Cumbria Prayer Diary



OCTOBER 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 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**

**St Francis of Assisi**

Giovanni di Pietro di Bernardone, better known as Saint Francis of Assisi, was a mystic Italian Catholic friar, founder of the Franciscans, and one of the most venerated figures in Christianity. In 1223, he arranged for the first Christmas live nativity scene. Pope Gregory IX canonized him on 16 July 1228.

*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

**Week Forty Theme – Beacon Team MC**

**Sunday 5th October – 16th Sunday after Trinity**

*MC* – for St. George’s, Kendal; St. Oswald’s Burneside; St. John the Baptist, Skelsmergh; St. John the Evangelist, Grayrigg; St. Thomas’, Selside and St. Mary’s Longsleddale.

*God for All -* pray that we might learn to follow daily and make our personal prayer a priority everyday

*World Church* - The Anglican Church of Tanzania

*Bishop Rob* – preaching at St John’s Hensingham and a service of blessing and thanksgiving at St Michael’s Arlecdon

**Monday 6th October**

**William Tyndale**

William Tyndale was an English biblical scholar who became a leading figure in the Protestant Reformation in the years leading up to his execution. He is well known as a translator of the Bible into English and was influenced by the works of prominent Protestant Reformers such as Martin Luther.

*MC* – for Readers Sue Whittaker and Ian Wilson,

Rev. Jean Radley, Associate Minister, Rev. Michelle Woodcock, Priest in Charge and Lynne Magee, Team administrator

*World Church* - The Diocese of Panama – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

*Bishop Rob* – House of Bishops

**Tuesday 7th October**

*MC* – for our Church schools and those who lead them.

Kirsty Cooper – Grayrigg CE, Gill White – Burneside CE, June Lowther – Selside CE. For weekly Collective Worship and developing relationships with children and staff

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

*Bishop Rob* – House of Bishops

**Wednesday 8th October**

*MC* – for Ian Wilson as he trains to become an Anna Chaplain and develop and lead an Anna Chaplaincy team here. For The Hub at St. George’s each Thursday lunchtime

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

*Bishop Rob -* House of Bishops

**Thursday 9th October**

*MC* – for Abbey Group at Longsleddale Church and for

Christmas Trails and events designed to engage local families.

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

**Friday 10th October**

**St Paulinus**

Paulinus was the first Bishop of York. A monk in Canterbury, he was appointed Bishop in 625 but after King Edwin was killed, he fled from his diocese some ten years later. The two Archbishops of the English Church are the successors of Augustine in Canterbury and Paulinus in York.

*MC* – we pray for our church buildings and the challenge they can be and that they would not hinder our ministry

*World Church -* The Diocese of Paraguay – The Anglican Church of South America

**Saturday 11th October**

*MC* - for a fresh vision of what God is doing and how we can best join in using the resources we have wisely.

*World Church* - The Diocese of Paraná – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

*Bishop Rob* – Diocesan Synod

**Week Forty One Theme – Penrith MC**

**Sunday 12th October – 17th Sunday after Trinity**

*MC* – for the network of Churches Together in Penrith, giving thanks for the outreach projects supported by the different churches

*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* - The Church of the Province of Uganda

*Bishop Rob* – County Harvest Service at St Andrew’s Penrith

**Monday 13th October**

**Edward the Confessor**

One of three English kings to be declared a saint. Edward the Confessor was a wise and compassionate ruler and a deeply religious man. He is most famous for building Westminster Abbey (in the Norman style) where he was buried in 1066 and his coronation service was the pattern for the service used in 2022 to crown King Charles III.

*MC* - give thanks and pray for Revd. Julia Reid as she begins her ministry with Penrith Methodist Church

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

*Bishop Rob* – Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel and BLT Residential

**Tuesday 14th October**

*MC* - pray for Emily Milburn and the work based at The Gathering, for Florence Murphy starting her 1-year internship with us and for the Parish of Penrith and Ullswater parishes seeking to employ a Children and family worker

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

*Bishop Rob* – BLT Residential

**Wednesday 15th October**

**St Teresa of Avila**

Born in 1515, Teresa was a Spanish nun and together with John of the Cross reformed the Carmelite Order. Her writings continue to inspire Christians, and Brother Roger regarded her as the greatest of Christian teachers. Living at a time of great conflict in the sixteenth century her writings speak of the desire and longing for God, and her life influenced St Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She was the first woman to be elevated to doctor of the church by the Pope in 1970.

*MC* - for our pastoral visitors, bereavement care team and hospital visitors. Give thanks for the fellowship and support offered by the Friday Tea Service

*World Church* - The Diocese of Pelotas – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

*Bishop Rob* – BLT Residential

**Thursday 16th October**

*MC* - give thanks for the work of RESTORE and the close relationships being nurtured there. Pray for Morgan Tebb-Roger at Penrith Methodist Church and the new worshipping Communities emerging though Morgan’s ministry.

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

*Bishop Rob* – Projects and Programmes board meeting

**Friday 17th October**

**St Ignatius**

Ignatius of Loyola, venerated as Saint Ignatius of Loyola, was a Spanish Catholic priest and theologian, who, with Peter Faber and Francis Xavier, founded the religious order of the Society of Jesus, and became its first Superior General, in Paris in 1541. Pray for those who follow the practice of Ignatian spirituality in the county.

*MC* - pray for the Major Carole Donaldson and the team at Penrith Salvation army facing significant building / property maintenance challenges

*World Church* - The Diocese of Central Pennsylvania – The Episcopal Church

**Saturday 18th October**

**St Luke**

Luke’s Gospel was one of the four books about the life of Jesus listed as sacred scripture when the canon of the New Testament was agreed in the fourth century. Believed to be the physician mentioned by Paul, the father of four female prophets. The descriptive story telling style of his writing has resulted in his gospel inspiring countless artists across the centuries.

*MC -* pray for the possible development of a Children’s choir based at St Andrew’s and the mission opportunities this might offer

*World Church* - The Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania – The Episcopal Church

**Week Forty Two Theme – Penrith Mission Area**

**Sunday 19th October – 18th Sunday after Trinity**

**Henry Martyn, translator and missionary**

Anglican priest, chaplain to the British East India Company and missionary who was influenced by Charles Simeon to become a missionary. Arriving in 1806 in a mission in India, he translated the Bible into Urdu, Persian and Judaeo-Persic. He died young of a fever in Turkey.

*MA* - for the Ullswater Mission Community; East of Eden Mission Community; Penrith Mission Community (Churches Together in Penrith) and the Blencathra Mission Community

*God for All –* for the theme of ‘care deeply’ and for the work in our communities caring for those most in need and distress.

*World Church* – The Episcopal Church

**Monday 20th October**

*MA -* give thanks for those stepping into new roles and responsibilities and for the development of gifts and skills generously being offered in service. For Revd Ruth Smith continuing her curacy training with Dacre parish.

*World Church* – The Diocese of Perth – The Anglican Church of Australia

**Tuesday 21st October**

*MA* - Greystoke: for New Greystoke Church Youth Group, New Greystoke Church Youth Choir and the

New Mission Community Alpha course with Dacre Benefice

*World Church –* The Diocese of Peru – The Anglican Church of South America

**Wednesday 22nd October**

*MA* - Patterdale: for developing a service of thanksgiving for the farming community for next spring. Enlarging our craft group to enable more outreach projects to be resourced and seeking members of our parish to join the PCC.

*World Church* – The Diocese of Peshawar – The Church of Pakistan (United)

**Thursday 23rd October**

*MA* - Inglewood Benefice & Blencathra MC: for the growing engagement with children and families through Messy Church in Ainstable and Armathwaite; for the work of our Parish Safeguarding Officers and DBS administrator and for the ministry of Anna Chaplains, Katherine, Jim and Carol.

*World Church* – The Diocese of Peterborough – The Church of England

**Friday 24th October**

*MA:* East of Eden Mission Community: give thanks and pray for the ministry of Revd Fiona Jenkins. Pray for Rev Becky Richards as she prepares to join us and for ecumenical colleagues.

*World Church* – The Diocese of Central Philippines – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

**Saturday 25th October**

**St Cedd**

One of four brothers rescued from slavery by St Aidan. Along with his more famous brother Chad, he founded the community at Lastingham. He died of the plague in 664 but through his influence and that of his younger brothers Caelin and Cynibil, he was one of the founders of the Christian church among the Angles in the seventh century

*MA*: Penrith: for the outreach to young people through NYC; for the work of Penrith Linking Lives and for Samantha Pester, project coordinator. For the successful recruitment of a Children and Family Ministry team leader (working in conjunction with the Ullswater parishes)

*World Church* - The Diocese of North Central Philippines – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

**Week Forty Three Theme – Children and Youth**

**Sunday 26th October – 19th Sunday after Trinity**

*C&Y*: pray for our children and young people across the diocese

*Diocese –* for the Bishop’s Council and Diocesan Synod, for the diocesan staff and for decisions to be made about the future, asking for the gift of discernment

*World Church* - The Church in Wales

**Monday 27th October**

*C&Y*: pray for this time of rest and refreshment for both children and teachers at half term

*World Church*: The Diocese of Northern Philippines – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

**Tuesday 28th October**

**St Simon and St Jude**

Simon and Jude are two of the disciples of Jesus. Little is know about them. The iconography of St Simon always shows him with a saw, the instrument of his martyrdom. Jude has from the fifth century been the patron saint of lost causes.

*C&Y*: pray for those leading children’s and youth work in our churches across the diocese. Give them energy and enthusiasm as they teach our children about Jesus.

*World Church:* The Diocese of Southern Philippines – The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

**Wednesday 29th October**

*C&Y:* pray for our Diocesan Board of Education and its work. For Charlotte Tudway, Diocesan Director of Education and her team.

*World Church*: The Diocese of Phulbani – The Church of North India (United)

*Bishop Rob* – day in Penrith deanery and Penrith Deanery Synod

**Thursday 30th October**

*C&Y:* pray for the Headteachers and staff of the 104 church schools across Cumbria

*World Church*: The Diocese of Pittsburgh – The Episcopal Church

*Bishop Rob* – day in Appleby deanery and Appleby Deanery Synod

**Friday 31st October**

*C&Y*: give thanks for Cumbria’s Network Youth Church and pray for its leaders and volunteers

*World Church*: The Diocese of Polynesia – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

**Martin Luther**

Luther was the inspiration of the 16th century protestant reformation and one of the most influential figures in the history of Christianity. A strong character, his life remains controversial, but he is remembered as the founder of the worldwide Lutheran church. In his translation of the German Bible, Luther was the first to use chapter and verse numbers throughout the whole text.

**Saturday 1st November**

*C&Y:* we pray for safety for our children and youth in this digital age and against online bullying and loneliness

*World Church:* The Diocese of Popondota – The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

**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)