Cumbria Prayer Diary



SEPTEMBER 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*](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@carlislediocese.org.uk

**At the end of the prayer diary are the Vision Prayer, Peace in Ukraine and a Prayer for the Middle East**

**Week Thirty Five Theme – Schools**

**Sunday 31st August – 11th Sunday after Trinity**

**St Aidan**

Aidan is often referred to as the ‘Apostle of the English’. He founded the community at Lindisfarne, and his gentle witness to the faith inspired the conversion of most English-speaking peoples. A passionate opponent of slavery he freed many children and education was at the heart of his communities

*Schools* - for all children preparing to return to school during the coming weeks, especially for those who are moving schools and will be making new friends

*Vision* - pray that we might care deeply and that we may make our churches places of welcome and nurturing of one another, looking out for those who are isolated and alone and coming alongside those who are vulnerable and in need.

*World Church -* The Church of South India (United)

**Monday 1st September**

*Schools -* for all staff at our local schools, giving thanks for their dedication, service, skills and knowledge

*World Church* - The Diocese of Oji River – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* – Confirmation of Election as the Bishop of Carlisle at York Minster

**Tuesday 2nd September**

*Schools**-* for all governors and professionals supporting our schools, we give thanks for their willingness to give time and of themselves in support of our children

*World Church* – The Diocese of Okene – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Wednesday 3rd September**

**Gregory the Great**

‘Not Angles but Angels’, is a pun that works in both Latin and English. It is Pope Gregory’s alleged words in Rome that prompted the mission of St Augustine of Canterbury in 597. St Gregory, a wise and kindly Bishop of Rome, is remembered fondly on this day.

*Schools -* for the DBE, for Andrew Towner as Chair, and Charlotte Tudway as Director and the Schools and Education team working at Church House

*World Church* – The Diocese of Oke-Ogun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* – Licensing of Ben Phillips at Lanercost

**Thursday 4th September**

**St Birinus**

The seventh century Birinus was one of the first English Bishops. His community was based on the banks of the river Thames and he laid the foundation for St Chad in converting Mercia and Wessex to faith. He is the first known follower of St Benedict’s rule in England.

*Schools -* for families of children at our schools, for the support parents give to staff and for the community of our church schools

*World Church* – The Diocese of Oke-Osun – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* – Steering Committee

**Friday 5th September**

*Schools -*for the work of the National Society of Education, for its chair Nigel Genders and their support of the diocesan boards of education

*World Church* – The Diocese of Okigwe – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Saturday 6th September**

*Schools* - for all volunteers who support local schools, through working in classes, fund raising and providing local meals for children

*World Church* – The Diocese of Okigwe South – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Week Thirty Six Theme – Bishop’s Harvest Appeal**

**Sunday 7th September – 12th Sunday after Trinity**

*Harvest –* for the Bishop’s Harvest Appeal. We give thanks for the money raised in 2024 and the projects that were supported.

*God for All -* pray for all those on the Bishop’s Council

*World Church* - The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

*Bishop Rob* – Consecration of the Churchyard at St Cuthbert’s, Dufton and opening of Crosscrake Community Hub

**Monday 8th September**

**Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

There are many days in the Church’s Year to celebrate Mary, the mother of Jesus. Over the centuries today has been a special celebration in the English Church. Many churches in England are dedicated to the Nativity of Mary. Today we give thanks for her earthly life, her faith and love.

*Harvest –* for partnership with Christian Aid in Burkina Faso to help women receive a starter flock of poultry which provides an income and nutritious food for their families.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Okinawa – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

**Tuesday 9th September**

*Harvest –* for partnership with the Church Mission Society in Northern Argentina to train indigenous people to be church leaders.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Oklahoma – The Episcopal Church

*Bishop Rob* – College of Bishops

**Wednesday 10th September**

*Harvest –* for the work of the Cumbrian Development Education Centre and Carlisle One World Centre who will also benefit from the Bishop’s Harvest Appeal.

*World Church* – The Diocese of Okrika – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* - College of Bishops

**Thursday 11th September**

*Harvest –* for our local schools and their harvest celebrations, giving thanks for our children’s concern for the environment and care of creation.

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

*Bishop Rob* - College of Bishops

**Friday 12th September**

*Harvest –* for Harvest Festivals to be celebrated in our churches and parishes over this month, especially remembering Cumbrian farmers, those who work on the land and the challenges they face.

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

**Saturday 13th September**

**St John Chrysostom**

One of the four Greek Fathers of the Christian Church. One of the most influential preachers of the fourth century church, his sermons are still available to read. His clear and concise message of living out our daily discipleship resulted in his name ‘the golden mouth’.

*Harvest –* for the Partnership in World Mission Group, and for Bishop Peter in his chairing and for Bishop John as he takes on this role next year.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Olympia – The Episcopal Church

**Week Thirty Seven Theme – Ullswater MC**

**Sunday 14th September – 13th Sunday after Trinity**

**Holy Cross Day**

In the Church’s Year there are several days when we are encouraged to remember Christ crucified. Holy Cross is a day when we remember the victory of the cross and celebrate our salvation in Jesus Christ.

*MC –* for St Andrew’s Dacre, Matterdale, All Saints Watermillock, St Michael’s Barton, St Paul’s Pooley Bridge, St Peter’s and St Martin’s, Martindale and St Patrick’s Patterdale.

*World Church* - The Anglican Church of South America

*Bishop Rob* – Preaching at Dalston and Raughton Head

**Monday 15th September**

**St Cyprian**

Third century Bishop of Carthage, who was known for the way he opposed various heresies. During his episcope, many died due to plague but such was his compassion and care that it came to be known as ‘Cyprian’s plague’. During the persecution of Emperor Valerian, he was executed and his burial site became an important shrine in the fourth century.

*MC* - pray for Rev Cathy Helm, Rev Geoff Withers, Rev Andrew Callaway, Rev Lindsay Harrod and Rev Gordon Dugmore

*World Church -* The Diocese of Omu-Aran – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* – Bishop’s Leadership Team meeting

**Tuesday 16th September**

**St Ninian**

Ninian was born at the end of the fourth century and trained in Rome. He returned home to Galloway and founded his community at Whithorn. His pattern of community was copied by Patrick and Columba. Ninian introduced the practice of prayer from the desert teachers and the priority of John’s Gospel. He is the founding saint of Christianity in Britain and Ireland.

*MC* – for the staff and young people of Yanwath Primary School, giving thanks for the development of a deeper relationship and emerging links with the wider community. For all involved with Patterdale CofE Primary school and the Stainton youth club.

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

**Wednesday 17th September**

**St Hildegard**

Benedictine nun from the twelfth century, Hildegard’s poems and songs made her very influential in the church. Her spirituality was rooted in ‘the living light’ of Jesus in every human life. Her visions of the light of Christ have inspired Christians throughout the centuries.

*MC* - pray for discernment and wisdom as we seek to explore fresh ways to enrich our congregations and to evolve and to grow a sustainable Christian community empowered with hope for the future.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Ontario – The Anglican Church of Canada

*Bishop Rob* – Finance Committee and Bishop’s Council

**Thursday 18th September**

*MC* – for those visiting around the Lake, that they may find rest, spiritual fulfilment and experience something of the rich and loving presence of God in this place.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Oregon – The Episcopal Church

*Bishop Rob* – Bishop’s Leadership Team Pastoral meeting

**Friday 19th September**

**Archbishop Theodore**

Theodore of Tarsus arrived in 669 and was the first Archbishop recognised by all the churches of England. During his time, he organised the English church into dioceses, which still form the basis of our provincial and diocesan structures.

*MC* - we pray that people will not be fearful of change and will embrace new ways of being church in our communities and around the lake.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Eastern Oregon – The Episcopal Church

**Saturday 20th September**

*MC* - pray for God’s blessing as we reach out to neighbouring parishes to widen our mission community.

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

**Week Thirty Eight Theme – Furness Deanery**

**Sunday 21st September – 14th Sunday after Trinity**

**St Matthew the Apostle**

Levi was one of the disciples called by Jesus and as a tax collector the story of his conversion shows the love of God for even those hated by society. His gospel was supported by the church at Antioch at the Council of Laodicea and listed as one of the four canonical gospels. As a result Matthew is one of the Four Evangelists usually represented in icons by the ox.

*MC* - for the future appointment of a Mission Community Leader for Furness Mission Community. For our ecumenical partners and ministers.

*World Church* - Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

**Monday 22nd September**

*MC* - for Revd. Richard Bunday; Revd. Tom and Sam Sample; Revd. Vic and Martin Sekasi; Revd. Madi and James Simpson; Revd. Brian Streeter; Revd Graham and Margeret Tate.

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

*Bishop Rob* – licensing of Edward Johnsen at St John’s Upperby

**Tuesday 23rd September**

*MC -* for UPC Café Church as it includes a youth-focussed gathering. For Emma Taplin as Children’s and Families Worker. For opportunities to share faith with Broughton Youth Group and the possibility of running Youth alpha.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osaka – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

**Wednesday 24th September**

*MC -* for Messy Church in Thwaites for people to come to faith. For Messy Church in Dalton, Ireleth and Askham. For youth groups in Broughton, Coniston, Ulverston, and outreach to schools. For the bereavement course running at the Broughton churches.

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

**Thursday 25th September**

*MC* - for the UPC launch of 5 missional ‘vision objectives’. For a new service launching in Kirkby Ireleth for families.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Osun North – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

*Bishop Rob* – Mission Community Leaders’ Day

**Friday 26th September**

**Wilson Carlile**

Wilson Carlile founded the Church Army who inspired a generation of evangelists. His goal was to establish a network of local evangelists working in the poorest areas.

*MC -* for suitable candidates for the Network Youth Church Worker role, and other positions as they become vacant. For treasurers where there are vacancies,

For the appointment of an administrator to serve in Low Furness and the Duddon Estuary and for God’s provision for this post.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Osun North East – The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion)

**Saturday 27th September**

**St Vincent de Paul**

Vincent de Paul was a seventeenth century French Roman Catholic priest who was well known for his care of the poorest. In 1617 he founded a community to care for those in need. The Society of St Vincent de Paul was created following his death in 1660 which now works as a lay community in over 150 countries providing local practical help to those in need.

*MC -* for volunteer training at UPC. For the steering committee as it continues to co-ordinate and oversee a consistent, joined-up children’s and youth work across the full age spectrum.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Ottawa – The Anglican Church of Canada

*Bishop Rob* – Readers’ licensing service at the Cathedral

**Week Thirty Nine Theme – Cumbria’s Foodbanks**

**Sunday 28th September – 15th Sunday after Trinity**

*Foodbanks* – we pray the for the county’s foodbanks and their work with those in need

*God for All –* for the importance of Caring Deeply, especially for all those facing severe financial pressures

*World Church -* Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

**Monday 29th September**

**St Michael and All Angels**

Michaelmas is one of the four traditional quarter days and a time when we give thanks for the whole host of heaven, God’s kingdom and the gifts of the Spirit throughout creation.

*Foodbanks –* give thanks for all those who freely give their time to serve in the county’s foodbanks and pray for more volunteers

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

**Tuesday 30th September**

**St Jerome**

Jerome was born in modern Slovenia and was a scholar who converted to Christianity following a serious illness in Antioch. As a close friend of Bishop Paulinus of Antioch, he set about his life’s work of translating into Latin the newly authorised canon of scripture. The Vulgate was completed in 405, just five years after the final canonical list of the Bible was agreed.

*Foodbanks –* pray that there may be enough food donated so that each foodbank would have enough to serve those in need

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

*Bishop Rob* – attending the Bishop’s Public Witness Conference

**Wednesday 1st October**

*Foodbanks –* we pray for those that access the foodbank’s services that they may be feel seen, valued, loved and not judged.

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

*Bishop Rob* – attending the Bishop’s Public Witness Conference

**Thursday 2nd October**

*Foodbanks* – we pray for those that work in the warehouses and the van drivers that they may be kept safe in their work.

*World Church -* The Diocese of Oxford – The Church of England

*Bishop Rob* – attending the Bishop’s Public Witness Conference

**Friday 3rd October**

*Foodbanks* – pray for those that offer financial advice and those that work in the administration of the foodbanks

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

**Saturday 4th October**

*Foodbanks* – for the work of the Trussell Trust nationally as they seek to campaign about food poverty

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

**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)