

Cumbria Prayer Diary



Follow Daily Care Deeply
Speak Boldly Tread Gently

DECEMBER 2025 and JANUARY 2026

*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 the Vision
Prayer and a prayer of thanksgiving for 25 years
of Common Worship**

Week Forty Seven Theme – Ecumenical Sunday 30th November – Advent 1

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.

Ecumenical – give thanks for the ninth anniversary of the signing of the ecumenical covenant, and the fourteenth 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 Anglican Church of Australia

Bishop Rob – Confirmation services at St Barnabus, Carlisle and St Paul's, Seaton

Monday 1st December

Ecumenical – for all Ecumenical church leaders in diocese

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

Tuesday 2nd December

Ecumenical – for Churches Together in Cumbria and the board of trustees

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

Wednesday 3rd December

Ecumenical – for those who are part of the ecumenical governance of the county and the Denominational Ecumenical Officers (DEOs) for each denomination.

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

Bishop Rob – hosting lunch for PTO holders in Westmorland and Furness Archdeaconry

Thursday 4th December

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 followers of Jesus.

World Church - The Diocese of Rupert's Land – The Anglican Church of Canada

Friday 5th December

Ecumenical – for the national ecumenical structures of each denomination and for the work of Churches

Together in England and its General Secretary Bishop Mike Royal.

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

Saturday 6th December

St Nicholas

The 4th century Bishop Nicholas of Myra is 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 the World Council of Churches and our brothers and sisters in countries across the world.

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

Week Forty Eight Theme – Advent Sunday 7th December – Advent 2

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.

Advent – pray that our hearts would be prepared for the coming of Jesus into the world and our thoughts focused on the true meaning of Christmas.

God for All - pray for the planning for *JOY* and all those participating in the Church of England's Christmas campaign.

World Church - The Church of Bangladesh

Monday 8th December

Advent - pray for all schools in the county holding carol services in December

World Church - The Diocese of Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – BLT meeting

Tuesday 9th December

Advent – pray for those who are homeless at this time and the agencies that support them

World Church - The Diocese of East Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Wednesday 10th December

Advent – pray for those who are lonely and isolated in our communities and for those that support them

World Church - The Diocese of South Ruwenzori – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Bishop Rob – Trinity School AGM

Thursday 11th December

Advent – pray for those who are bereaved for whom Christmas time is particularly difficult as they miss and mourn their loved ones.

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

Bishop Rob – DBF staff carol service and Grasmere School 400th anniversary event

Friday 12th December

Advent – pray for those who are displaced or separated from loved ones at this time by war or conflict

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

Saturday 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.

Advent – pray for opportunities to share the message of Christmas with our friends and family

World Church - The Sacred Circle – The Anglican Church of Canada

**Week Forty Nine Theme – Ecumenical
Sunday 14th December – Advent 3**

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'.

Ecumenical – for Bishop Paul Swarbrick and the Catholic parishes and priests of the county

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

World Church - Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Bishop Rob – Preaching at St John's Keswick

Monday 15th December

Ecumenical - for the Sisters at Boarbank Hall at Allithwaite and their care for those in need

World Church - The Diocese of Saint Helena – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Tuesday 16th December

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

World Church - The Diocese of Saint Mark the Evangelist – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Bishop Rob – House of Bishops meeting

Wednesday 17th December

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 Saldanha Bay – The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

Bishop Rob – CTIC meeting

Thursday 18th December

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

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

Friday 19th December

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

World Church - The Diocese of El Salvador – Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Saturday 20th December

Ecumenical – for the work of the Cumbria Ecumenical Spirituality Network

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

Week Fifty Theme – Charities

Sunday 21st December – Advent 4

Charities - for the work of the Children's Society and for all children who are assisted by their work.

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

World Church – The Anglican Church of Burundi

Bishop Rob – Preaching at Greystoke Carol Service

Monday 22nd December

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

World Church - The Diocese of Santiago (Chile) – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Tuesday 23rd December

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

World Church - The Diocese of Santiago (Philippines) –
The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

Wednesday 24th December

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

World Church - The Diocese of São Paulo – Igreja
Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Bishop Rob – Christmas Eve Carol service at the
Cathedral

Thursday 25th December

Christmas Day

For to us a Child is born, to us a son is given

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

Peace – today we pray for peace in the world, for an
end to all violence and for communities to respect one
another and seek a common way forward. We pray
particularly for the Middle East, Ukraine and Sudan

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

Bishop Rob – Cathedral Christmas Eucharist Service

Friday 26th December

St Stephen

Believed to be the first Christian martyr, St Stephen is celebrated the day after Christmas. As one of seven deacons appointed by the Apostles to distribute food and aid to the poorer members of the early church, Stephen was put to death by stoning for his faithful witness of the gospel.

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

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

Saturday 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 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 Saskatoon – The Anglican Church of Canada

Theme – Methodist Church and Charities
Sunday 28th December – 1st Sunday of Christmas

The Holy Innocents

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

Methodists – pray for Revd Dr James Tebbutt, District Chair of the NW England Methodist District

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 Canada

Monday 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.

Ecumenical – for the District's ordained and lay ministers, employees and volunteers and the churches locally

World Church - The Diocese of Sebei – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Tuesday 30th December

Ecumenical – for the work of Julie Paterson as District Safeguarding Officer (Cumbria) and for close working between all the denominations of the ecumenical county in this important area of responsibility

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

Wednesday 31st 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 Seoul – The Anglican Church of Korea

Thursday 1st January

Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

Today we remember the circumcision and naming of Jesus when he was eight days old in accordance with Jewish custom.

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

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

Friday 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.

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 Sheffield – The Church of England

Saturday 3rd January

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 Shinyanga – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

Theme – New Beginnings

Sunday 4th January – 2nd Sunday of Christmas

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 - The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Monday 5th January

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

World Church - The Diocese of Upper Shire – The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Tuesday 6th January

The Feast of the Epiphany

Today the church remembers the visit of the Magi and the presentation of their gifts to the infant Jesus. The Orthodox church celebrates this day rather than the nativity of Christ. Epiphany means God made 'manifest' in the life of Jesus.

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 Shyira – Eglise Anglicane du Rwanda

Wednesday 7th January

New Beginnings – for the beginning of a new working year, for those who lost jobs or businesses in 2025, for all who are under pressure in their work. For new hope in 2026 and easing of financial and social pressures on families.

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

Bishop Rob – licensing of Simon Jones at St Mark's Barrow

Thursday 8th 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 Sialkot – The Church of Pakistan (United)

Bishop Rob – Steering Committee and hosting Ordinands' Supper

Friday 9th January

New Beginnings – for 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 Singapore – Church of the Province of South East Asia

Bishop Rob – attending Calthwaite School 150th Anniversary Celebrations

Saturday 10th January

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 Sittwe – The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

Theme – URC and Baptist Churches
Sunday 11th January – 1st Sunday of Epiphany

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

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

World Church - Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Monday 12th January

URC – for the county's churches and their ministers
Martyn Coe, Alistair Smeaton, Lisa Wilson and Kate Hunt

World Church - The Diocese of Sodor and Man – The Church of England

Bishop Rob – BLT meeting

Tuesday 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 Crosthwaite, Keswick. There are a dozen churches in the county dedicated to Kentigern showing his influence on the founding of the church.

URC – for the URC General Assembly, for its moderator Catriona Wheeler and for the leadership of the national church

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

Bishop Rob – Partnership in World Mission meeting

Wednesday 14th January

Baptists – for Phil Jump as Regional Minister for the NW Baptist Association

World Church - The Diocese of Central Solomons – The Anglican Church of Melanesia

Bishop Rob – hosting Curates' Supper

Thursday 15th January

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

World Church - The Diocese of Soroti – The Church of the Province of Uganda

Friday 16th January

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

World Church – The Diocese of Southwark – The Church of England

Bishop Rob – Bishop's council

Saturday 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.

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 Southwell and Nottingham – The Church of England

Bishop Rob – Bishop's council

Theme – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Sunday 18th January – 2nd Sunday of Epiphany

Week of Prayer – the annual Week of Prayer (18th -25th January) is an international ecumenical celebration. This

year's worship for the week has at its heart, One Body, One Spirit

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

World Church - Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo

Monday 19th 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 Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain – (Extra Provincial)

Bishop Rob – Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel meeting

Tuesday 20th January

Week of prayer - for ecumenical groups meeting this coming week, for sharing and new fellowships

World Church - The Diocese of Spokane – The Episcopal Church

Bishop Rob – training course

Wednesday 21st January

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

World Church - The Diocese of Springfield – The Episcopal Church

Bishop Rob – training course

Thursday 22nd January

Week of Prayer - for shared children's groups and for closer working together

World Church - The Diocese of Port Sudan – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

Bishop Rob – College of Bishops

Friday 23rd 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 Sul Occidental – Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil

Bishop Rob – College of Bishops

Saturday 24th January

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

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

Theme – Binsey Mission Community
Sunday 25th January – 3rd Sunday of Epiphany

Conversion of St Paul

Saul's conversion is recorded in Acts 9. He became known as St Paul and through his letters shaped the emerging church.

MC – for Allhallows, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Embleton, Ireby, Isel, Plumland, Setmurthy, Torpenhow, Uldale and Wythop Churches and Bassenthwaite Methodist Chapel

God for All – we give thanks for the fourfold programme: follow daily; care deeply; speak boldly; and tread gently. We pray that we might engage in these mission imperatives and develop our local mission together.

World Church - Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Monday 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.

MC – for Revd Stephen Banks, Revd Charlie Day, Revd John Freeman, Revd Julia Hedley and Richard Cox

World Church - The Diocese of Sur – Iglesia Anglicana de Chile

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Tuesday 27th January

MC – pray for Two by Two parent and toddler group on Tuesdays and for weekly collective worship in the six Binsey Primary Schools - Ireby, Bassenthwaite, Boltons, Blennerhasset, Plumbland and Bothel

World Church - The Diocese of Del Sureste – La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Wednesday 28th January

MC – for Bassenthwaite Soup Lunches on Tuesdays and the Allhallows Community Tea on some Sunday afternoons

World Church - The Diocese of Swansea and Brecon – The Church in Wales

Bishop Rob – Clergy Residential

Thursday 29th January

MC – pray for the monthly Binsey All-Age Service

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

Friday 30th January

MC – pray for more leaders and volunteers in the Mission Community

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

Saturday 31st January

MC – pray for the development of a monthly Binsey prayer meeting, Bible study groups and a Big Questions discussion group

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

Bishop Rob – Kirkby Lonsdale's men breakfast

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 of Thanksgiving to mark the 25th
anniversary of Common Worship**

God our Creator,
giver of breath and speech:
in every time and season
you call us to celebrate all that you do
and have done in Christ.
We thank you for twenty-five years of Common
Worship,
for the scholarship and word-craft that help shape
our prayers and praise,
and for the faithfulness of all who pray them.
Continue to form us into the likeness of Christ,
until with angels and archangels and the whole
company of heaven,
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.
Amen.