

Cumbria Prayer Diary



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

MARCH 2025

*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
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At the end of the prayer diary are prayers for the appointment of the new Bishop of Carlisle, for the sixty eighth Bishop of Carlisle, for those involved in the selection process, the Vision Prayer, Peace in Ukraine and a Prayer for the Middle East

Week Nine Theme – Windermere Deanery
Sunday 23rd February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

Polycarp

Polycarp was reputedly baptised by St Paul, he became Bishop Smyrna and was martyred for the faith. Having refused to abandon his faith, famously saying, 'I have served my Lord for these 86 years and why now should I renounce him?'

Deanery – for the South Lakes Mission Community; the Central Lakes Mission Community and the churches of the Cartmel Peninsula

God for All – for the theme of 'care deeply', for the work in our communities caring for those most in need

For NYC Church in the diocese: we ask God to help us fill our NYC vacancies (in Kendal, Keswick and Ulverston and their surrounding areas) with new youth leaders who are passionate about fostering authentic faith and discipleship among young people

World Church - Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Monday 24th February

Deanery - for all who have leadership roles in the Deanery

World Church - The Diocese of Madras – The Church of South India (United)

Tuesday 25th February

Deanery - for Chris Mason, the Deanery Network Youth Minister, and his team and all they do

World Church - The Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad – The Church of South India (United)

Wednesday 26th February

Deanery - for all the pastoral work that churches do, both formal and informal

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

Bishop Rob – leading Derwent Deanery Chapter Day at Rydal Hall and Bishop's Council

Thursday 27th February

George Herbert

Church of England priest, spiritual writer and poet lived at the beginning of the seventeenth century but died of consumption at the age of 39. He was noted as being of immense importance in creating Anglicanism.

Deanery - for all who are exploring new ways of being church in the Deanery

World Church - The Diocese of Mahajanga – The Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean

Bishop Rob – BLT meeting

Friday 28th February

Deanery - for the ability to think creatively and missionally, rather than just keeping going

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

Saturday 1st March

St David

Patron saint of Wales and as Dewi one of the founding saints of the church in the sixth century. As an inspiration and leader of the first churches in Wales, his faith and courage are an example to all modern Christians.

Deanery - for the Mission Communities to become what they are meant to be

World Church - The Diocese of Maine – The Episcopal Church

Week Nine Theme – Appleby Deanery

Sunday 2nd March – Sunday next before Lent

St Chad

One of four brothers rescued from slavery by Aidan, Chad after his education at Lindisfarne became missionary to pagan Mercia. He converted the kingdom establishing his first community at Lichfield in the seventh century.

Deanery – for the Heart of Westmorland Mission Community, which is coterminous with the deanery, and

operates as three mission community hubs in the benefices of North Westmorland, Heart of Eden and Upper Eden.

God for All – pray that we may care deeply for one another and that our churches may make pastoral care and serving in the community their priority in the year ahead.

World Church - The Anglican Church of Burundi

Monday 3rd March

Deanery – for the Revd Andrew Burrell, Revd Brendan Giblin, Revd Stephen Tudway; Judith Harrison, lay chair and Joyce Keetley, office manager.

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

Bishop Rob – Personal retreat

Tuesday 4th March

Deanery - for the work of Rachel Milburn (NYC), Dan and Kristy Pattimore (Heart of Eden) and Ruth Hutchings (North Westmorland) in their ministries to, among other groups, young people. For our youth weekend away in March, shared with Furness Deanery.

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

Bishop Rob – Personal retreat

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday

Today is one of the holiest days of the Church's Year, a day of obligation, when each of us are expected to attend church. Traditionally a day to receive the imposition of ashes as a sign of our penitence.

Deanery – for The Welcome Inn Healthy Healing Hub in Appleby and the Renew Wellbeing Café in Appleby.

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

Bishop Rob – Personal retreat

Thursday 6th March

Deanery - The Growing Faith Hub in North Westmorland

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

Bishop Rob – Personal retreat

Friday 7th March

Deanery - for the deanery and benefices as they continue to explore what it means to be the church in every place, when places and people are few and far between.

World Church - The Diocese of Malabar – The Church of South India (United)

Bishop Rob – Personal retreat

Saturday 8th March

Bishop Edward King

Edward King as founder of St Stephen's House and as Bishop of Lincoln was hugely influential in the Anglo-Catholic revival of the Church of England. He was well loved as a kindly, caring Bishop. His innovations as a diocesan bishop have set a pattern which many have followed.

Deanery - future ministry in the Heart of Eden.

World Church - The Diocese of Malaita – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Week Ten Theme – Lent

Sunday 9th March – 1st Sunday of Lent

National COVID-19 Day of Reflection and week of the interviews for the next Bishop of Carlisle

Lent – for a faithful keeping of Lent, we pray that this season might be a holy time in our lives, set apart for prayer, study and acts of service to one another.

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle – God of love, lead us through this time of vacancy. Guide all those involved in the appointment process, give us all ears to listen, eyes to see, hearts to pray and minds to think, placing the needs of others before ourselves, always seeking your will and your kingdom.

Covid 19 - Loving God, you hold all our times in your hands: our past, our present, our future. Be close to us now as we remember the Covid pandemic. Be especially close to all of us who are thinking of someone we loved and knew, but see no longer, whether family, friend, colleague or neighbour. Help us to trust that they are at peace with you, and comfort us with your presence.

World Church - The Anglican Church of Canada

Monday 10th March

Lent – for all those planning Lent courses and the encouragement of many people to take part

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle - we pray for those on the CNC panel who will interview those shortlisted to be the next Bishop of Carlisle this week. We pray for wisdom and discernment as they make this important decision.

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

Tuesday 11th March

Lent – for a day of reflection and preparation for the coming season of Lent. Traditionally a day to make a formal Confession, we pray that each of us may use this time to reflect upon our own discipleship.

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle – we pray for all those shortlisted as they prepare for interview

World Church - The Diocese of Lake Malawi – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Bishop Rob – House of Bishops

Wednesday 12th March

Lent – we pray for forgiveness of our sins as we pray that we might forgive one another in the love of our Saviour Jesus Christ

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle – we thank you for our diocesan representatives on the CNC panel. We pray that they may have ‘the mind of Christ’ and be open to the promptings of the Spirit.

World Church - The Diocese of Northern Malawi – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Thursday 13th March

Lent – for all those who will fast this season, giving up a luxury or using the discipline of self-denial to mark this time as special and dedicated to God.

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle – we pray for all those involved in the interviews taking place today, for the Holy Spirit to guide them and that a new Bishop of Carlisle would be appointed who would be ready to serve us with joy, build us up in faith and be a herald of Jesus Christ our Lord.

World Church - The Diocese of Southern Malawi – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Friday 14th March

Lent – for all who will take part in Lent Courses or use the Church of England’s Living Hope booklets.

Interviews for the new Bishop of Carlisle – we pray for all those involved in the interviews taking place today, that the Holy Spirit would guide them and that a new Bishop of Carlisle would be appointed who would be ready to serve us with joy, build us up in faith and be a herald of Jesus Christ our Lord.

World Church - The Diocese of West Malaysia – Church of the Province of South East Asia

Saturday 15th March

Lent – for all those who are studying a book for Lent, that they might be enriched in their journey of faith.

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

Week Eleven Theme – Western Dales MC Sunday 16th March – 2nd Sunday of Lent

MC – pray for the churches of Sedbergh, Dent, and the surrounding Dales.

God for All - pray that we may renew our efforts to follow daily during Lent, deepening our prayer life and our walk as Christ’s disciples.

World Church - The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Bishop Rob – service at St Mary’s, Allithwaite

Monday 17th March

St Patrick

As the patron saint of Ireland, Patrick is remembered today around the world. His faith was nurtured under the influence of Ninian’s community at Whithorn, and he is one of the earliest Cumbrian saints.

MC – for the Revd Andy Burgess, Revd Ashley Henderson, Revd Christine Brown, Ben Maunder, Judith Bush, Pam Dent and Heather Fraser

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

Tuesday 18th March

MC – pray especially for our new children, youth and family worker Ben Maunder as he gets involved with schools’ work, Messy Church and Teatime Church.

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

Bishop Rob – Mission Community Leaders’ Day

Wednesday 19th March

St Joseph

From the earliest days of the church St Joseph has been celebrated. As the earthly father of Jesus his role is seen in Matthew’s Gospel as faithfully listening to the

message of the archangel as well as in his care for Mary and their child. In many countries in the world his feast day is the time to celebrate the gift of fatherhood.

MC – for Open House on Tuesday mornings, and our Anna chaplains and friends.

World Church - Te Pihopatanga o Te Manawa o Te Wheke – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

Thursday 20th March

St Cuthbert

Cuthbert is the great saint of the foundation of Christianity in our county. Cuthbert visited the county on many occasions, and we are told by Bede that he had 'a special love for those who lived in remote mountainous parts of the land'. We give thanks for his continuing influence upon Christians in the modern Church.

MC – pray as we try to reach families and younger people through worship and building community outside of Sunday services.

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

Friday 21st March

Thomas Cranmer

The author of the Book of Common Prayer is remembered on the anniversary of his death in 1556, being martyred for his protestant beliefs. As Archbishop of Canterbury, he was a leader of the English

reformation and a guiding influence of Edward VI and the development of the Church of England.

MC - pray for a missional mindset which acknowledges God's power is shown in our weakness.

World Church - The Diocese of Mandalay – The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

Saturday 22nd March

MC – pray that we might work closely together and discern the way ahead for our twelve churches.

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

Bishop Rob – Diocesan Synod

Week Twelve Theme – Calder Deanery Sunday 23rd March – 3rd Sunday of Lent

Deanery - that the Mission Communities may support and enrich their communities showing vision in Service and Good Works

Diocese – for all our churches and fellowship groups, for those following discipleship programmes and using Lent as a time of prayer for our local community

World Church - Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Bishop Rob – Confirmation service at Sedbergh School

Monday 24th March

Deanery – that the hearts and minds of those in leadership may be fixed on Our Lord's example and gain strength from His presence in their service in His name.

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

Bishop Rob – BLT Pastoral meeting

Tuesday 25th March

The Feast of the Annunciation

The story of the annunciation from St Luke's Gospel focusses on the faith of Mary. It reminds us to be attentive to the Holy Spirit in our lives and to recognise God's moments when they come to us, to respond in love and faith.

Deanery – that all may find wisdom and encouragement from the questioning heart of the young as they seek enlightenment in their pilgrimage into Faith.

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

Wednesday 26th March

Deanery – that all engaged in and receiving pastoral care may feel the compassionate and healing touch of the Lord in and through the care they give and receive.

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

Bishop Rob – Scottish Parliament Church service and meeting with representatives of the Church of Scotland

Thursday 27th March

Deanery - that the Church may be open to rediscovering gifts forgotten and nurturing green shoots of faith wherever that growth is found.

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

Bishop Rob – leading Kendal Deanery Chapter day at Rydal Hall and hosting CTiC in Kendal

Friday 28th March

Deanery - that the Church uses its resources well and wisely to promote faith in its manifold dimensions and myriad of forms.

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

Saturday 28th March

Deanery - that the Church ministers to its communities not itself and discovers that Christ has truly Prepared the Way and we can faithfully follow His lead.

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

Bishop Rob – Continuing Ministerial Development Day

**Week Thirteen Theme – Carlisle West MC
Sunday 30th March – 4th Sunday of Lent**

MC – for St John’s London Road, St Andrew’s Botcherby, St Peter’s Kingmoor, St John’s Houghton and 4LIFE. We pray to be a growing family of thriving congregations.

God for All - pray that our vision might be renewed, that we might have ears to hear and eyes to see all that God is doing in our world

World Church - Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Bishop Rob – Service at St Andrew’s, Greystoke

Monday 31st March

MC – for the Revd Andrew Towner (MC leader) and Revd Tudor Boddam-Whetham; and our MC Council: Fraser, Cressida, Thomesena, Stuart and Dan

World Church - The Diocese of Maryland – The Episcopal Church

Bishop Rob – BLT meeting

Tuesday 1st April

MC - give thanks for many children at after school clubs and 4LIFE; pray for developing monthly all-ages services in Houghton and London Road

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

Bishop Rob – Steering Committee

Wednesday 2nd April

MC - pray for our Lunch Club (monthly), Mothers' Union, Botcherby Brew, men's study, Home Groups & Life Groups, and other informal gatherings.

World Church - The Diocese of Maseno East – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Bishop Rob – NW Bishops meeting

Thursday 3rd April

MC - pray for discernment in the next steps in re-establishing a regular worshipping community at St Andrews.

World Church - The Diocese of Maseno North – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Friday 4th April

MC - pray for a unity that celebrates and serves, and a willingness to go beyond our comfort zones, with Jesus, for the gospel

World Church - The Diocese of Maseno South – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Saturday 5th April

MC - we pray for the successful establishment of the Tree of Life charity in Carlisle (serving the poor in Jesus' name).

World Church - The Diocese of Maseno West – The Anglican Church of Kenya

Prayer for our new Bishop of Carlisle

Everlasting God,
You have welcomed each one of us in Jesus and called us to be your people in this place;
Send us your Holy Spirit, and fill us with vision, energy, and faithfulness in prayer, that we may be true to our calling to follow daily, care deeply, speak boldly and tread gently.
Guide us as we seek to discern who you are calling to be our new Bishop that they may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people, ready to serve us with joy, build us up in our faith and be a herald of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
Amen

A prayer for the sixty-eighth Bishop of Carlisle

Heavenly Father, send us a bishop grounded in your love, a shepherd after your own heart, a follower of your Way and a teacher of your Word. We ask this through your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

A prayer for those involved in the selection process.

God of love, lead us through this time of vacancy. Guide all those involved in the appointment process, give us all ears to listen, eyes to see, hearts to pray and minds to think, placing the needs of others before ourselves, always seeking your will and your kingdom.
Amen

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

Prayer for the Middle East

Dear God, we cry out to you on behalf of the people
seriously affected by the conflict in Gaza and the
Middle East. Our hearts break at the devastation
and suffering that we see, and we know it breaks
yours, too.

We ask that you stretch out your mighty hand to
bring lasting peace.

We cry out for people who have been injured or
traumatised, who have lost loved ones or their
homes. Please provide everything they need and
be their comfort, their hope, their healer, and their
safe refuge.

We pray for your peace to reign. We look to you as
our Saviour and the hope of the world.

Amen. (Tearfund)