

Cumbria Prayer Diary



Follow Daily **Care Deeply**
Speak Boldly **Tread Gently**

December 2023 & January 2024

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

For full information of the Anglican Communion please visit

<https://www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer.aspx>

If you wish to have a physical copy sent to you please let Sarah Marshall-Ellison know via email Sarah.Marshall-Ellison@carlisle-diocese.org.uk

At the end of the prayer diary are prayers for Peace in Ukraine and the Vision Prayer.

**Week Forty-Seven Theme – Barrow & Furness
Deanery
Sunday 26th November – Christ the King**

Deanery – pray for our Mission Communities, for all denominations and leaders.

God for All - Pray for IME1 students (ordinands and Readers in training) starting their contrasting parish placements at the start of Advent

World Church - The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Bishop Rob – Bicentenary Celebration Service at St John's Workington and Confirmation Service at St Nicholas, Flimby

Monday 27th November

Deanery – for the new Mission Community leaders and for those in local leadership.

World Church - The Diocese of Ayod – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tuesday 28th November

Deanery – for all the churches of the Mission Communities, giving thanks for a desire to work together in mission.

World Church - The Diocese of Badagry – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday 29th November

Deanery – for all those working with young people, for Messy Church and for the deanery NYC

World Church - The Diocese of Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Bishop Rob – House of Bishops meeting

Thursday 30th November

St Andrew

Andrew led his brother to meet Jesus. He is the patron saint of all missionaries and fishermen. As patron saint of Scotland his flag is a reminder of his martyrdom for the faith.

Deanery – for local schools and for all those building bridges between the Mission Communities and the families in their communities

World Church - The Diocese of Ballarat – The Anglican Church of Australia

Bishop Rob – leading Penrith Deanery Chapter Day at Rydal Hall

Friday 1st December

Charles de Foucauld

Charles died in 1916 living as a hermit among the Tuareg of Algeria. Despite not achieving his aim of

founding a contemplative community in his lifetime, his example has inspired the worldwide community of the Little Brothers of Jesus. He is best known for his personal prayer of abandonment:

*Father, I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.*

Whatever you may do, I thank you:

I am ready for all, I accept all.

*Let only your will be done in me,
and in all your creatures –*

I wish no more than this, O Lord.

Into your hands, I commend my soul:

I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,

*for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,
to surrender myself into your hands without reserve,*

and with boundless confidence,

*for you are my Father. **Amen***

Deanery – for the elderly and housebound in the community, for all carers and the support of the local church congregations

World Church - The Diocese of Bangor – The Church in Wales

Saturday 2nd December

Deanery – for the opportunity to minister to those in greatest need, and to offer a faithful witness to the gospel.

World Church – The Diocese of Banks and Torres – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Week Forty-Eight Theme – Ecumenical County Sunday 3rd December – Advent Sunday

Ecumenical – giving thanks for the seventh anniversary of the signing of the ecumenical covenant, and the twelfth anniversary of Cumbria as an ecumenical county. For our partner and companion denominations. For the developing sense of our common mission

God for All - Pray for Christian Communities across Cumbria as we seek new ways of communicating the Christmas message of hope, peace, joy and love over this season of Advent.

World Church - The Church of North India

Bishop Rob - Crosscraze Advent Service and Confirmation Service at St Paul's Seaton

Monday 4th December

Ecumenical – for all church leaders: Clare Downing and the URC North West Synod; Bishop Rob and the Carlisle Diocese; James Tebbutt and the Methodist District; Bishop Paul and the Lancaster Diocese; David Taylor and the Salvation Army; and for those who act as co-ordinators for other churches, Andrew Dodd and Baptist chapels; Bill Bewley and Society of Friends; and the Borderkirk, together with independent church fellowship.

World Church - The Diocese of Barbados – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Bishop Rob – Licensing of Vic Sekasi at St Mary Magdalene, Broughton

Tuesday 5th December

Ecumenical – for all Churches Together groups in the county, for the county President Andrew Dodd, County Social Responsibility Officer Jo Philips and Anna Chaplaincy Co-ordinator

World Church - The Diocese of Bari – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Bishop Rob – BLT meeting

Wednesday 6th December

St Nicholas

Bishop Nicolas of Myra in the fourth century. Most famous for his acts of kindness, especially on behalf of children and orphans. Over the centuries, the customs associated with him have led to the personification of gift giving in Santa Claus. Today we celebrate charities which act after his example in caring for children.

Ecumenical – for those who are part of the ecumenical governance of the county, especially for the regular church leaders' meetings, the Strategic and Operations Group meetings, as well as the DEOs for each denomination.

World Church - The Diocese of Baringo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Thursday 7th December

St Ambrose

St Ambrose was Bishop of Milan and one of the first theologians living in the fourth century. He was a firm opponent of Arianism. He is one of the Western Church's four fathers of the faith.

Ecumenical – for all our Mission Communities, giving thanks for our common mission and witness to the gospel, for innovative and creative ways to express our common discipleship as fellows of Jesus.

World Church - The Diocese of Barisal – The Church of Bangladesh

Friday 8th December

Ecumenical – for the national ecumenical structures of each denomination and for the work of Churches Together in England, especially for the new General Secretary Mike Royal.

World Church - The Diocese of Barrackpore – The Church of North India (United)

Saturday 9th December

Ecumenical – for the World Council of Churches and our brothers and sisters in countries across the world.

World Church – The Diocese of Bath and Wells – The Church of England

Bishop Rob – Ulverston Parish Church Men's Breakfast and helping out at Ladies Refresh Day in Appleby

Week Forty-Nine – RC Diocese of Lancaster & Communities of Prayer
Sunday 10th December – Advent 2

Ecumenical – for Bishop Paul Swarbrook and the RC parishes and priests of the county, for the Sisters at Boarbank and their care for all in need

God for All - Pray for the planning for *Follow the Star: Join the Song* and all those participating in the Church of England's Christmas campaign.

World Church - The Church of Pakistan

Monday 11th December

Ecumenical – for ARCIC3 and the conversations between the Diocese of Carlisle and Diocese of Lancaster over the 'Walking in the Way' report

World Church - The Diocese of Bathurst – The Anglican Church of Australia

Tuesday 12th December

Ecumenical – for Father Ted Gannon and the Spiritual Direction and Weeks of Guided Prayer in the diocese and for new links through the Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality network

World Church - The Diocese of Bauchi – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Wednesday 13th December

St Lucy

Lucy was a child from Sicily who was martyred under Diocletian. She has become a child saint who is remembered in Scandinavia countries. She is associated with the Advent message of light in darkness, hope driving out fear. The customs of giving food in memory of her are widely observed today throughout the Christian world.

Ecumenical – for all the Society of Friends and local Meeting Houses in the county

World Church – The Diocese of Belize – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

Thursday 14th December

St John of the Cross

St John was a supporter and friend of St Teresa of Avila in reforming the Carmelite Order. Kidnapped and tortured he developed a deep spirituality which found expression in ‘the dark night of the soul’. John is regarded as one of the great contemplative teachers.

Ecumenical – for the spiritual direction network, for all who offer spiritual accompaniment and all who are accompanied in their journey of faith

World Church - The Diocese of Bendigo – The Anglican Church of Australia

Friday 15th December

Ecumenical – for the local houses of prayer being established in the county, for local groups coming together to focus on the need for prayer

World Church - The Diocese of Beni – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Saturday 16th December

Ecumenical – for the new monastic communities represented in the county, praying for the Iona and Northumbrian community groups

World Church - The Diocese of Benin – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Week Fifty Theme – Methodist Church and Children's Charities

Sunday 17th December – Advent 3

Ecumenical – Pray for James Tebbutt as District Chair, Janice Rusling Synod Secretary and Glynis Hayton District Treasurer

God for All - Pray for the Bishop's Christmas messages in various media, for the online resources and for the national campaign.

World Church - The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

Monday 18th December

Ecumenical – for the District's Circuits; for all ministers, stewards and churches locally

World Church - The Diocese of Bentiu – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tuesday 19th December

Ecumenical – for the work of Graham Kay as District Safeguarding Officer and for close working between all the denominations of the ecumenical county in this important area of responsibility

World Church - The Diocese of Bermuda – (Extra Provincial)

Wednesday 20th December

Ecumenical – for all Methodist Deacons and their District Guild, we give thanks for their role within local Mission Communities

World Church - The Diocese of Bethlehem – The Episcopal Church

Thursday 21st December

Ecumenical – for the links between the District and worldwide Methodism, giving thanks for link to the Argentinian Methodist Church

World Church – The Diocese of Bhopal – The Church of North India (United)

Bishop Rob – Churches Together in Cumbria meeting

Friday 22nd December

Charities – for all children’s cancer charities, for the work inspired by Helen House to provide hospice care for dying children

World Church - The Diocese of Bida – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Saturday 23rd December

Charities – for the work of SANDS and for all who especially remember a child who has died in past years

World Church - The Diocese of Biharamulo – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Week Fifty-One Theme – Medical Charities

Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve

God for All – Give thanks for all who have heard the Christmas message afresh online and through social media this Christmas.

Charities - for the work of the Children’s Society and for our local groups, for all those assisted by their work

World Church - The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Bishop Rob – Cathedral Carol Service

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day

Today is the second holiest day of the Christian year. We celebrate the birth of the Emmanuel, God with us.

Charities – for the work of UNICEF and, for all who will be supported through their work.

Peace – today we pray for peace in the Holy Land, for an end to all violence and for communities to respect one another and seek a common way forward.

World Church - The Diocese of Birmingham – The Church of England

Bishop Rob – Preaching at Cathedral Eucharist Service

Tuesday 26th December

St Stephen

The first Christian martyr, St Stephen is celebrated the day after Christmas. As one of seven deacons appointed by the Apostles, Stephen is put to death for his faithful witness of the gospel.

Charities – giving thanks for the Anna Chaplaincy movement, for our Cumbria chaplaincy and for the work of the Alzheimer's Society

World Church - The Diocese of Blackburn – The Church of England

Wednesday 27th December

St John the Evangelist

One of the four New Testament gospel writers, John as one of the Apostles is a great teacher of the faith. St John's Gospel has priority over the other gospels and has a special place in Christian scripture.

Charities – for the work of the British Heart Foundation and for all associated charities working to eliminate heart disease

World Church - The Diocese of Bo – The Church of the Province of West Africa

Thursday 28th December

The Holy Innocents

The children murdered by King Herod are remembered immediately after Christmas as a reminder of the world's cruelty in opposition to God's love.

Charities – for the national work of the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, for their pioneering treatments of children's cancer and generic illnesses and for the charity that supports them.

World Church - The Diocese of Boga – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Friday 29th December

St Thomas Becket

Archbishop Thomas who was murdered on the orders of King Henry became a saint in the days after his

martyrdom and his shrine in Canterbury was the most visited in the late medieval church.

Charities – for the work of Marie Curie and Macmillan nurses, for our county's Hospice at Home and for our two hospices, for the work of all these charities and all who are helped by them.

World Church - The Diocese of Bolivia – The Anglican Church of South America

Saturday 30th December

Charities – for the work of Cancer Research and all other smaller cancer charities which support pioneering work in tackling different forms of cancer and for all those assisted by them

World Church - The Diocese of Bondo – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Week Fifty-Two Theme – New Beginnings

Sunday 31st December – Christmas 1

New Beginnings – we pray for this new calendar year, for the difficulties faced by so many and we ask for the gifts of hope, perseverance and compassion in helping us to cope with these challenges.

God for All – for the ecumenical leaders seeking to give fresh vision to the churches of personal discipleship and collective mission.

World Church - Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Monday 1st January

Naming of Jesus

Today we remember the story from St Luke's Gospel of the baby Jesus being brought to the Temple in Jerusalem and Simeon prophesising that he would be the light of the world.

New Beginnings – for the beginning of a new working year, for those who lost jobs or businesses in 2023, for all who are under pressure in their work. For new hope in 2024 and easing of financial pressures on families.

World Church - The Diocese of Bor – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

Tuesday 2nd January

St Basil the Great

St Basil is one of the Greek fathers from the fourth century, regarded as a great teacher of the faith and one of the first great theologians.

New Beginnings – for new God for All initiatives and the work of Mission Communities

World Church - The Diocese of Botswana – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Wednesday 3rd January

New Beginnings – for those who have come to faith, and for the gospel message to be presented with clarity, humility and in love.

World Church - The Diocese of Brandon – The Anglican Church of Canada

Thursday 4th January

New Beginnings – for the developing Fresh Expressions and Network Youth churches, for new fellowships which seek to be church in new ways and to plant new communities of prayer.

World Church - The Diocese of Brechin – The Scottish Episcopal Church

Bishop Rob – BLT Pastoral meeting, Steering Committee and hosting Ordinands' supper

Friday 5th January

New Beginnings – for our young people returning to schools, colleges and universities, for the year ahead and for the challenges faced by all educational teaching and non-teaching staff

World Church - The Diocese of Brisbane – The Anglican Church of Australia

Saturday 6th January

The Feast of the Epiphany

Today the church remembers the visit of the Magi. The Orthodox celebrate this day rather than the nativity of Christ. Epiphany means God made 'manifest' in the life of Jesus.

New Beginnings – for our own personal new beginnings this year, for the challenges ahead, for courage and confidence in the future

World Church - The Diocese of Bristol – The Church of England

Week One Theme – URC and Baptist Churches Sunday 7th January – Baptism of Christ

URC – for the new NW Synod Moderator Clare Downing, for the synod officers and the partnership in the ecumenical county

God for All – for plans being made for local Week of Prayer services and for Lent groups all who will be joining together to deepen our faith

World Church - The Scottish Episcopal Church

Monday 8th January

URC – for the county’s churches and their ministers Alastair Smeaton, Martyn Coe, Kate Kent and Lisa Wilson

World Church - The Diocese of British Columbia – The Anglican Church of Canada

Tuesday 9th January

URC – for the URC General Assembly, for Kevin Watson and Alan Yates its moderators and for the leadership of the national church

World Church - The Diocese of Central Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – Church Planting meeting

Wednesday 10th January

Baptists – for Andrew Dodd and his representative role on behalf of the county's Baptist chapels

World Church - The Diocese of West Buganda – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – DBE board meeting

Thursday 11th January

Baptists – for the distinctive role of the county's Baptist chapel and their joint mission with local Mission Communities

World Church - The Diocese of Buhiga – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Friday 12th January

Benedict Biscop

St Benedict Biscop brought Bede into the religious life and was one of the great teachers of the Celtic monastic communities. He made five visits to Rome and brought back libraries of books for his monastic foundations.

Baptists – for the Baptist Union, its President Yinka Oyekan, General Secretary Lynn Green, and Baptist Assembly

World Church - The Diocese of Bujumbura – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Saturday 13th January

St Kentigern (Mungo)

St Mungo was forced to leave Glasgow in the sixth century and came to Cumbria founding a new community at Crossthwaite, Keswick. There are a dozen churches in the county dedicated to Kentigern showing his influence on the founding of the church.

Baptists and URC – we remember with sadness the past splits in the church which led in 1662 to the expulsion of many Baptists and Presbyterians, we give thanks now we are together in a common witness to the gospel message.

World Church - The Diocese of Bukavu – Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Week Two Theme – Week of Prayer Sunday 14th January – Epiphany 2

“You shall love the Lord your God ... and your neighbour as yourself” (Luke 10:27)

Week of Prayer – runs from 18th to 25th January. The theme this year is chosen by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community. Each day has a prayer contributed by the Christians living in Burkina Faso

God for All - Pray for training for lay ministry and for local lay evangelists.

World Church - Church of the Province of South East Asia

Bishop Rob – Confirmation Service at St Mary's, Kells

Monday 15th January

Week of Prayer – for our local preparations to mark the Week of Prayer and for all those who will lead prayers, groups and special services.

World Church – The Diocese of Bukedi – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – Bishop's Leadership Team meeting

Tuesday 16th January

Week of Prayer – for shared ecumenical groups meeting this coming week, for sharing and new fellowships

World Church – The Diocese of Bukuru – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Bishop Rob – Leading Windermere Chapter Day

Wednesday 17th January

St Antony of Egypt

Antony 'retreated' into a deserted place to live a life of prayer after the example of Jesus. Following the Edict of Milan in 313 he inspired the desert Abbas and

Ammas who taught the way of prayer that came to be known as contemplation. He has inspired Augustine, Benedict, Celtic, Ignatian, Carmelite and modern forms of Christian meditation. He is one of the four Greek Fathers.

World Church – The Diocese of Bunbury – The Anglican Church of Australia

Bishop Rob – ReSource Trustees Meeting

Thursday 18th January

Week of Prayer Theme and Collect

*Lord, give us the grace to know you deeply,
in order to love you entirely.*

*May the gift of your Holy Spirit enable
our eyes, ears and minds to receive the unconditional
love with which you love us.*

*Purify our hearts that we may always be ready to love
our neighbour, however different, as ourselves.*

Through the self-giving life of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Week of Prayer – for prayer services marking this Week of Prayer

World Church – The Diocese of Bungoma – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Bishop Rob – College of Bishops

Friday 19th January

Week of Prayer – for shared children's group and for closer working together

World Church – The Diocese of Bunyoro-Kitara – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – College of Bishops

Saturday 20th January

Week of Prayer – for social justice projects locally and for the outreach of our MC

World Church – The Diocese of Busan – The Anglican Church of Korea

Bishop Rob – Confirmation service in Windermere

Week Three Theme – Week of Prayer & Salvation Army

Sunday 21st January – Epiphany 3

Week of Prayer – for local church leaders, that together we might have the vision to encourage local mission

World Church - The Church of South India

Bishop Rob – Confirmation service in Windermere

Monday 22nd January

Week of Prayer – for following Jesus each and every day as fellow Christians witnessing to the faith in every moment of our lives

World Church – The Diocese of Busoga – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – Norwegian Mission Society Meeting and Service

Tuesday 23rd January

Week of Prayer – for our mutual care and respect for creation, for the movement to create eco-churches

World Church – The Diocese of Central Busoga – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – Norwegian Mission Society Meeting

Wednesday 24th January

Week of Prayer – giving thanks for this year's Week of Prayer, we pray for a sense of unity and purpose

Salvation Army – for David Taylor and the leadership of the Salvation Army in the north west, for their commitment to the poor and those most in need

World Church - The Diocese of Butare – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Bishop Rob – DBF Finance meeting

Thursday 25th January

Conversion of St Paul

Saul conversion is recorded in Acts 9, he became known as St Paul and through his letters shaped the emerging church, one of the founders of our church.

Week of Prayer Final Collect

God of love, who writes love in our hearts, instil in us the courage to look beyond ourselves and see the neighbour in those different from ourselves and to be the unexpected neighbour, that we may truly follow Jesus Christ our brother and our friend, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

Salvation Army – for the Salvation Army churches in Cumbria and their leaders, at Barrow, Carlisle, Kendal, Penrith, Workington and Whitehaven

World Church – The Diocese of Butere – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Bishop Rob – NW Bishops meeting

Friday 26th January

St Timothy and St Titus

Companions of St Paul and recipients of letters named after them. St Paul's advice to them, teaches us all how to be Christ's disciples in our daily lives.

Salvation Army – we pray for those assisted and supported by this year's Winter Appeal, we give thanks for the practical love and care shown to so many who are neglected by our society.

World Church - The Diocese of Buye – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Bishop Rob – Bishop's Council Residential

Saturday 27th January

Salvation Army – we give thanks for the Salvation Army's key role is helping those who are rescued from modern slavery, supporting the victims in their moment of need and assisting them in building a life for themselves free exploitation

World Church – The Diocese of Byumba – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Bishop Rob – Bishop's Council Residential

Week Four Theme – Brampton Deanery Sunday 28th January - Candlemas

St Thomas Aquinas

St Thomas was a Dominican living in the thirteenth century regarded as one of the greatest theologians of the church. His influence on the development of Christian doctrine has been immense.

Deanery - For our MCs: Eden Wild Goose; Irthing, Gelt and Eden; Borders Area (yet to launch as a MC)

Vision – for the work of God for All Church leaders' Strategy Group and the Operations Group, and the meeting of the Bishop's Council this weekend with ecumenical leaders

World Church - The Anglican Church of South Africa

Bishop Rob – St Paul's Grange over Sands Patronal Festival

Monday 29th January

Deanery – pray for Rural Dean Edward Johnsen; Deanery Lay Chair Chris Angus; and the Deanery Standing Group

World Church – The Diocese of Calabar – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Tuesday 30th January

Deanery - for Ruth Hutchinson and the Brampton Area; for NYC Online youth meetings by zoom; for wisdom in the Eden Wild Goose MC; and Children's and Family Outreach Worker.

World Church – The Diocese of Calcutta – The Church of North India (United)

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Wednesday 31st January

Deanery - for church-based support networks across the parishes and for links with various local community action groups

World Church - The Diocese of Caledonia – The Anglican Church of Canada

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Thursday 1st February

Deanery - For discernment in building on the new contacts and ways of connecting online as Church.

World Church – The Diocese of Calgary – The Anglican Church of Canada

Friday 2nd February

Presentation of Christ in the Temple

The Feast of the Presentation which is commonly known as 'Candlemas', marks the end of the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons. From today the church begins to look forward to Lent, Holy Week and Easter.

Deanery - for a new commitment and inventiveness in finding ways to enable lay Christians to exercise ministry in the local church and in the deanery

World Church - The Diocese of California – The Episcopal Church

Saturday 3rd February

Deanery - for development of a Mission Community in the Border area of the deanery. For the widening of the NYC ministry across the deanery.

World Church – The Diocese of Northern California – The Episcopal Church

Vision Prayer

Living Lord, as we offer to you our common life,
refresh our vision that we may know your will
and seek to follow in all your ways.

May we **follow daily** as your disciples,
care deeply for one another in community,
speak boldly your gospel word of love,
and **tread gently** as faithful stewards of your
goodness.

We ask this in the power of your holy name,
Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer
of our lives, today and for ever. **Amen**

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine

Lord Jesus you are the Prince of Peace,
look upon our divided world
to be with those who are victims of violence.

We pray for the people of Ukraine
and all who have been subjected to the cruelty of
others.

Help us to know the gift of your peace
in the power of your Spirit and
we ask you to soften the hearts
of those who can stop the fighting.

Creator God we ask for your aid as your children of
light

living in the darkness of our world. Amen
But most of all, be with us this day. Amen