

Carlisle Diocese Prayer Diary

December 2019



The **Methodist** Church 

'Four churches journeying together'

*Praying with our fellow Christians in Cumbria,
together with our link dioceses of
Northern Argentina, Stavanger and Zululand*

**This month we focus on the Ecumenical County
and the charities supported by our churches.**



God for All: By 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their life
<http://www.godforall.org.uk/making-it-happen/prayer-resources/>

Editorial Policy on Saints Days: *not all the saints are remembered in the prayer diary from the Lectionary. A selection is chosen each month some of whom have a relevance to Cumbria.*

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SUNDAY 1 December

Advent Sunday - Charles de Foucauld

Charles Eugène de Foucauld was born 15 September 1858 and died 1 December 1916. He was a French Catholic priest living among the Tuareg in the Sahara in Algeria. He was assassinated in 1916 and is considered by the Catholic Church to be a martyr.

Anglican Communion Pray for mission agencies and their work throughout the Anglican Communion.

Ecumenical and Charity Giving thanks for the anniversary of the Declaration of the Ecumenical Partnership, and for our companion denominations.

Our Bishops Bishop James, St Andrew's Patronal Festival, Kirkcubright.
Advent Service and Launch of Carlisle Central Mission Community, Carlisle Cathedral.
Confirmation Service, St Pauls Seaton.
Bishop Emma, Beacon Team Mission Community Launch, St Burneside.

God for All: *As we gather in all the statistics in for Fresh Expressions, please pray for all those involved in Fresh Expressions or trying different ways of doing church.*

Vocations: *Pray for those who are beginning to explore a calling to the ordained ministry that they would hear God clearly speaking to them.*

Monday 2 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Seoul, Province of Korea, The Rt Revd Peter Lee
Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador, Province of Canada, The Rt Revd Geoffrey Peddle.
The clergy and people.

The Province of the Anglican Church of Korea was founded in 1992. There are three dioceses: Pusan, Seoul and Taejon.

The Anglican Witness in Canada started in the eighteenth century with the Church Missionary Society and the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Eucharist was first celebrated in Frobisher Bay in 1578; the first Church building was St. Paul's, Halifax, in 1750.

Ecumenical and Charity For James Tebbutt Methodist District Church, Sarah Moore Area Moderator of the United Reformed Church, Roger Batt of the Salvation Army.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Prayer Rota, House of Lords.
Bishop Emma, Carol Service, Auction Mart, M6j36 Auction Mart, South Lakes.

Tuesday 3 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of the Seychelles, Province of Indian Ocean, The Most Revd James Richard Wong Yin Song, Primate.
Diocese of Eastern Oregon, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd Patrick Bell.
The clergy and people.

The Province of the Indian Ocean includes three countries: Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles it has seven Dioceses. French is the official language of the Province.

Anglicanism was brought to the New World by explorers and colonists with the first celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. There was no resident Bishop for nearly two hundred years, causing problems during the American Revolution. In 1784, the Scottish Episcopal Church consecrated the first American Bishop.

Ecumenical and charity David Newlove and the Methodist churches of North Cumbria Circuit; Nick Mark and the URC congregations at Carlisle, Brampton, Bewcastle and Penrith.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Bishop James, Prayer Rota, House of Lords.
Bishop Emma, Carlisle Archdeaconry Rural Deans' Meeting,
Penrith.

Wednesday 4 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Sheffield, Province of York, England, The Rt Revd Pete Wilcox. The Rt Revd Peter Burrows.
Diocese of Eastern Zambia, Province of Central Africa, The Rt Revd William Mchombo.
Diocese of Easton, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd Santosh Marray. The clergy and people.

The Diocese of Sheffield was founded in 1914 and includes Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster and the surrounding areas and including Goole. It is part of the province of York, one of two in England.

The Universities Mission to Central Africa and the Church Missionary Society began work in 1864 and 1878 at Mpwapwa. The Province was inaugurated in 1970 following the division of the Province of East Africa into the Province of Kenya and the Province of Tanzania.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity David Harkinson and the URC congregations of Whitehaven and Silloth; Phil Jackson and the Methodist churches of the Solway Circuit; David Opie Chaplain to Sellafield.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Bishop James, Prayer Rota, House of Lords.
Bishop Emma, God For All Strategy Implementation Group Meeting, Penrith. Clergy Spice Retreat, Rydal Hall.

God for All: *The Strategic Investment Board meets on 4 December in London to consider the SDF bid; we seek God's grace to discern His will for the future ministry of our churches.*

Thursday 5 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Shinyanga, Province of Tanzania, The Rt Revd Johnson Chinyong'ole.
Diocese of Eau Claire, The Episcopal Church, The Revd William Jay Lambert. The clergy and people.

The Province of Tanzania was formed in 1970, following the division of the Province of East Africa into the Province of Kenya and the Province of Tanzania.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity Jennet Macleod Co-Leader of the United South West Cumbria Area and the URC congregations of Barrow and Furness.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Bishop James, Prayer Rota, House of Lords.
Bishop Emma, Clergy Spice Retreat, Rydal Hall.

Friday 6 December

St Nicholas

Nicholas dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships. Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Shyira, Province of Rwanda, The Most Revd Laurent Mbanda, *Primate*.
Diocese of Edinburgh, Church of Scotland, The Rt Revd John Armes. The clergy and people.

The Scottish Episcopal Church is known as a Province of the Anglican Communion. Within the Province there are seven Diocese across Scotland and the Islands.

The Province of the Episcopal Church of Rwanda came into being in 1992. It had previously been a part of the enormous Province of Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi. It has nine dioceses with around 200 parishes.

Ecumenical and charity Martin Coe and the URC congregation of Dalton in Furness, Grange over Sands, and Windermere; Jo Rand and the Methodist Circuit of South Lakes.

Our Bishops Bishop Emma, Clergy Spice Retreat, Rydal Hall.

Saturday 7 December

St Ambrose

Ambrose was the Roman consul for two provinces when riots occurred over the appointment of the Bishop of Milan. Someone (maybe a child) cried 'Ambrose for Bishop'. The crowd took up the cry and the emperor agreed to his appointment and he was consecrated within a week. On several occasions, he opposed the power of the emperors. Once he was besieged in his cathedral from Palm Sunday to Easter Day by imperial troops but he kept the congregation singing hymns and the emperor finally gave way. Ambrose, who wrote several major treatises, is recognised as one of the four Latin Doctors of the Church.

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Shyira, province of Rwanda, The Rt Revd Samuel M Mugisha.
Diocese of Edmonton, province of *Canada*, The Rt Revd Jane Alexander. The clergy and people.

For notes on Rwanda, see 6 December.

For notes on Canada, see 2 December.

Ecumenical and charity Martin Coe and the URC congregations of Kendal and Sedbergh; Wendy Thornton and the Kendal Methodist Circuit.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Teaching Day, St Michael's Workington.

God for All: *Local Lay Ministers are meeting together on 7 December, please pray for their ongoing contributions to parish life and pastoral care.*

SUNDAY 8 December *Advent 2*

Anglican Communion Pray for the work of the Mothers' Union around the world
Sheran Harper, Worldwide President and Bev Jullien, Chief Executive.

Ecumenical and charity Stephen Radford Secretary to the Methodist Synod.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Communion Service, Dacre.

God for All: *Pray for the 'OpShops' as they prepare to become an independent charity working alongside the Diocese.*

Monday 9 December

Anglican Communion Parish of Shyogwe, Province of Rwanda, The Rt Revd Jered Kalimba.
Parish of Egba, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Emmanuel Adekunle.
Parish of Lafia, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Godwin A Robinson. The clergy and people.

For notes on Rwanda, see 6 December.

Prior to 1990, the northern two thirds of Nigeria was largely blocked, however eight new bishops were consecrated, paid for by Lagos parishes. The administrative headquarters are in Abuja.

Ecumenical and charity Paul Saunders and the Keswick & Cockermouth Circuit.

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Bishops, London.

Tuesday 10 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Sialkot, in the Province of Pakistan, The Rt Revd Alwin John Samuel.
Diocese of Egba West in the Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Samuel Ajani.
The clergy and people.

There are nine Dioceses in the Province of the Church in Pakistan: Arabian Gulf, Faisalabad, Hyderabad, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, Peshawar, Raiwind and Sialkot.

For notes on Nigeria, see 9 December.

Ecumenical and charity Stephen Radford and the Kirkby Stephen, Appleby and Tebay Circuit;

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Bishops, London.
Bishop Emma, Ordinands Dinner, Holme Croft.

Wednesday 11 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Singapore, province of South East Asia, The Rt Revd Rennis Ponniah and The Rt Revd Low Jee King.
Diocese of Egbu, the province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Geoffrey Okoroafor.
Diocese of Egypt, Jerusalem & Middle East, The Rt Revd Mouneer Hanna Anis.
Diocese of Egypt, Jerusalem & Middle East, Vacancy

Diocese of Egypt, Jerusalem & Middle East, The Rt Revd Samy Fawzy.

The Church of South East Asia has four Dioceses in the countries of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

For notes on Nigeria, see 9 December.

The Church covers the four dioceses of Jerusalem, Iran, Egypt, Cyprus and the Gulf. The Jerusalem bishopric was founded in 1841 and became an archbishopric in 1957. Reorganization in January 1976 ended the archbishopric and combined the Diocese of Jordan, Lebanon, and Syria with the Jerusalem bishopric after a nineteen-year separation. Around the same time, the new Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf was formed and the Diocese of Egypt was revived.

Ecumenical and charity

David Milner and Tim Cooke and the Penrith Methodist Circuit.

Our Bishops

Bishop James, House of Bishops, London.

Thursday 12 December

Anglican Communion

Diocese of Sittwe, province of Myanmar, The Rt Revd James Min Dein.

Diocese of Eha – Amufu, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Daniel Olinya. The clergy and people.

Anglican chaplains and missionaries worked in Burma in the early and mid-nineteenth century. The Province of Myanmar was formed in 1970, nine years after the declaration of Buddhism as the state religion and four years after all foreign missionaries were forced to leave. The Church of Myanmar has 6 Dioceses.

For notes on the province of Nigeria, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity Alastair Smeaton and the URC congregations at Workington, Harrington and Cockermouth; Phil Jackson and the Methodist churches of the Solway Circuit.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Bishops Diocesan Meetings, Keswick.
Bishop Emma, Bishop's Diocesan Bishop Meeting, Bishop's House, Keswick.

Friday 13 December

St Lucy

Lucy, martyr 304, is one of the most famous of the early virgin martyrs. A fourth century inscription in Sicily mentions Lucy's feast day who is thought to have been martyred during the Diocletian persecutions. The celebration of her feast day in Sweden (near the winter solstice) is a celebration of virginity. By the 7th century her story had spread to England and Aldham, Bishop of Sherborne, wrote extensively about her in prose and verse.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Sittwe, province of Myanmar, The Rt Revd Moses Tun Pa.
Diocese of Ekiti, province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Christopher Tayo Omotunde.
Diocese of Ekiti Kwara, province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Andrew Ajayi.
Diocese of Ekiti Oke, province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Isaac Olubowale.
Diocese of Ekiti West, province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Rufus V A Adepoju. The clergy and people.

For notes on the province of Nigeria, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity David Newlove and the Wigton Circuit.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Derwent Deanery Chapter, Keswick.

Saturday 14 December

St John of the Cross

John became a Carmelite friar, studied at Salamanca and was ordained in 1567. When, in 1571, Teresa of Avila became prioress of the house at Avila, she sent for John to be the spiritual director. But the unreformed Carmelites captured John and went to extreme lengths to try and make him renounce the new movement. After eight months in captivity he escaped with many of the poems he had written and also wrote much, later, both poetry and prose.

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Sodor & Man, Church of England, The Rt Revd Peter Eagles.
El Camino Real, *The Episcopal Church*, The Rt Revd Mary Gray-Reeves. The clergy and people.

The Diocese of Sodor & Man was founded in 447 and is England's smallest Diocese.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity Bishop Emma and the members of the SSG.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Teaching Day, St James' Carlisle.

SUNDAY 15 December

Advent 3

Anglican Communion Diocese of Sokoto, province Nigeria, The Rt Revd Augustin Omole.
Diocese of El Salvador, province of Central America, The Rt Revd Juan David Alvarado Melgar. The clergy and people.

For notes on Nigeria, see 3 December.

Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America is one of the newest in the Anglican Communion and is made up of the dioceses of Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. With the exception of Costa Rica, all had been

part of the Episcopal Church of the United States of America. The Church was introduced by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel when England administered two colonies in Central America, Belize (1783-1982) and Miskitia (1740-1894).

Ecumenical and charity

The local Churches Together group and its member churches.

Our Bishops

Bishop James, Eucharist, Troutbeck. Bishop James, Leaving Service
Revd Sarah Moore President United Reformed Church Cumbria, Penrith URC.
Bishop Emma, Leaving Service for Sarah Moore, RUC Penrith.

God for All: *Pray that churches would make the most of the opportunities that Christmas offers to intrigue people with the good news of Jesus.*

Monday 16 December

Anglican Communion

The Diocese of South Ankole in the province of *Uganda*.
The Rt Revd Nathan Ahimbisibwe.
Eldoret (*Kenya*) The Rt Revd Christopher Ruto.
The clergy and people.

The Anglican Province of Uganda has tripled in size in the last 10 years and there are now 29 Dioceses. Following Uganda becoming an independent Province, and the Province of Rwanda, Burundi, and Zaire, in 1992 the three countries of the united Province each gained independence under their own individual Metropolitan Archbishop. In 1997, to reflect the change in name of the nation, the church became known as the Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo.

The Church became part of the Province of East Africa established in 1960, but by 1970 Kenya was formed into a

separate Province with 29 Anglican dioceses. The first Kenyan Bishops were consecrated in 1955.

For notes on the Anglican Church in Rwanda see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity The Methodist Church in Argentina link with Cumbria, for all that has been built on this partnership since 1999; Sue Jansen link partner.

Our Bishops Bishop Emma, The Big Vision Project Meeting, Kirkby Lonsdale.

Tuesday 17 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese of South Dakota, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd John Tarrant.
The Diocese of El-Obeid, Province of Sudan, The Rt Revd Ismail Gabriel Abudigin the clergy and people.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

The Anglican Church has increased considerably and The Episcopal Church of Sudan decided to rename itself as Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan in November 2013 and to divide the Episcopal Church of South Sudan into eight internal provinces.

Ecumenical and charity Churches Together in Cumbria Executive Committee; Emma Brown CTIC Administrator; David Richardson Treasurer; Shelagh Goldie Social Responsibility Officer and Yvonne Povey Dementia Project Adviser.



Wednesday 18 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of South Kerala, province of South India, The Rt Revd Dharmaraj Rasalam.
Diocese of Ely, Canterbury, England The Rt Revd Stephen David Conway and The Rt Revd David Thomson
Diocese of Embu, Province of Kenya, The Rt Revd David Muriithi Ileri.
The clergy and people.

The Church was inaugurated in 1947 by the union of the South India United Church (itself a union of Congregational and Presbyterian/Reformed traditions), the southern Anglican diocese of the Church of India, Burma, Ceylon, and the Methodist Church in South India. It is one of the four United Churches in the Anglican Communion. There are 22 Dioceses.

Diocese of Ely was founded in 1109 it includes Cambridgeshire, except for an area in the north-west (Peterborough) and three parishes in the south (Chelmsford); the western quarter of Norfolk; one parish in Bedfordshire. It is part of the province of Canterbury.

For notes on Kenya, see 16 December.

Ecumenical and charity Churches Together in Cumbria – Richard Snow, Nicola Reynolds and Nick Mark Denominational Officers.

Our Bishops Bishop Emma, Meeting of Suffragan Bishops.

Thursday 19 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of South Rwenzori, Province of Uganda, The Rt Revd Jackson Nzerebende.
Diocese of Enugu, Province of Nigeria, The Most Revd Emmanuel Chukwuma.

Diocese of Enugu North, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd
Sosthenes Eze.
The clergy and people.

For the province of Uganda, please see 16 December.

For notes on Nigeria, please see 9 December.

*Ecumenical
and charity* Boxes of Hope, those who have contributed boxes, those
who took them to Romania, and all who will receive the
boxes.

Our Bishops Bishop Emma, Day for Retreat.

God for All *Pray for the Messy church 'Christmas special' for families in
Braithwaite school on the morning of 19th December.*

Friday 20 December

*Anglican
Communion* Diocese of South West Tanganyika province of Tanzania,
The Rt Revd Matthew Mhagama.
Diocese of Esan, province of Nigeria, The Most Revd Friday
Imaekhai.
The clergy and people.

*For notes on the Anglican Church in Tanzania, see 5
December.*

For notes on Nigeria, see 9 December.

*Ecumenical
and charity* Methodist Homes for the Aged, Woodlands at Penrith and
Amathea at Workington, their staff, chaplains, residents and
families they support.

Saturday 21 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Etche, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Precious Nwala.
Diocese of Etsako, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Jacob Bada.
The clergy and people.

For notes on Nigeria, see 9 December.

Ecumenical and charity Cerebral Palsy Cumbria, for the families support and those coping with cerebral palsy.

SUNDAY 22 December Advent 4

Anglican Communion Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement.
His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome.
His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch.
The Revd Dr Olav Fykse Tveit, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches.
Bishop Ivan M Abrahams, General Secretary World Methodist Council.
The Reverend Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

Ecumenical and charity Hospice at Home Cumbria for those who are cared for, their families and all who support.

God for All *For all those who will attend our Christmas Services, that they may hear and respond to the Gospel afresh.*

Monday 23 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Eyo in the province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Innocent Ordu.
Diocese of Exeter, Canterbury, England, The Rt Revd Robert Atwell.
The Rt Revd Nick McKinnel.
The Rt Revd Jackie Searle.
The clergy and people.

For notes on the Anglican Church in Nigeria, see 9 December.

The Diocese was founded at Crediton in 909 but transferred to Exeter in 1050. The Diocese covers the county borders of Devon.

Ecumenical and charity SANDS; those who have lost children in years past and all who feel the pain of loss especially at Christmas.

Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

Anglican Communion Diocese of Ezo, province of South Sudan, The Rt Revd John Kereboro Zawo.
Diocese of Faisalabad, province of Pakistan, The Rt Revd John Samuel. The clergy and people.

In the Episcopal Church of The Sudan, there are 5 million Anglicans and almost three thousand Anglican clergy. The Anglican Church has increased considerably and The Episcopal Church of Sudan decided to rename itself as Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan in November 2013 and to divide the Episcopal Church of South Sudan into eight internal provinces.

For notes on Pakistan, see 10 December.

*Ecumenical
and charity*

The Children's Society and Christingle Services being held, those attending and those assisted by the fundraising.

Wednesday 25 December Christmas Day – Nativity of our Lord

*Anglican
Communion*

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of Bethlehem.
Diocese of Falkland Islands, province of the Falkland Islands, The Rt Revd Timothy Thornton.
Diocese of False Bay, Province of Southern Africa, The Rt Revd Margaret Brenda Vertue.
Diocese of Federal Ministries, *The Episcopal Church*, The Rt Revd Carl Wright.
Diocese of Federal Ministries, *The Episcopal Church*, The Rt Revd James Magness.
The clergy and people.

In 1977 the Archbishop of Canterbury resumed Episcopal jurisdiction over the Falkland Islands and South Georgia which had been relinquished in 1974 to the Church of the Southern Cone of America.

The Province of Southern Africa is the oldest in Africa. British Anglicans met for worship in Cape Town after 1806, with the first Bishop appointed in 1847. The 23 dioceses of the Province extend beyond the Republic of South Africa and include the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (St Helena and Tristan da Cunha), Mozambique (Lebombo and Niassa), the Republic of Namibia, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Kingdom of Swaziland and Angola.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity Crisis, all those fed and housed over Christmas, homeless shelters and those who they support.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Cathedral Christmas Day Service, Carlisle Cathedral.
Bishop Emma, Windermere Christmas Services.

Thursday 26 December *St Stephen*

The first martyr of the Christian faith. As deacon was one of the seven Hellenists who were appointed to care for the Greek Christians. Brought before the Sanhedrin and accused of blasphemy he made an eloquent defence (Acts 7.2-53). He was condemned to death and stoned, asking God to forgive his executors.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Fianarantsoa, province of the Indian Ocean, The Rt Revd Gilbert Rateloso Rakotondravelo.
Diocese of Florida, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd John Howard.
The clergy and people.

For notes on the Indian ocean see 3 December.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity The many charities supported by regular donations and for the care they provide nationally and internationally.

Friday 27 December *St John the Evangelist*

Traditionally held to be the Apostle John, son of Zebedee, brother of James the Great, the author of the Fourth Gospel, possibly of the three NT Letters and the Revelation of John. John had a long life and seems to have outlived all the other apostles and is the only one who did not die a martyr's death.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Fond du Lac, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd Matthew Alan Gunter.
Diocese of Fort Worth, The Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd Scott Mayer.
The clergy and people.

For notes on the Episcopal Church, see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity The links with the church overseas; Partnership in World Mission Committee; the Diocesan Link Committees.

Saturday 28 December The Holy Innocents

The account of Herod's edict to kill all male children under two years of age in Bethlehem can be found in Matthew 2.1-12 and 16-23. The parallel with Pharaoh's slaying of the first-born of Israel (Exodus 1.13-22) is strong. Bethlehem was only a village and modern scholars think the number of babies involved would not have been large.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Fredericton (*Canada*) The Rt Revd David Edwards.
Freetown (Sierra Leone) (*West Africa*) The Rt Revd Thomas Arnold Ikunika Wilson.
The clergy and people.

For notes on Canada, see 28 December.

Church of the Province of West Africa includes Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and The Gambia.

Ecumenical and charity The links with the church overseas; Partnership in World Mission Committee; the Diocesan Link Committees.

SUNDAY 29 December Christmas 1 St Thomas Becket

Thomas Becket. As Archdeacon of Canterbury was involved in getting the Pope's approval to Henry II's accession and was the King's Chancellor, friend and a statesmen and diplomatist. He was, reluctantly, persuaded to become Archbishop but, having done so changed his way of life and fearlessly opposed the King's depredations on the Church. After six years in exile he came back to England with papal authority to suspend the Archbishop of York and six other bishops who had collaborated with the King. On Christmas Day 1170, the King, in a rage, asked who would rid him of his troublesome Archbishop; four knights hacked him down in his cathedral causing universal horror.

Anglican Communion Diocese of Gahini, Province of Rwanda, The Rt Revd Alexis Bilindabagabo.
Diocese of Gahini, province of Rwanda, The Rt Revd Manasseh Gahima.
Diocese of Gambia, province of West Africa, The Rt Revd James Allen Yaw Odico.
The clergy and people.

For notes on the Province of Rwanda see 6 December.

For notes on West Africa see 28 December.

Ecumenical and charity Church Action on Poverty, those who support them and the projects that they sponsor.

God for All: The Programme Management Office in God for All will have been going for a year in December – please pray for wisdom that as we review what we have been doing and look to plan for 2020.

Monday 30 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese Gasabo in the province of Rwanda, The Rt Revd Onesphore Rwaje.
The Diocese of Gboko, in the province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Emmanuel Nyitsse. The clergy and people.

For notes on Rwanda, see 6 December.

For notes on Nigeria, see 9 December.

Ecumenical and charity Christian Aid, the link partners and projects, the staff and those who support the charity.

Monday 31 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese of George in the province of Southern Africa, The Rt Revd Brian Marajh.
Diocese of Georgia in the Episcopal Church, The Rt Revd Scott Benhase
The clergy and people.

For notes on the Anglican Church in Nigeria see 22 December.

The Province of Southern Africa is the oldest in Africa. British Anglicans met for worship in Cape Town after 1806, with the first Bishop appointed in 1847. The dioceses in the Province extend beyond the Republic of South Africa and include the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (St Helena and Tristan da Cunha), Mozambique (Lebombo and Niassa), the Republic of Namibia, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Kingdom of Swaziland and Angola.

For notes on the Episcopal Church see 3 December.

Ecumenical and charity The Bible Society, their work of translation; Open Doors, their work of supporting the persecuted church and Christians.

God for All Prayer

God for all,
You reached out to the world in your Son Jesus Christ.
Help us to reach out in faith and love and witness to all.

God for all, you send your Holy Spirit
to empower and gift your Church.
By your Spirit help us grow in unity,
grow as followers of Jesus Christ,
and grow in your kingdom
in Cumbria and in this world Amen



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www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/our-faith/prayer.html***