to behold You, a heart to meditate upon You, and a life to proclaim You. Amen.

New Guinea Islands (Papua New Guinea)

SAT 12 JULY

New Hampshire (Episcopal Church)



Strengthening partnerships and learning from our brothers and sisters in Tanzania

The trip to Tanzania to visit our Christian brothers and sisters in Kiteto and Mount Kilimanjaro was a journey of faith, of listening and learning, and strengthening partnerships across our link dioceses.

During the week, members of the group also visited a community clinic we support in Kibaya and delivered much needed surplus medical supplies including bandages, blankets and blood pressure machines, donated by local Leicestershire charity, Inter Care.

Kiteto's diocesan dispensary, run by Sister Saraweki Mbelwa and her team, is a blessing to many people and offers essential care to the community through its eye clinic and general medical service.

Apart from the joy of the visit, we also learned something about the important lesson of being hosted within another culture; the need to ask for help and rely on others and the grace that there is in that – it's a real challenge to a culture of self-sufficiency or the expectation of offering rather than being the recipients of help.

There were also less expected gifts along the way; there's nothing quite like an eight-hour car journey through stunning scenery to help in having good conversations, get to know one another, and challenge some of our prejudices.

The visit also challenged the group to think again about what is needed for the Church to be vibrant and growing. Many of the pastors are paid little or not at all, many church plants start with prayer under a tree. Reflecting on these experiences can support our everyday

ministry; giving us another set of lenses through which to see what God is doing in his world and in his Church.

One participant on the visit commented that they are *'delighted that the Diocese of Leicester takes our relationship with the global south Christian majority seriously and demonstrates it.'* They noted how important it is to understand our unity and interdependence in God's worldwide Church in what can seem like a fracturing world.

Talking of the privilege that it is to partner with dioceses around the world, we are with our brothers and sisters, whether in Tanzania, Trichy or Wyoming, they are our neighbours, and whether we agree or deeply disagree with some things about their culture, beliefs or how they put them into practice we need to listen to Jesus who calls us to 'love our neighbour as we love ourselves.'

- Please pray for Bishop Isaiah Chambala, in his retirement, and for Bishop Bethuel as he steps into the new position, continuing to grow the Diocese of Kiteto as only its second bishop.
- Pray too for our link diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro and Bishop Stanley Hotay.

If you would like to find out more about how we are learning through our relationship with our link dioceses in Tanzania, or if you are interested in visiting with us, then please contact Revd Dave Rollett on dave@stmaryincharnwood.org.uk or David Shepherd on dave_shep@btinternet.com

Bishop Saju made a video, sharing his experiences of the trip, which you can see on our website www.leicester.anglican.org

Dave Rollett

Curate at St Mary in Charnwood

Church of England:

Diocese of Newcastle,

Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop Mark Wroe

Church of Norway:

Diocese of Møre, Bishop Ingeborg Midttømme

EPC: Eritrea, Ethiopia

The Church of North India (United)

MON 14 JULY Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

John Keble, priest, poet, 1866

New Jersey (Episcopal Church)

TUES 15 JULY Barkby

Biddy Saunders (C)

May God bless our community, especially farmers and those in need. May their faith grow ever deeper and their service shine brightly. Guide their steps, nurture their spirits, and bring peace. Amen.

Swithun, bishop, c.862

Bonaventure, friar, bishop, teacher of the father, 1274

New Westminster (Canada)

WED 16 JULY Queniborough, Thrussington, Ratcliffe and Rearsby

Amanda Granger (Children & Families Worker).

Schools: St. Mary's, Queniborough, St. Michael & All Angels', Rearsby, & Thrussington School, Thrussington.

Please pray for our shared life, witness and ministry in our community.

Osmund, bishop, 1099

Central New York (Episcopal Church)

THURS 17 JULY Birstall and Wanlip

Amanda Digman (C), Kerry Emmett (PTO)

Please pray for Rachael, our curate, as she looks forward to becoming a priest in the summer; for our outreach on the Hallam Fields estate; for our schools work and for all those who serve in our church in so many ways.

Newala (Tanzania)

FRI 18 JULY

Elizabeth Ferard, deaconess, founder of the Community of St Andrew, 1883

Almighty God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: Grant that we, encouraged by the good example of your servants Elizabeth Ferard, Isabel Gilmore and the early deaconesses may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at last we may with them attain to your eternal joy. Amen.

Newark (Episcopal Church)

SAT 19 JULY

Gregory, bishop and his sister Macrina, deaconess, teachers of the faith, c.394 and c.379

O God, who were pleased to give light to your Church by the example and teaching of the Bishops Saints Basil and Gregory, grant, we pray, that in humility we may learn your truth and practice it faithfully in charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Newcastle (Australia)



One of the ways we can value children and young people is to pray for them.

There are some particular days of prayer that we can engage with:

Standing Together against Youth Violence
19th/20th July 2025

This initiative was created by the synergy network, who are encouraging churches and communities to pray and take action to address violence affecting young people.

Why is this important?

There were 50,500 police recorded knife crime offences from 2023 to March 2024. The figures show a 78% rise from 2014 to 2024.

- Doctors said the injuries they were treating were becoming more severe and the victims were getting younger, with increasing numbers of girls involved.

- There were 51 homicide victims aged 13 to 19 years in the year ending March 2023.
- Shockingly, 82% of homicides among teenage victims involve the use of a knife or sharp instrument.

You may aware of the knife angel, an art piece made up of 100,00 seized blades to highlight the negative impacts of knife crime and the need for serious social change. It has toured all over the UK as a visual reminder of the importance of this issue.

We pray for:

People and services working with young people for whom this is an issue

- Young people involved and caught up in violence affecting young people.
- Young people to feel safe enough not to carry weapons
- Families and friends who have lost loved ones because of violence affecting young people.

Lou McGoldrick

Youth Worker
St Paul's Church, Oadby

Church of Sweden:

Diocese of Skara, Bishop Ulrica Fritzson

Church of England:

Diocese of Leeds, Bishop Nick Baines, vacancy – bishop of Wakefield, Bishop Anna Eltringham, Bishop Toby Howarth, Bishop Smitha Prasad, Bishop Arun Arora

EPC: Djibouti, Somalia

The Church of Pakistan (United)

MON 21 JULY Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

The Deanery of Akeley East (Loughborough)

Area Dean: Andrew Race; Assistant Area Dean Angela Tarry, Lay Chair: John Dodson

We thank God for the active ministries of each Worshipping Community in the Deanery, praying especially for the parishes in vacancy. We pray for those who are curious about faith in Jesus, and those who are seeking baptism and confirmation.

EPC: Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia

Newcastle (England)

TUES 22 JULY Akeley East Deanery PTO

Clergy: Susan Forshaw, Paul Hackwood, Frances Knight, Rob Miles, David Newman, Simon Richards, Simon Richardson, David Stoter, Chris Taylor, Eric Whitley, Rosemary Whitley & Peter Yorkstone.

Mary Magdalene (PF)

Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador (Canada)

WED 23 JULY The Barrow and Wolds Group

Clive Watts, Fiona Cotton-Betteridge, Bob Edge (C), Pam Knowles (R-PTO), Rex Shaw (R), David Spencer (AM) Mike Hyde (R) and Jay Jones (AM) Simon Richardson PTO, David Stoter PTO and Simon Richards PTO.

Barrow-upon-Soar CE Primary School; Wymeswold CE Primary School

Please pray for our group of churches as we join with a wider Minster Community, pray for growing together in faith and our future working together in ministry and mission.

Bridget, abbess, 1373

Central Newfoundland (Canada)

THURS 24 JULY Castle Donington, and Lockington cum Hemington

Andrew Race, Catherine Stray, April Sly, Rachel Lacey, Sue Forshaw and Peter Fox St Edward's CE Primary School, Castle Donington

We thank God for our flourishing intergenerational worship and ministry: Warm Welcome Space, Little Sunbeams, Breakfast Church, Prayer Spaces and Rooted Prayer & Praise. We pray for God's guidance and provision as we develop a Chaplaincy Team for Pastoral Care.

Western Newfoundland (Canada)

FRI 25 JULY Emmanuel, Loughborough

Michael Broadley (C), Kat Marjoribanks (C), Codra Cupara-Spencer (AM), Juliette Killey (AM in training) Loughborough CE Primary School

Please pray for Emmanuel as we explore our next steps forward as a church and as a Resource Church partnership. Pray especially that we discern where and when and how to plant our next worshipping community.

James the Apostle (PF)

Ngbo (Nigeria)

SAT 26 JULY The Good Shepherd, Loughborough

Michael Broadley (C), Jackie Rotter (R-PTO)

Please pray for the ongoing renewal of our Mission and Ministry to the local area especially the Fold, our intergenerational service, and the planned Community Fun Day on Sunday 6 July.

Anne and Joachim, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Niagra (Canada)



3 Key Questions

3 Key Questions – Deepening Disciples

Our first key question as a Diocese is:
How are you growing, and enabling others to grow
in the depth of their discipleship?

A Prayer of Benedict of Nursia

*Gracious and holy Father,
Please give me intellect to understand you,
reason to discern you,
diligence to seek you, wisdom to find you,
a spirit to know you, a heart to meditate upon you,
ears to hear you, eyes to see you, a tongue to
proclaim you,
a way of life pleasing to you,
patience to wait for you, and perseverance to
look for you.
Grant me a perfect end, your holy presence,
a blessed resurrection, and life everlasting.
Amen.*

3 Key Questions – Growing Disciples

Our second key question as a Diocese is:
How are you enabling growth in the numbers of
disciples of Jesus?

*O God, our heavenly Father, you manifested your
love by sending your only-begotten Son into the
world, that all might live through him:
Pour out your Spirit on your Church, that we may
fulfil his command to preach the Gospel to all
people. Send forth labourers into your harvest;
defend them in all dangers and temptations;
and hasten coming of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

3 Key Questions – Loving Service

Our third key question as a Diocese is:
How are you serving your community, and
enabling others to love and serve those around
them?

Prayer of St. Teresa of Avila

*Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
compassion on this world.
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good.
Yours are the hands with which He blesses
all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet.
Yours are the eyes, you are His body.
Christ has no body now but yours.
No hands, no feet on earth but yours.
Yours are the eyes through which He looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours. Amen.*

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania:

Bishop Mindaugas Sabutis

Church of Ireland:

Diocese of Derry and Raphoe,
Bishop Andrew Foster

EPC: Burundi, DRC, Rwanda

The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

MON 28 JULY Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Niassa (Mozambique)

TUES 29 JULY St Barnabas, Grange Park (BMO)

Ben Gardner (C), Paul Chung (R), Alex Howlett (R)

Please pray for all those who are new to St Barnabas Grange Park, that they will settle and grow in their discipleship. Pray also, for the Loughborough Resourcing Partnership as we continue to discern where to plant next.

Mary, Martha and Lazarus, companions of Our Lord

Nicaragua (Central America)

WED 30 JULY Belton, Diseworth, Hathern, Kegworth, Long Whatton & Osgathorpe.

In vacancy, Simon Stevens (PTO), Peter Yorkstone (PTO), Sue Hack (R), Tim Aldsworth (R)
Belton, Diseworth, Hathern & Long Whatton CE Primary Schools

Please pray for our shared life, witness and ministry in our community.

William Wilberforce, social reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson anti-slavery
campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846

The Diocese on the Niger (Nigeria)

THURS 31 JULY St Mary in Charnwood, Nanpantan

Adele Adshead (C), Dave Rollett (C), Helena Wilkinson (R & pio),
Hazel Wragg (Intergenerational Pioneer)

Please give thanks for Hazel and all our volunteers who run intergenerational activities in church and out in the community. Pray for growing relationships and depth of faith across the ages, and that more people might commit to following Jesus every day.

Ignatius of Loyola, found of the Society of Jesus, 1556

Niger Delta (Nigeria)

FRI 1 AUG Mountsorrel Christ Church & St Peter

Colin Resch (C), Mel Rowley (AM), Helen Hodson (R-PTO), Edmund Stacey (R-PTO), Alison White
(Children & Family Worker), Kat Jenkins (Youth Worker), Linda Vesty (Intergenerational Worker)
Christ Church & St Peter's CE Primary School, Mountsorrel

As we recover from our Summer25 Week of Mission, during which we will have welcomed hundreds of people of all ages to over twenty different events, please give thanks for our fabulous team of staff and volunteers. Pray that we may now build on the relationships that we have formed as we continue to share the love of God with our community.

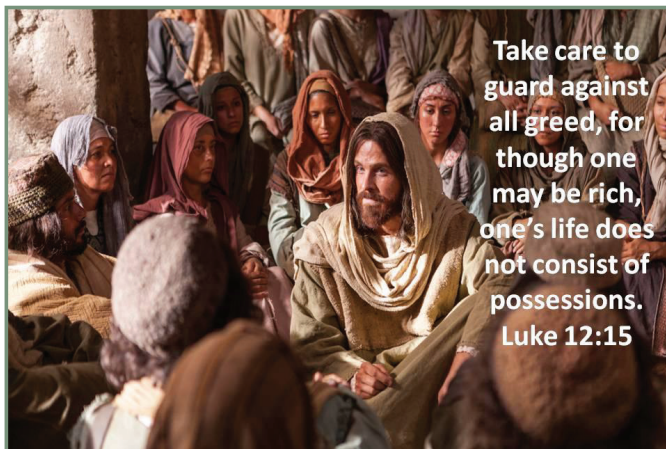
Niger Delta North (Nigeria)

SAT 2 AUG St Leonard's, Swithland

Swithland St Leonard's CE Primary School

In vacancy as we move well to becoming part of a 13 church Minster Community (MC) with good networks already forming. A newly authorised local minister and committee focused on planning and resourcing worship currently brings sustainability. Our PTO priest offering cover at two MC churches.

Niger Delta West (Nigeria)



Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions.
Luke 12:15

Luke 12:13-21

(New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised)

The Parable of the Rich Fool

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.'¹⁴ But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?'¹⁵ And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.'¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly.'¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?''¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.'¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?''²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God!

Lord Jesus, thank you for being our greatest need and supplying us with your wonderful riches.

Lord Jesus, help each of us to value you as our most precious Savior, King, and friend.

Father protect us from all forms of covetousness, desiring the things of the world beyond our needs which You provide.

Help us Lord to examine our behaviours and attitudes toward materialism. Help us to recognize and resist temptations that pull us into sin.

Lord search our hearts and reveal how we may be like the Rich Fool and grant us the grace of repentance to turn away and seek You.

Church of England: Diocese of Bristol, Bishop Vivienne Faulk, Bishop Neil Warwick

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland: Diocese of Helsinki, Bishop Teemu Laajasalo

EPC: Rep. Congo, Gabon, Sao Tomé

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

MON 4 AUG Diocese of Kiteto

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Jean-Baptiste Vianney, cure d'Ars, spiritual guide, 1859

Niger West (Nigeria)

TUES 5 AUG Quorn United Church

**In vacancy. Dawn Daly (AM), Steve Delaforce (AP), Karen Beecham (Methodist)
St Bartholomew's CE Primary School; Rawlins College (Academy)**

Please pray for continued flourishing, especially as we become increasingly lay-led and as we move into our Minster Community. We especially pray for pray for our Foundation Governors at both schools as they seek to consolidate links.

Oswald, king, martyr, 642

Nike (Nigeria)

WED 6 AUG Transfiguration of Our Lord (PF)

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Nimule (South Sudan)

THURS 7 AUG Shepshed & Oaks in Charnwood

**John Bird (PTO); Chris Taylor (PTO); Richard Rock (AM); Michael Torne (AM); Diane Melton (PA) and Lay Worship Leaders: Steve Upton, Glennis Wilcox & John Dodson
St Botolph's CE Primary School; Newcroft Primary School**

Please pray for our PCC and Ministry Team, including our leaders in training, as they work together in vacancy and continue to reach out to the people of Shepshed and Oaks in Charnwood whilst also navigating the Minster Community process.

John Mason Neale, priest, hymn writer, 1866

Nnewi (Nigeria)

FRI 8 AUG

Dominic, priest, founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221

Northern Izon (Nigeria)

SAT 9 AUG

Mary Sumner, founder of the Mother' Union, 1921

All this day, O Lord, let me touch as many lives as possible for thee; and every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken, whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live. Amen.

The Mothers' Union Prayer

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name.

Amen

Northern Territory (Australia)



5 Diocesan Priorities

Diocesan Strategic Priorities - Intercultural Communities

An Intercultural Worshipping Community is a church community where people from different cultural and ethnic heritages deliberately interact with one another in order to deepen their understanding and experience of God and of each other. They learn and grow together to build communities which are transformed, shaped, and moulded from each other's experiences. As well as having a number of dedicated Intercultural Worshipping Communities, we would like all our church communities to be increasingly become places where people of all backgrounds are fully welcomed and supported to participate in mission and ministry.

May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy, go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.

May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners, go with us as we try to be good neighbours in our communities.

May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community, go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all. Amen.

Diocesan Strategic Priorities - Intergenerational Communities

Part of our priority as a diocese to create

Intergenerational Communities includes putting children, young people and families at the heart of our mission and ministry – by listening to the voices of children and young people, giving them opportunities to deepen their discipleship, and building close relationships with church and community schools.

Loving God, We bring to you the children, young people and families of our nation. We pray for those who are already know they are your children. Please protect them, bless them and keep them firm in their faith.

We pray for those who would like to find out more about you. Please provide ways for them to do that and help us all to play our part.

We pray for those who know little or nothing about Christian faith. Please stir up curiosity in them to find out more and in your mercy give them encounters with you that transform their lives. Amen.

Continued on page 38

Church of England:

Diocese of Portsmouth, Bishop Jonathan Frost

Church of Sweden: Diocese of Stockholm,
Bishop Andreas Holmberg

EPC: Cameroon, Central African Republic,
Equatorial Guinea

The Anglican Church of Rwanda

MON 11 AUG Diocese of Wyoming

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the Diocesan Secretary's Office

Clare of Assisi, founder of the Poor Clares, 1253

John Henry Newman, priest, 1890

Norwich (England)

TUES 12 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the Parish Transition & Ministry Development Department

International Youth Day – 12th August 2025

This day is designed to bring youth issues across the world to international bodies who can partner and make a difference together. We can join in by praying for these issues too.

We pray for:

- Young people having access to clean water and food.
- The ways climate change is affecting some of the poorest countries and most vulnerable people
- Opportunities and support for young people in their education, opportunities and mental health
- Young people caught up in war.



Lou McGoldrick

Youth Worker – St Paul's Church, Oadby

Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island (Canada)

WED 13 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the MC & SGBT Team

Jeremy Taylor, bishop, teacher of the faith, 1667

Florence Nightingale, nurse, social reformer, 1910

Octavia Hill, social reformer, 1912

Nsukka (Nigeria)

THURS 14 AUG Eve of VJ Day Service, Leicester Cathedral, 5.30pm – all welcome

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through Resource Churches

Maximilian Kolbe, friar, martyr, 1941

Nyahururu (Kenya)

FRI 15 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the Archdeacons Office including Diocesan Counsellors and the Social Responsibility Panel.

The Blessed Virgin Mary (PF)

VJ Day (see article on page 34 (17th August 2025))

Nyamel (South Sudan)



SAT 16 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister in the Net Carbon Zero Department

Nyang (South Sudan)



80th Anniversary of V-J Day

Friday 15th August marks the 80th Anniversary of Victory over Japan Day – V-J Day – which also marks the end of World War II. While this anniversary prompts us to understand the relief and joy that was felt at the ending of war and calls us to find gratitude for those who fought and died for the peace in which we now live, it also demands us to reflect on the costs of war, to lament the bloodshed of the past and to commit ourselves in this ever more dangerous age to peaceful means of engagement with others.

The call to serious reflection is there at least in part because of the events that brought the war to an end: on 6 and 9 August, atomic bombs were exploded above the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, killing over 200000 people in the immediate days afterwards and many more in the years that followed from radiation-related illnesses.

I visited the Peace Memorial Museum in Hiroshima last October. The story of what happened on that site 80 years ago is presented carefully and painstakingly through pictures, artifacts and testimony. As expected, it is at times harrowing and difficult to take in. Yet, as hundreds of us moved slowly through the rooms in complete silence it became also a deeply moving, shared experience. The facts about the events and decisions that led up to the end of the war and of the nuclear proliferation since are also plainly presented. I remember these two facts above all: there are 9 countries in the world which have nuclear weapons. The UK is one of them.

Outside, in the serenity of the Peace Memorial Park, many monuments sit on grassed areas and among trees. The Atomic Bomb Dome – one of the only buildings to survive, albeit only as a roofless shell - is preserved still with rubble around its walls.

In the middle of the park a Flame of Peace burns constantly, sitting on an enormous plinth designed to imitate hands with palms upturned to the sky. This both alludes to those who pleaded in vain for water to take away their thirst following the blast; and also to an attitude of hope that nuclear warfare will be consigned to history. The flame burns continually while there are still nuclear weapons in the world. The great hope is that one day it can be extinguished.

Sadako Sasaki was 2 years old when she survived the bombing on August 6th 1945, only to die 10 years later from leukaemia caused by the dose of radiation she received. In her last months she set herself the goal of folding 1000 origami cranes. Now the paper crane – *orizuru* in Japanese – has become a symbol of peace. Thousands of folded cranes flank the Children's Peace Monument, bringing a riot of colour to this most poignant of memorials. And, overlooking the

Peace Memorial Park is the recently added Orizuru Tower with murals from local artists imagining a bright future and a huge glass tank stretching from ground to roof into which visitors are invited to drop their own folded cranes with a thought or a prayer for peace.

Hiroshima as a city is vibrant, young, beautiful, held in a ring of high hills. It bears the story of 6 August 1945 and what transpired in the world thereafter lightly but seriously. I had a strong impression as a visitor of being invited to become part of that story-telling, that holding. At the top of the Orizuru Tower, as I let go of my origami crane with a prayer, and watched it fly in spinning motion down to join the million or more already collected, I had a profound sense of standing in hope alongside countless others of all nations. As we mark this anniversary of V-J Day, may we all take a part together to hold the story of the past





carefully and commit ourselves to the cause of peace for the sake of the generations that are to come.

Prayer prompts:

- give thanks for all who gave their lives in the pursuit of peace in World War II and other conflicts.
- pray for veterans and citizens who still bear the mental and physical scars of conflict.
- ask for God's wisdom and courage in the task of holding and pursuing peace and understanding between nations in today's world.

The Revd Canon Emma Davies
Canon Precentor

Church of Ireland: Diocese of Kilmore,
Elphin and Ardagh, Bishop Ferran Glenfield

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark:
Diocese of Aarhus,
Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen

EPC:
Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger

The Scottish Episcopal Church

MON 18 AUG Diocese of Trichy

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the Property Department
Southern Nyanza (Kenya)

TUES 19 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Intercultural Worshipping Communities & Racial Justice Team
Nzara (South Sudan)

WED 20 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Church Buildings Team
Bernard, abbot, teacher of the faith, 1153

William and Catherine Booth, founders of the Salvation Army, 1912, 1890

'What does God want with us? He wants us just to be and to do. He wants us to be like His Son and then do as His Son did; and when we come to that He will shake the world through us!' - *Catherine Booth*

'I insist on woman's equality. Every officer and soldier should hold to it that woman is as important, as valuable, as capable, and as necessary to the progress and the happiness of the world as man.' -
William Booth *Del Occidental (Mexico)*

THURS 21 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our IT Department
Offa (Nigeria)

FRI 22 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Finance Department
Ogbaru (Nigeria)

SAT 23 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Generous Giving Team
Ogbia (Nigeria)



5 Diocesan Priorities continued from p32

**Diocesan Strategic Priorities -
New Communities**

As we look to fulfil our vision of the Kingdom of God we seek not only the renewal of our existing churches and fresh expressions but also to create and grow new communities so that we can reach and serve more people who wouldn't otherwise 'do' Church.

Heavenly Father, we pray for your blessing on all those involved in pioneering, church-planting, and evangelism in our diocese: Fill them with wisdom, patience, perseverance, humility and courage. Enable them to share their gifts generously.

Give them curious minds and compassionate hearts to see the face of Christ in all whom they encounter. Inspire them with your love that they may worthily minister in the name of Your precious Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Diocesan Strategic Priorities -
Reconciling Communities**

In seeking to become Reconciling Communities, we hope to model the restoration of relationships with one another, with creation, and with God which is the heart of the gospel, and to embody the unity and diversity of the Triune God in whose image we are individually and corporately made.

Loving God, you have reconciled us in Christ Jesus and have given us the ministry of reconciliation. We pray for all those from whom we are estranged.

Bring healing to strained or broken relationships. Forgive us for the times we have wronged others, whether by ignorance, neglect, or intention. Grant us the courage and the grace to seek their forgiveness and opportunity to make amends.

Where others have wronged us, grant us a gracious spirit, that we might forgive even as we have been forgiven in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Diocesan Strategic Priorities -
Eco Communities**

An Eco Community is a worshipping community which recognises and embodies caring for creation as intrinsic to the Gospel through:

- Obedience to God's command to care for God's creation and enable it to flourish
- Worship to join with all creation in worshipping our Creator through our prayer, praise and practice
- Discipleship to follow the example of Christ by living in full relationship with God, each other and all of creation, with a commitment to actively learning together
- Justice to recognise the global effect of the environmental crisis and to advocate for those most affected by climate breakdown

Eternal God, whose Spirit moved over the face of the deep bringing forth light and life; by that same Spirit, renew your creation, and restore your image in your people. Turn us from careless tenants to faithful stewards, that your threefold blessing of clean air, pure water and rich earth may be the inheritance of everything that has the breath of life and one generation may proclaim to another the wonder of your works; through Jesus Christ, your living Word, in whom the fullness of your glory is revealed. Amen.

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:
Diocese of Espoo, Bishop Kaisamari Hintikka

Scottish Episcopal Church: Diocese of
Edinburgh, Bishop John Armes

EPC: Liberia, Sierra Leone

Church of the Province of South East Asia

MON 25 AUG Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro

Please pray for our sisters and brothers in our partner diocese.

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Safeguarding Team.

Ogbomoso (Nigeria)

TUES 26 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through St Martins House & Lodge.

Ogoni (Nigeria)

WED 27 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through our Diocesan Board of Education.

Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387

O Glorious St. Monica, after a lifetime of tearful prayers, fasting, and sacrifice, you were at last granted the happiness of witnessing, both your husband's and son's conversion. After your son Augustine returned to the faith, you said: "God has granted this to me in more than abundance. What am I still doing here?" A few days later, you died happily at peace with God and His world. Grant us that same peace, faith, and acceptance of God's Will, that we may live all our years in serenity and go joyfully to our heavenly home, secure in the knowledge of eternal salvation. Amen

Ogorimagongo (Nigeria)

THURS 28 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister through the St Philip's Centre.

Augustine, bishop, teacher of the faith, 430

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, That my thoughts may all be holy. Act in me, O Holy Spirit, That my work, too, may be holy. Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, That I love but what is holy. Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, To defend all that is holy. Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, That I always may be holy. Amen

Ohaji / Egbema (Nigeria)

FRI 29 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister at Launde Abbey.

Beheading of John the Baptist.

Ohio (Episcopal Church)

SAT 30 AUG

Diocesan Staff Cycle of Prayer: For all who work and minister at Bishop's Lodge including our Communications Team.

John Bunyan, Spiritual writer, 1688.

"Prayer is a sincere, sensible, affectionate pouring out of the heart or soul to God, through Christ, in the strength and assistance of the Holy Spirit, for such things as God has promised, or according to his Word, for the good of the church, with submission in faith to the will of God." Amen

Southern Ohio (Episcopal Church)



the Episcopal Church in Wyoming

Link Diocese of Wyoming

Building on our frontier pioneering history, the Episcopal Church in Wyoming is focused on seeing the message of Christ taken to "new frontiers," through an ongoing exploration of spiritual discovery that engages the frontiers of our hearts, minds and communities.

The Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming covers the State of Wyoming. The state is sparsely populated with mostly small rural communities. The west of the state is dominated by Yellowstone National Park. The primary industry is coal, oil and gas production. In the centre of the Wyoming is the Wind River Reservation – home to the Eastern Shoshone and Arapaho tribes. The Diocese has 54 churches and four Wisdom Centres:

- Thomas Apostle Retreat Centre – for spiritual renewal
- St Matthew's Cathedral in Laramie – exploring the intersection of faith and culture
- Wind River Reservation – learning from native culture and spirituality
- Canterbury Fellowship – engagement with students from the University of Wyoming

Social action is a core value in the diocese and churches offer a huge range of ministries that serve the most vulnerable members of their communities. The Foundation of the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming is a charitable foundation that supports its churches in social action and mission.

Ministry in the diocese has recently been restructured, forming six Mission Regions each overseen by a Missional Priest who enables

churches to engage with their communities and congregation members to exercise their gifts in the life and mission of the church.

The Diocese is currently in an episcopal vacancy with the Right Reverend Todd Ousley acting as Bishop Provisional in this time of transition.

Points for prayer

- Growth in vocations, particularly to lay ministry
- For each of the Mission Regions and their oversight priests
- For Bishop Todd as he leads the diocese in mission

Liz Rawlings

Parish Transition and Ministry Development Enabler (Vocations and Discipleship), Spirituality Advisor & Diocesan Link with Wyoming

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland:

Diocese of Turku, Archbishop Tapio Luoma, Bishop Mari Leppänen

Church of England: Diocese of York, Archbishop Stephen Cottrell, Bishop Barry Hill, Bishop Flora Winfield, Bishop Eleanor Sanderson, Bishop Stephen Race

EPC: Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Senegal

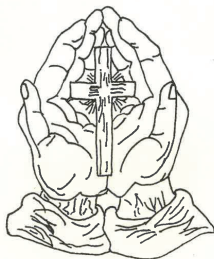
The Church of South India (United)



Bishops' Lent 2025 Call to Prayer and Fasting

A number of us devoted ourselves to prayer and fasting for the diocese and wider church during Lent 2025. As we celebrate the Easter resurrection hope of Jesus, may the prayer prompts below continue to aid your daily prayers:

- Monday:** prayer for all victims and survivors of abuse, and for all those who work to make our churches safe for children and vulnerable adults.
- Tuesday:** prayer for all who are anxious or lonely, particular those who feel they can no longer be part of the Church of England.
- Wednesday:** prayer for the appointment of a new archbishop, and for all those dioceses seeking to appoint a new bishop, and for all bishops, priests, deacons and lay ministers that we may persevere in our calling.
- Thursday:** prayer for parish and diocesan finances, that God would supply all our needs, and make us generous in giving to others.
- Friday:** prayer for the Living in Love and Faith process that we may learn to live well together in our differences.
- Saturday:** prayer for all those exploring their vocation to ministry in the church – and for many more people to come forward in response to God's call.
- Sunday:** thanksgiving for all God's good gifts, particularly the gift of God's Son Jesus Christ – may we be formed in the character of Jesus Christ. On-going prayers for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025 for the Leprosy Mission.



"If I take the wings of the morning and
settle at the farthest limits of the sea,
even there your hand shall lead me,
and your tight hand shall hold me fast."
Psalm 139:9-10

Drawn by an inmate
at HMP Leicester

SEPTEMBER

- 01 – 04 *THE PRACTICE OF JOY (CS Lewis Retreat)*
led by Andrew Swinford
- 19 – 21 *BEGINNERS RETREAT*
led by the Launde Abbey Team

OCTOBER

- 06 – 09 *ROOTED AND GROUNDED Going Deeper
Into Spiritual Practice* led by Renovaré
and the Launde Abbey Community
- 13 – 15 *REDISCOVERING THE ANCIENT PATHS*
with Bernard of Clairvaux
led by Jenny Campbell
- 20 – 23 *STEPPING INTO THE BIBLE*
with Peter Sills

NOVEMBER

- 11 – 14 *LOOK AT THE BIRDS RETREAT*
A Birdwatching Retreat with Mark Winter
- 14 – 16 *MEDITATION AND THE CONTEMPORARY
WISDOM OF MEISTER ECKHART*
led by Chris Whittington
- 17 – 20 *LIVING, BREATHING AND MOVING:*
Connecting with God with Our Whole Body
led by Hope Stockman & Rhona Knight

DECEMBER

- 08 – 12 *ICON PAINTING RETREAT*
led by Peter Murphy
- 09 – 12 *THE 'I AM' SAYINGS*
led by Rhona Knight

Launde Abbey

Café

Take time out to soak up the tranquil and beautiful surroundings of Launde Abbey. Or for the more active, stride out and explore the rolling hills and woodland in this unspoilt corner of Leicestershire. Whatever your activity, come and find refreshment at the Launde Abbey café which serves a hot and cold menu and homemade cakes daily.

Away Days

Considering a parish or deanery away day this year? Or maybe your own private retreat? Come and experience the sanctuary that is Launde Abbey. Contact the team and we will help you plan your day.

For more information and to book please call or see our website

01572 717254

www.laundeabbey.org.uk

Launde Abbey, East Norton
Leicestershire LE7 9XB



ORDINATIONS 2025 DIOCESE OF LEICESTER



‘God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light’.

From the Ordination Service, Common Worship

As ordination season approaches, we would like to encourage everyone to pray for all those who are to be ordained priest and deacon this year.

In the diocese, we will ordain five new priests and at least four new deacons offering both stipendiary and self-supporting ministry, and coming from the breadth of the Church of England across all its diversity in theological conviction, practice and understanding.

The **priests** will be ordained by the Bishop of Loughborough, Bishop Saju Muthalaly, in the Cathedral on **Saturday 28 June 2025** at 4pm.

There will be two services in the Cathedral for **deacons**. The first will be on **Sunday 29 June 2025** at 10.30am, where the deacons will be ordained by Bishop Saju.

The second deaconing service will be on **Monday 30 June 2025** at 7pm, when the ordaining bishop will be the newly consecrated Bishop of Richborough, Bishop Luke Irving-Capel, as we enact the Five Guiding Principles adopted by General Synod in 2014: https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2017-10/the_five_guiding_principles.pdf

The See of Richborough is affiliated with the Anglo-Catholic wing of the Church of England. You can find more information here.

We are extremely grateful to the Dean for her generous hosting of all three services in the Cathedral, and look forward to welcoming everyone from across the diocese to one or any of these services, as together we celebrate God’s call to these women and men in the diocese and acknowledge our many and varied journeys in faith, together as part of one Body of Christ.

As we take time to pray for our ordinands, we also have the opportunity to seek God’s guidance for our own future, reflecting on our calling and vocation. That might be anything from lay minister to priest, bell ringer, Sunday school leader and PCC Officer, to some of the most unsung yet generous givers of hospitality and loving service in our worshipping communities who clean up after us, make teas and coffees, and volunteer in the church and community.



Ordinations 2026 and beyond – Diocese of Leicester

We would like to take this opportunity to let you know of a change in timing of ordination services in the future; again, asking for your prayers for those who will be ordained and all those who are currently in preparation and training for this.

Due to a number of considerations, and in collaboration with the Cathedral, Launde Abbey, the Bishops and the Diocese, the priest and deacon ordinations in the Diocese of Leicester **will move from Petertide to Michaelmas, beginning in 2026.**

Future dates for ordination services

Saturday 3 (2 x services) & Sunday 4 October 2026

Saturday 2 & Sunday 3 October 2027

Saturday 30 September & Sunday 1 October 2028

Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 September 2029

Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 September 2030

Ordinands beginning their deacon year will be licensed as Lay Workers under Canon E7 from 1 July of that year, to help them embed in a parish and move house, giving a more phased build-up to their ordination.

You might like to use the Collect for Vocation as an aid to your prayers:

*God our Father, Lord of all the world,
through your Son you have called us into the fellowship
of your universal Church: hear our prayer for your faithful people
that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love,
and give to your servants now to be ordained the needful gifts of grace;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.*

All: Amen.

What is God's plan for you?

<https://www.churchofengland.org/life-events/vocations>



Diocese of
Leicester