



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER

Prayer Diary

July to November 2023

Foreword from Bishop John



Earlier in July we launched 'Pray for Growth', a dedicated period of prayer that our diocese will grow both spiritually and numerically over the coming years.

By 2030 we pray that we shall have healthy and sustainable churches throughout the Diocese which are resourced and encouraged to worship God, make disciples, share hope, and transform their communities. We

hope to have double the number of children and young people in our churches, at least 100 new worshipping communities and congregations of 150 people in each major area of population.

None of this will happen without prayer and many of these themes run through this prayer diary. Among other things in this edition, we will pray for new Authorised Lay Ministers, new Readers (Licenced Lay Minsters) and those who will be ordained as part of our Auxilliary Pathway, as well as those in our schools, workplace chaplains and new members of DBF staff.

I hope you will join us in this corporate prayer, that more people will hear the Good News of Jesus' love for them and join us as we share that love with others.



We try to pray for those with a licence from the Bishop by name, but please do remember all who minister and witness with them in each parish.



On Sundays we are offering a monthly prayer for you to pray for your baptism families and we also continue to pray for dioceses around the world through the Poorvoo prayer calendar (Sundays) and the Anglican Cycle of Prayer. These are all placed in a column, on the side edge of each page.

Director of Finance – Shaun Mooney

Shaun Mooney was appointed as the new Director of Finance for the Diocese in April. In this role, Shaun is leading the finance team responsible for looking after and accounting for the finances of the Diocesan Board of Finance as well as a large number of trust funds, including parochial trusts on behalf of parishes across Worcestershire and Dudley.



Shaun comes to the Diocese from working at the accounting firm Bishop Fleming, working with charity clients and other large businesses. Shaun said: "I am delighted to have been appointed as the new diocesan Director of Finance. I was keen to take on a role which was about making a difference as well as work somewhere where I would be challenged and continue to develop my skills. I am enjoying meeting and getting to know a new group of people and working with the finance team to support churches across the Diocese."

Mon 31 Greater Dudley Deanery

Pray that in the months and years to come, God's blessing will be known across the Deanery as we seek Him in prayer, worship and service. Area Dean: David Hoskin, Sub-deans: Rachel Newell and Andrew Sillis, Lay Chair: John Nicholson, Secretary: Melissa Rose, Treasurer: Michael Bishop

Tue 1 AUGUST Holy Trinity, Amblecote

Please pray for our missional endeavours, and for those who accompany us on that journey, with thankfulness for faithful lay people, including our ALM; Sue Boex. Clergy: Alan Williams; Readers: Lyn Jenkins and Mary Phillips.

Wed 2 Diocese of Peru

Peru has continued to experience great political turbulence, with continuing uncertainty about the way ahead. Pray for the clergy of the diocese as they continue to find the best ways to minister in these difficult circumstances and reach out into some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities.

Thur 3 Brierley Hill

Pray for the work of St Michael's, Brierley Hill. As we give thanks for faithfulness in the past, so we look to faithfulness and hope in the days to come as plans for a renewal project come into being. Staff team: David Hoskin, Keith Colley, Val Houghton, Tracey Skidmore

Fri 4 Brierley Hill

Pray for Christ Church, Quarry Bank as we turn "Place of Warmth" into "Place of Welcome" and look to offer generous hospitality and a space to rest to the local community. Staff Team: David Hoskin, Keith Colley, Val Houghton, Tracey Skidmore

Sat 5 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all the nurture courses which are taking place or being planned across the Diocese. Pray that people will grow and deepen in faith as they explore what it means to be a Christian.

Please pray for Shaun and for the Diocesan Finance team and the work they do supporting churches across the Diocese.

*Director of Finance:
Shaun Mooney*

*Bristol (England):
Bishop Vivienne Faull,
Bishop Lee Rayfield*

*Helsinki (Finland):
Bishop Teemu Laajasalo*

*Iglesia Anglicana de la Region
Central de America:
Archbishop Juan David Alvarado
Melgar*

*Wangaratta (Australia): M
Bishop Clarence Bester*

*Wanyok (South Sudan): T
Bishop Mamer Manot*

*Warri (Nigeria): W
Bishop Christian Esezide*

*Washington (USA): Th
Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde*

*Wau (South Sudan): F
Archbishop Moses Deng Bol*

*Wellington (New Zealand): S
Bishop Justin Duckworth*

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



Mothers' Union Summer of Hope

This summer, the Mothers' Union is turning Hope into Action, giving us the chance to pray together with hopeful hearts and bring healing to those in need.

For parents and children who need support who simply need a break, your prayers, gifts and actions this Summer of Hope can make all the difference.

Hold a party or a sale of items you no longer need. Take on a challenge, such as MU on the Move or bake delicious cakes to raise money for Mothers' Union. Whatever you choose to do, you can join with your loved ones and have fun. The funds you raise could help transform lives around the world, as well as here in the UK.

Lord, help us to love our neighbours that this may be a summer of hope for those struggling with life's demands: To help create change for good, Lord, prompt us to pray. Where resources are lacking, Lord, move us to generosity. Lead us to take the steps we need to enable hope to grow into reality. Amen

President of the Diocese
of Worcester Mothers' Union:
Judith Grubb

Portsmouth:
Bishop Jonathan Frost

Stockholm (Sweden):
Bishop Andreas Holmberg

**Province de L'Eglise
Anglicane Du Congo:**
Archbishop Titre Ande Georges

Mon 7 Christ Church, Coseley

Please pray for our church family and the people of Coseley. That we may continue working alongside local community groups to improve lives and allow God's transformative presence to be felt afresh. Pray for all who minister at Christ Church and in the surrounding parish. Clergy: Emma Stanford, Tim Westwood

Tue 8 St Mary, Hurst Hill, Sedgley

Please pray for St Mary's Church family and for the forging of links between church and the community. That as a church we may be open to God's guiding presence in all we seek to do. Pray for our clergy and ALMs as they lead our parish. Clergy: Emma Stanford, Tim Westwood

Wed 9 Diocese of Morogoro

We give thanks for the recent visit to Morogoro of a group from our Diocese led by Bishop John. We received so much encouragement and many blessings as we shared our faith together in the risen Christ. May God be praised for our diocesan partnership.

Thur 10 Forge Group

In the churches of Netherton, Dudley Wood and Darby End, we invite prayers for our work with our Mission Accompanier, the 20:30 Vision Group and how we as three parishes can work together as one group. Clergy: Rich Hackett; Readers Norman Jevons and Val Cope

Fri 11 Forge Group

We ask for prayers for the mission opportunities we create with the 20:30 Vision Group, and particularly for our work in the local schools, and our Junior Church.

Sat 12 Cradley Heath Community Link

Pray for the trustees and volunteers at the Cradley Heath Community Link. Pray also for all who visit the space and for all the events that happen there.

M **Wernyol (South Sudan):**
Bishop Gabriel Kuol Garang

T **Wiwso (West Africa):**
Bishop Kwame Kyem-Ampomah

W **Willochra (Australia):**
Bishop John Stead

Th **Winchester (England):**
Bishop Debbie Sellin

F **Windward Islands (West Indies):**
Bishop C. Leopold Friday

S **Wonduruba (South Sudan):**
Bishop Matthew Taban Peter

Transformation Programme Director

Damian Herbert was appointed as the new Transformation Programme Director for the Diocese in April, replacing Rob Quarton in this post funded by the national church. Damian joins our diocese from the Church of England Birmingham where he has been helping parishes develop their vision and strategy for mission. The Transformation Programme Director will play a key role in keeping our ambitious plans to be a numerically larger church in 2030 than 2019 on track.



Damian said: "This is an exciting vision and I feel privileged to be able to play a part in ensuring we have healthy, flourishing churches throughout the Diocese. I have a real passion for the parish church and want to see the Church of England thriving with as many lives as possible impacted by the love of Christ. I am enjoying being part of the diocesan team and also to getting out and about, meeting the experts in our parishes and building fruitful relationships."

Please pray for Damian and his role in helping us work towards our ongoing vision to grow as Kingdom People in healthier and more sustainable churches.

*Transformation Programme Director:
Damian Herbert*

Mon 14 Top Church, Dudley

Pray that our community will reflect God's love and life to Dudley, and particularly pray for those who attend Tiny Town and Places of Welcome. Clergy: James Treasure, Sarah Carwardine, Calum Burke (seconded to All Saints Sedgley), Esther Treasure

Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh (Ireland):

Bishop Ferran Glenfield

Aarhus (Denmark):

Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen

Iglesia Anglicana de Chile:

Archbishop Hector Zavala

Tue 15 Resourcing Church projects

Pray for the ministry of Top Church as we seek to resource the wider Dudley Team and provide chaplaincy to various housing associations, colleges and schools.

Wed 16 The Protestant Church of Central Germany (EKM)

A new school year begins across Central Germany. May God bless all children who continue their journey of learning and strengthen their families.

Worcester (England):

Bishop John Inge,

Bishop Martin Gorick

M

Thur 17 Dudley Team Ministry

Please pray that St Francis' and St John's churches will grow as local congregations alongside becoming Community Hubs for their estates, Kate's Hill, Priory and Wrens Nest. Pray for Camilla Clarke as she leads this aspect of the work. Clergy: James Treasure; Readers: Maggie Clift and Melissa Rose

Fort Worth (USA):

Bishop Scott Mayer

T

Wulu (South Sudan):

Bishop Zacharia Mangar Apeti

W

Fri 18 Dudley Team Ministry

Pray for God's love to surround all who worship at St James as they contemplate closure due to the deterioration of their building. Do also remember St Augustine, based in the Holly Hall estate, as they seek to grow as a congregation and be a blessing to their local community. For our ALM: Sue Sharp. Clergy: Rachel Newell.

Wusasa (Nigeria):

Bishop Ali Buba Lamido

Th

Wyoming (USA):

Bishop John Smylie

F

Sat 19 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray that we may each find ways to play our part in the journey towards healthy and sustainable churches and that the values of love, compassion, justice, and freedom will continue to underpin our lives together.

Yambio (South Sudan):

Bishop Samuel Peni

S

*Generous God,
by your Spirit lead your church into growth,
and into the mature humanity
that reflects the image of Christ our Saviour.
So equip our ministers with the gifts of your Spirit
that we may kindle the flame of faith
among children and young people,
renew our churches with your life and love,
and help new communities come to birth
and lift their hearts in worship,
that, joined in one body together,
we may find a voice to sing your praise,
now and in all eternity. Amen.*

Praying for Growth

Last month we launched a dedicated period of prayer for our growth both spiritually and numerically over the coming years. We pray that more people will come to know the love of Jesus and join us in our life and worship; as well as continuing to pray for our parishes, schools and all those who are already part of the Diocese.

The time of prayer was launched with a pilgrimage around Worcester Cathedral and Bishop Martin has continued the pilgrimage around our deaneries. We hope that many churches will mark this time with their own events using the resources available on the diocesan website.

Our vision for healthy and sustainable churches that worship God, make disciples, share hope, and transform their communities will not be possible without prayer.

Greater Dudley Deanery:
Area Dean - David Hoskin
Lay Chair – John Nicholson

Espoo (Finland):
Bishop Kaisamari Hintikka
Edinburgh (Scotland):
Bishop John Armes

The Church of England:
Archbishop Justin Welby



Praying for Growth

Mon 21 World Water Week

World Water Week is from 20 –24 August. Please pray for those communities who are thirsty and don't have access to clean water. Pray for the work of those charities who seek to ensure everyone has access to a safe water supply.

Tue 22 St Edmund, Dudley

Following the churchwarden's meeting with the new Bishop of Oswestry, Paul Thomas, please pray for our congregation as we face changes and new challenges for the future. Please also pray for Bishop Paul as he discerns where the Holy Spirit is guiding us. Clergy: Vacant

Wed 23 Economy & Daily Life

Pray for schools and colleges, as pupils and staff prepare for the new academic year. For all who work in education, as well as pupils and students, especially those starting at a new school or college. Pray for friendships to be formed and isolation and exclusion to be overcome.

Thur 24 Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust

Pray for staff, patients, and volunteers at The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust and for the chaplaincy team who support them.

Fri 25 Gornal & Sedgley

Please pray for the Parish of Gornal and Sedgley and churches of All Saints, St Andrew and St Peter as we continue to seek better ways of working together. Pray also for All Saints as we continue our discernment process towards a SMMI grant funding proposal. Clergy: Catherine Mitchell, Calum Burke; Reader: Jan Humphries.

Sat 26 Hagley & Clent

Please pray for the mission and ministry of the church in our benefice; for our worship, outreach to the local community, pastoral care and our ALMs and churchwardens. Please remember our links with our local schools, especially Clent School, preparations for the Hagley Music Festival 2024, Alpha, and our work with young families. Clergy: Richard Newton, Kim Topham; Reader: Alison Lewis

M **Yangon (Myanmar):**
Bishop Stephen Than Myint Oo

T **Yei (South Sudan):**
Bishop Levi Marandulu Yepete

W **Yeri (South Sudan):**
Bishop John Abraham Nyari

Th **Yewa (Nigeria):**
Bishop Michael Adebayo
Oluwarohunbi

F **Yirol (South Sudan):**
Bishop David Roch Angong

S **Yokohama (Japan):**
Bishop Ignatius Osamu Irie

Ride & Stride 2023

The Annual Ride & Stride for Historic Churches will be happening on 9 September across the Diocese. The Ride & Stride raises funds for the Worcestershire & Dudley Historic Churches trust to help preserve places of worship across the area.



Participants are sponsored to travel around as many different churches as they can during the day. This can be done by walking, cycling, riding, or even driving. It's a great way to see the local area and visit some beautiful buildings, as well as raising much-needed funds. Many churches will be open to welcome participants, with some even providing refreshments.

For more information (including suggested routes) visit: www.ridestrideworcs.org

Mon 28 Halas Team

Please pray for those on the Auxiliary Pathway and our ALMs. For St John the Baptist in Halesowen, as it begins a new chapter as one of our church renewals; for St Kenelm, Romsley and St Peter, Lapal. Clergy: Hazel Charlton, Mthr Victoria, Chris Henson, Mel Beynon, Sue Hale; Readers: Susan Cresswell, Pat Hall, Karen Chaplin, Sally Spencer, Charles Morgan

Tue 29 Halas Team

Pray for our future vision and deepening spiritual and community life that blesses our communities whilst deepening our roots. Pray for St Peter in Cradley as they deepen their engagement with local families and re-embark upon a major re-ordering, and St Margaret, Hasbury as they develop their ongoing life of prayer and pastoral care and engage with their community.

Wed 30 Diocese of Peru

Pray for all those who are exploring a call to ministry, lay or ordained, in the Diocese of Peru, and for all accompanying them on that journey. With no permanent seminary in Peru, pray too for those who are establishing ways of training and nurturing ministers.

Thur 31 Halas Team

Pray for our work with children, young people, and schools, especially our church schools in Cradley, Halesowen, Hasbury & Romsley - headteachers: Marcia Harris, Lorna Knowles, Sarah Shepherd, Suzanne Shackleton. Pray for St Kenelm in Romsley, engaging with village life as a place of hospitality, and St Peter in Lapal working with schools, place of welcome, and their community choir.

Fri 1 SEPTEMBER Halas Team

Please pray for our life together as we work and grow together as a family of five churches. For PCC Lay Chair: David Scotton, standing down after sixteen years' service and for Jonathan Spencer taking up this role. For our PCC Secretary, Administrator, our churchwardens, safeguarding officers, and our Parish and church treasurers.

Sat 2 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all those who lead worship in our churches, that they will feel inspired and inspire others through their preaching and teaching, particularly in the run up to Christmas when more people come into our churches.

Please pray for all those who will be taking part in the 2023 Ride & Stride. For the participants and for those churches welcoming visitors throughout the day.

Greater Dudley Deanery:
Sub Deans - Rachel Newell
and Andrew Sillis

Turku (Finland):
Archbishop Tapio Luoma,
Bishop Mari Leppänen

York (England):
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell,
Bishop Paul Ferguson,
Bishop John Thomson,
Bishop Eleanor Sanderson

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui:
Archbishop Andrew Chan

Yola (Nigeria): M
Bishop Marcus Ibrahim

York (England): T
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell
with Bishops Paul Ferguson,
John Thomson, Eleanor
Sanderson

Ysabel (Melanesia): W
Bishop Ellison Quity

Yukon (Canada): Th
Bishop Lesley Wheeler-Dame

Zaki-Biam (Nigeria): F
Bishop Jezreel Vandeh

Central Zambia (Central Africa): S
Bishop Derek Gary Kamukwamba

Pray for those to be licensed this September in our cathedral, and for others to hear God's call to this ministry.

New Readers licensed

Next Saturday, Bishop Martin will be licensing new Licensed Lay Ministers (also known as Readers) for parishes in Worcestershire and Dudley. Licensed Lay Ministry is distinguished from most other lay ministries in requiring the Bishop's licence under the canon law of the Church of England, and candidates must complete a more demanding two-year training course.



This year's candidates have found the last two years both a challenging and exciting time, as they have had their understanding of their faith stimulated and deepened. LLMs are primarily called to be ministers of the Word in pastoral, teaching and mission contexts. They are resources for parishes in thinking about what God's calling for this community in this place might be. Some of them support traditional church communities, and others are engaged in helping build new worshipping communities.

*Greater Dudley Deanery:
Secretary - Melissa Rose
Treasurer - Michael Bishop*

*Salisbury (England):
Bishop Stephen Lake
with Bishops Karen Gorham,
Andrew Rumsey*

*St Asaph (Wales):
Bishop Gregory Cameron*

*The Church of the Province of
the Indian Ocean:
Bishop James Richard Wong
Yin Song*

Mon 4 Diocesan Secretary

Please pray for John Preston as he prepares to finish as our Diocesan Secretary and give thanks for all he has done to support parishes and diocesan office staff. Pray also for Andy Todd as he takes on the role.

Tue 5 Kingswinford and Wall Heath

Pray for our Mainly Music group, that it will develop discipleship with our baptism families. For our church school's new headteacher and our ALMs and those in training. For an openness to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we prepare to receive national funding. Clergy: Adam Hadley, Jane Freeman, Mel Smith; Readers: Jill Nicholls, Chris Knight (in training)

Wed 6 Diocese of Morogoro

Pray for the Revd Pasis Maira at Berega Bible College as she prepares for a visit to our diocese, including attending the clergy conference. Pasis will be accompanied by Canon Isaac Mgego, Director of Berega Hospital. Pray for them as well as the work of Berega Hospital and Morogoro Bible College.

Thur 7 St James the Great, Lower Gornal

Pray for our congregation as we uphold the traditional values of the Church of England. For our regular fundraising events and our other opportunities for the local community to meet together. Clergy: Gary Hartill, John Oakes

Fri 8 St Chad, Coseley

Pray for our congregation worshipping in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England. The Eucharist is at the centre of our worshipping life and it is celebrated with the richness and solemnity which appeals to all the senses. Clergy: Gary Hartill, John Oakes

Sat 9 St Michael & All Angels, Norton

Please pray for us that we may hear God clearly as we seek God's calling upon us as we shape our new vision and strive to proclaim the gospel. Clergy: Jon Evans, Reader: Dan Muthuveloe

M *Eastern Zambia (Central Africa):
Bishop William Mchombo*

T *Northern Zambia (Central Africa):
Archbishop Albert Chama*

W *Zanzibar (Tanzania):
Bishop Michael Hafidh*

Th *Zaria (Nigeria):
Bishop Ishaya Baba*

F *Central Zimbabwe (Central
Africa):
Bishop Ignatius Makumbe*

S *Zonkwa (Nigeria):
Bishop Jacob Wutokwe Kwashi*

Authorised Lay Ministers

This evening sees 28 Authorised Lay Ministers receiving their certificates from Bishop John in the Cathedral, marking the completion of their training course. Nineteen people have trained this year as worship leaders, five as pastoral workers, and four as ALMs working with children and young people.

The evening provides an opportunity for them to celebrate as a group with family, friends and congregation members, before their incumbents authorise them for these ministries in their parishes. The service also provides a chance to give thanks for the many ways in which authorised lay ministry has enabled people to use their gifts in our parishes and communities.



Please pray for those who are just completing their training, and for all who serve as ALM Children and Youth Workers, Evangelists, Pastoral Workers and Worship Leaders. Pray also that more people may be open to hear God's call to them to explore one of these, or other ministries.

Mon 11 St James, Wollaston

Pray for a clear vision of God's plans for us now, the building up of the church and outreach in our community. For our ALMs and churchwarden. Clergy: Diana Farmer, Carol Weston; Reader: Geoff Tee

Tue 12 Holy Trinity, Old Hill

Pray for the Spirit to draw people to Jesus, bring conviction and genuine repentance and faith, and unite us as mature disciples. Pray for courage to be looking out, reaching out and going out. Clergy: Nick Gowers, Ben Somervell; Readers: Robert Higham and Yvonne Binder

Wed 13 The Protestant Church of Central Germany (EKM)

During the Lutheran World Federation's General Assembly in Kraków a group of students from the EKM's Protestant partner churches are participating in the event. May they be enriched and enlightened.

Thur 14 St Mary, Oldswinford

For the team working with Mission Accompanier, Chris Bright: wisdom, joy and guidance of the Holy Spirit. For our new Curate, Claire, and her family as they settle into Oldswinford. Clergy: John Flitcroft, Claire Cox, Anthony Perry; Readers: Roger King and Theresa Perry

Fri 15 Retirement of the Dean of Worcester

Please pray for Peter Atkinson as he begins his retirement following a farewell service in the Cathedral last weekend. Give thanks for all he has given to the Diocese during this time as Dean of Worcester. Pray for Interim Dean, Stephen Edwards and for the Cathedral Chapter as the process to find a new Dean begins.

Sat 16 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all the leaders in our churches, both lay and ordained. Pray that they will feel supported in their role as they work to develop the discipleship of their congregations and welcome new Christians.

Ribe (Denmark):

Bishop Elof Westergaard

Bath and Wells (England):

Bishop Michael Beasley,

Bishop Ruth Worsley

The Church of Ireland:

Archbishop John McDowell

Zululand (Southern Africa): **M**

Bishop Vikiinduku Mnculwane

Aba (Nigeria):

Vacancy

T

Aba Ngwa North (Nigeria): **W**

Bishop Nathan Kanu

Abakaliki (Nigeria): **Th**

Bishop Monday Chukwuma

Nkwoagu

Aberdeen and Orkney **F**

(Scotland):

Bishop John Armes

Abuja (Nigeria): **S**

Archbishop Henry Ndukuba

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being. Amen.

Greater Dudley Deanery:
Sub Deans - Rachel Newell
and Andrew Sillis

Sheffield (England):
Bishop Pete Wilcox,
Bishop Sophie Jelley

Church of Greenland:
Bishop Paneeraq Siegstad Munk

M *Abyei (South Sudan):*
Michael Deng Bol

T *Accra (West Africa):*
Bishop Daniel Sylvanus
Mensah Torto

W *Adelaide (Australia):*
Archbishop Geoffrey Smith

Th *Afikpo (Nigeria):*
Bishop Paul Udogu

F *North Africa (Alexandria):*
Vacant

S *Agra (North India):*
Bishop Prem Prakash Habi

Harvest

Over the coming weeks many of our churches will be holding Harvest Festivals, giving thanks for the gifts we receive from God's creation. Many services will include bringing gifts of fresh produce and other food to church. These will often then be donated to local foodbanks and pantries in our communities.

The service of Harvest is a more modern addition to the church calendar. Its origins are usually traced to an 1843 adaption of Lammas Day (a thanksgiving for the wheat harvest) by Revd R.S. Hawker. He chose the first Sunday in October as this coincided with the traditional, more secular, 'harvest home' celebration.

An annual church celebration of the harvest established itself rapidly with great popularity and was first recognised officially in the Church of England in 1862.



Mon 18 St Andrew, Wollescote

Please pray that St Andrew's Church community can successfully knock down the church hall and can find a full complement of officers. Clergy: David Nichol; Reader: Kath Davis

Tue 19 St Peter, Pedmore

Please pray for continued endeavours to reach young families and for moves towards gold Eco-church status. Clergy: David Nichol; Readers: Linda Kitto, Corrinne and Richard Sarjeant

Wed 20 Economy & Daily Life

On the eve of St. Matthew's Day pray for all who work in the tax system, and for fairer tax nationally and globally, ending tax avoidance by multi-nationals and taxes that mean the poorest and most vulnerable bear more than their fair share of tax. Pray for the campaigning charity Church Action on Tax Justice.

Thur 21 St Mark, Pensnett

Please pray for our parish during this time of change. We give thanks for all who are supporting us during this time and for our ongoing contact with children at local schools. Clergy: Nigel Traynor

Fri 22 St Thomas, Stourbridge

As we prepare for the building work for our renewals project, pray for the contractors and consultants we're working with, and that a sense of excitement and curiosity about St Thomas' Church grows in the town. Pray too for our new worshipping communities "Toddler Praise" (for preschoolers), and Chewsday Church (for seniors). Clergy: Andrew Sillis and Sarah Roberts-Malpass

Sat 23 Lye & The Stambermill

Pray that we will remain faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture. Clergy: Simon Falshaw; Reader: Graham Dyer

Auxiliary Pathway Ordinations

Some of those on the Auxiliary Pathway will today be ordained by Bishop John in the Cathedral.

This new training pathway is aimed at those who see their vocation as being non-stipendiary ministers to churches in their local area. People were nominated by their incumbents to be part of the two-year training scheme and there was an initial process of discernment through an interview. Some of those in the process will be ordained today at the start of their second year.

Jen Jones is churchwarden of Kyre Wyard and Stoke Bliss churches in Teme Valley South. She has been training for Reader ministry, assuming she was too old to start thinking about ordination. She said: "When the opportunity arose to be part of the Auxiliary Pathway, I was in floods of tears, it seemed like a brilliant opportunity. It's been hard work, but I've really enjoyed it. The encouragement from the training team has been brilliant and it's been invaluable to hear the Bishops' own journeys. I am excited about the possibility of working within my community as an ordained minister, to preside at communion and to connect with and help people from many different backgrounds."

Please pray for all those who will be ordained today.



*Greater Dudley Deanery:
Secretary - Melissa Rose
Treasurer - Michael Bishop*

*Swansea and Brecon (Wales):
Bishop John Lomas*

*Leicester (England):
Bishop Martyn Snow,
Bishop Saju Muthalaly*

Mon 25 Clergy Conference

We pray for the Clergy Conference starting today and running until Thursday. For all the clergy attending and for Stuart Currie, Doug Chaplin, Mary and John Flitcroft, Alison Maddocks, Phillip Johnson and Ruth Shearn for their roles in organising the conference.

Tue 26 Wordsley

Please pray for the team as we move forward working in our community. Please pray for our Open the Book, baptism, and Messy Church teams working with schools and families. For our ALM: Sue Haywood. Clergy Lyn Rowson; Readers: Chris Geary, Mike Timmins, Terry Blewitt

Wed 27 Diocese of Peru

Pray for the Peruvian clergy visiting us for the clergy conference this week, that they and we may be enriched by sharing together in this time. Pray too for their families and parishes back in Lima and Arequipa, and for their ministry in those places.

Thur 28 Black Country Partnership NHS Trust

Pray for staff, patients, and volunteers at the Black Country Partnership NHS Trust and for the chaplaincy team who support them.

Fri 29 Retired Clergy, Greater Dudley Deanery

We pray for our retired clergy and their families in the Greater Dudley Deanery, thankful for all that they have given and continue to give. We pray for their continued journey of faith, mindful of new challenges they may be facing in retirement. May God's blessing and peace be upon them.

Sat 30 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for those churches who continue to offer worship online as well as in church. Pray that all our worship is welcoming and accessible to a wide variety of people and helps to develop a deeper discipleship.

*Aguata (Nigeria): M
Samuel Ezeofor*

*Ahoada (Nigeria): T
Clement Ekpeye*

*Aipo Rongo (Papua New Guinea): W
Bishop Nathan Ingen*

*Ajayi Crowther (Nigeria): Th
Bishop Olugbenga O. Oduntan*

*Akobo (South Sudan): F
Bishop Joseph Yual Yol*

*Akoko (Nigeria): S
Archbishop Gabriel Akinbiyi*

This week please pray for all at work in your parish and community, especially those working alone, or with uncertainty about the future of their jobs; and pray for chaplains, and for more volunteers to come forward for training to take on this simple but Kingdom centred ministry.

Faith at Work in Worcester
Development Officer -
Dick Johnson, Team Leader
for BCUIM - Steve Bentham

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

Liverpool (England):
Bishop John Perumbalath,
Bishop Beverley Mason

Monmouth (Wales):
Bishop Cherry Vann

Haderslev (Denmark):
Bishop Marianne Christiansen

Workplace Chaplains

Faith at Work in Worcestershire (FWW) and the Black Country Urban Industrial Mission (BCUIM) are ecumenical projects that encourage and enable Workplace Chaplaincy across the Diocese. Chaplains are volunteers who undertake this ministry as part of their home church's mission and outreach in their local economy – in shops, offices, industrial premises and other workplaces. Some are ordained; most are lay people, with a few hours a week to spend time visiting local workplaces, to listen, support and encourage those at work – a Christian presence of care and compassion.

www.faithatwork.org.uk / www.bcuim.co.uk



Mon 2 Worcester Deanery

Pray for our churches as we seek to grow in health and sustainability, especially those engaging with children, youth and family workers as well as parishes developing new worshipping communities. Deanery Leadership Team: Diane Cooksey, Robert Pearce, Anne Potter, Paul Fulbrook, Mike Bunclark, Stephanie Moyes.

Tue 3 TSSF Wyvern Area

Please pray for the Wyvern Area (Hereford & Worcester) Third Order of the Society of St Francis.

Wed 4 Diocese of Morogoro

Please pray for the vital work of staff at the Tunguli Health Centre, especially giving thanks for the work of Nurdin who plays a crucial role in the community as a midwife and in providing vital education in maternal and child health.

Thur 5 Saltway Team Ministry

Please pray for our local communities in Droitwich and the surrounding areas, particularly for the most vulnerable and those who reach out to them. Pray for wisdom as we as the church play our part. Clergy: Laura Handy, Giles Joiner; Readers: Philip Bowen, Bill Sumner

Fri 6 Saltway Team Ministry

Please pray for our existing congregations as we journey through the different seasons of life and seek to be those who worship God, grow as disciples and serve our community. Clergy: Laura Handy, Giles Joiner; Readers: Philip Bowen, Bill Sumner

Sat 7 Saltway Team Ministry

Please pray for all involved in our new worshipping communities at St Andrew's Church and 'Blaze' at St Nicholas' Church, both those who attend and the team who make them happen. Clergy: Laura Handy, Giles Joiner; Readers: Philip Bowen, Bill Sumner

M Akoko Edo (Nigeria):
Bishop Jolly Oyekpen

T Akot (South Sudan):
Bishop Isaac Dhieu Ater

W Akure (Nigeria):
Bishop Simeon Borokini

Th Alabama (USA):
Bishop John McKee Sloan

F Alaska (USA):
Bishop Mark Lattime

S Saint Albans (England):
Bishop Alan Smith
with Bishops Richard Atkinson,
Jane Mainwaring

Prisons' Week



The diocesan Criminal Justice Affairs Group (CJAG) aims to offer a Christian perspective and advise on criminal justice matters.

On Prisons' Sunday each year, the Cathedral has welcomed CJAG's input on a specific theme. This year's service aims to raise awareness and encourage prayer for everyone affected by imprisonment and the Criminal Justice System. It is clear that the system in Britain is in a state of severe crisis which affects the whole of our society, not just those in prison and their families. Britain has the highest imprisonment rates in Western Europe. Numbers are steadily growing despite evidence that redirecting resources to welfare, housing, education and health and social care would result in holistic investment in communities that would address the root causes of crime and violence. Community sentences cost 10% of the cost of a prison place. Society has lost its sense of justice and humanity, and CJAG asks what does it take for this to be taken seriously and for change to happen?

Mon 9 Prison Chaplaincy

Pray for staff, prisoners and their families at HMP Hewell and HMP Long Lartin and for the chaplaincy teams who support them.

Tue 10 Glasshampton Monastery

We pray for the Anglican Franciscan Brothers at Glasshampton Monastery.

Wed 11 The Protestant Church of Central Germany (EKM)

During these days a group from the EKM's Polish Orthodox partner church is visiting the EKM. We pray for joyful ecumenical hearts.

Thur 12 Worcester Royal Hospital

Pray for staff, patients, and volunteers at the Worcester Royal Hospital and for the chaplaincy team who support them.

Fri 13 West Worcester Beacon

Please pray that we become more prayerful, joyful, hospitable communities, giving thanks for all we are learning and developing as a benefice. Clergy: Kalantha Brewis, Paul Wilcox, David Morphy, Sheila Nall; Readers: Barbara Beard, Denise Pollock

Sat 14 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray for all those who feel excluded from our churches and help us to find new ways to ensure they are welcomed.

Please pray for all those in and affected by the CJS, for a more compassionate approach to crime, and for the work of CJAG and those groups and organisations they work with.

*Criminal Justice Affairs
Group Chair: Charmian Manship
Bishop's Adviser on Criminal
Justice: Paul West*

*The Episcopal Church in
Jerusalem & The Middle East*

*Truro (England):
Bishop Philip Mounstephen,
Bishop Hugh Nelson*

*Tönsberg (Norway):
Bishop Jan Otto Myrseth*

*Strängnäs (Sweden):
Bishop Johan Dalman*

*Albany (USA): M
Vacant*

*Algoma (Canada): T
Archbishop Anne Germond*

*All Saints (Kenya): W
Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit*

*Aluakluak (South Sudan): Th
Bishop Isaac Nyaryiel Aleth*

*Amazônia (Brazil): F
Bishop Maurício Jose Araujo
De Andrade*

*Amichi (Nigeria): S
Bishop Ephraim Ikeakor*

Please pray for Roger and his team in their role of equipping ministers for mission.

Director of Mission and Ministry

The Revd Dr Roger Latham started as Director of Mission and Ministry for the Diocese in July. Roger is responsible for leading and developing the team which will oversee our underpinning priority of equipping ministers for mission. He came to the Diocese from being Director of Cuddesdon Gloucester and Hereford, where he was responsible for ordination and licensed lay training for the two dioceses.

Roger lived in our diocese for ten years from age 10 where he was a member of the choir at St John's Church in Bromsgrove. He said: "I am really excited by the diocesan strategy as well as the vision for this role, which brings together a lot of the strands from my previous experience. I love it when people realise what it is that God wants them to be, and then helping them to get there. As a teacher I get very excited when I see a 'lightbulb' moment happen and things changing as a result. I'm looking forward to getting to know the Diocese again, spending time listening to people's stories and hearing what's happening on the ground. I know that there will be much for me to learn as I start."



*Director of Mission and Ministry
– Roger Latham*

*The Anglican Church of Kenya:
Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit*

*Växjö (Sweden):
Bishop Fredrik Modéus*

*Oxford (England):
Bishop Steven Croft,
Bishop Alan Wilson,
Bishop Gavin Collins,
Bishop Olivia Graham*

Mon 16 HR Team

Please pray for Jo Hyrons and Becky Lowe in their work providing HR support to the DBF and parishes across the Diocese.

Tue 17 Parsonages & Facilities Team

Please pray for Ruth Beard, Jaïne Simm, Anna Phillips, Carl Woollaston & Paul Coombes in their work looking after parsonages and the diocesan offices.

Wed 18 Economy & Daily Life

On St Luke's Day, pray for all who work in the health sector in your community, remembering the many support staff such as technicians, pharmacy and laboratory staff, administrators, receptionists and cleaners.

Thur 19 St John-in-Bedwardine, Worcester

As we work towards establishing a Messy Church, pray for our engagement with families and young people. Pray too for those seeking to deepen their faith, and for our reader in training, Rob Little. Clergy: Phil Bradford, Sarah Cottrill

Fri 20 St Michael, Dines Green

Pray for the people of the Dines Green estate, especially those who have been hit hardest by the cost-of-living crisis, and for St Michael's as it seeks to reach out to the most vulnerable. Clergy: Phil Bradford, Sarah Cottrill

Sat 21 St Clement & St David, Worcester

We give thanks for the successful launch of Men's Shed and pray for all who make use of this facility. We pray for all who attend our newly formed Friendship Group for the bereaved, and for St David's as they explore new ways of reaching out to the local community. Clergy: Sarah Cottrill, Phil Bradford

M *Amritsar (North India):
Bishop Pradeep Kumar
Samantaray*

T *Andaman and Car Nicobar
Islands (North India):
Bishop Christopher Paul*

W *Saint Andrews, Dunkeld and
Dunblane (Scotland):
Bishop Ian Paton*

Th *Central and South Angola
(Mozambique):
Vacant*

F *Ankole (Uganda):
Bishop Sheldon Frederick
Mwesigwa*

S *North Ankole (Uganda):
Bishop Stephen Namanya*

Growing as Kingdom People: Renewals

Earlier in the year the national church agreed to allocate significant funding to our diocese over the next seven years. This will be invested in our plans to grow as Kingdom People and to support the priorities of our 2030 vision as agreed by Diocesan Synod.

Part of this project will see the renewal of seven churches in Dudley and Redditch. The Borough of Dudley is the most densely populated area of our diocese. Many of the churches are small but have the potential to reach many more people.

This is the first phase of our plan to ensure that each major area of population has at least one larger church – with at least 150 people attending in an average week. These larger churches will be able to help support and resource other local churches. Future phases will see applications for funding for renewals in our other major areas of population.



Almighty God, who called your Church to witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you. Amen.

Worcester Deanery:
Area Dean - Diane Cooksey
Lay Chair - Robert Pearce

Mon 23 Worcestershire West Rural Team

We give thanks for all the churchwardens and PCC members across the WWRT benefice. We pray for continued strength and sustainability as they continue to support and encourage the ministry and mission within the parishes they serve. Clergy: Anne Potter

Tue 24 Worcestershire West Rural Team

We give thanks for the ministry team and ALMs who selflessly serve the parishes across the WWRT benefice. We pray especially today for Assistant Priests: Jennifer Whittaker, Mike Gardner and Ruth Wintle

Wed 25 Diocese of Peru

Although stories only rarely reach the media here, mining is a dangerous and controversial part of life for many in the Peruvian Andes. Pray for miners and their families, for their safety, and for all those who suffer the environmental and other damage of exploitation by overseas mining companies. Pray too for all those who minister in these highland places.

Thur 26 Worcestershire West Rural Team

We pray for the worshipping congregations of the seven parishes within this multi-parish benefice - Martley, Wichenford, Lower Teme Valley (Broadwas, Cotheridge and Knightwick), Suckley, Alfrick-w-Lulsley, Leigh & Bransford, Crown East & Rushwick.

Fri 27 Worcestershire West Rural Team

We give thanks for ConnecT, a group of mums aiming to nurture links between families and the church through creative outreach opportunities. We pray for the work with young children and especially for those involved with the weekly Mainly Music for toddlers and their carers.

Sat 28 Growing as Kingdom People

Give thanks for all parishes continue to do to support mission and ministry across the Diocese through contributing to ministry share. Help us to have generous mindsets and pray that all parishes will be able to 'do what they can'.

The Anglican Church of Korea:
Archbishop Peter Kyongho Lee
Carlisle (England):
Bishop James Newcome, Bishop Rob Saner-Haigh
Stavanger (Norway):
Bishop Anne Lise Ådnøy

Northwest Ankole (Uganda): M
Bishop Amos Magezi

South Ankole (Uganda): T
Bishop Nathan Ahimbisibwe

West Ankole (Uganda): W
Bishop Johnson Twinomujuni

Antananarivo (Indian Ocean): Th
Bishop Samoela Jaona Ranarivelo

Antsiranana (Indian Ocean): F
Bishop Joamandiny Jean Baptiste

Aotearoa (New Zealand): S
Vancat



Wills and Legacies

Gifts left in wills make a real difference to the life of a church and are a fantastic way to leave a long and lasting memory. Every gift, great or small, will make a real difference to that church and its mission and ministry in your community for future generations.

More wills are written in November than any other month and thanks to a partnership between The Church of England and Farewill, you can write your will online for free. You can also choose to leave a gift to your church, although there is no obligation to do so. If you do choose to remember your local or a favourite church, thank you.

All the details can be found at: <https://farewill.com/cofe>

Loving God, we remember all those who have left this earthly world and pray for the families and friends they leave behind, grant them comfort in the promise of your eternal life. We pray for PCC members as they decide how to best honour the memory of those who have left legacies to churches, give them guidance to make the right choices to help grow your kingdom. And we think of all those who are daunted by death, give them comfort and reassurance, be with them and help ease their anxieties. Amen.

Worcester Deanery Leadership
Team: Paul Fulbrook, Stephanie
Watson

**The Anglican Church of
Melanesia:**
Archbishop Leonard Dawea

Winchester (England):
Bishop Debbie Sellin,
Bishop David Williams

Agder and Telemark (Norway):
Bishop Stein Reinertsen

Mon 30 All Saints, Worcester

Pray that we might continue to see God's blessing upon our ministry to children, young people and students, more baptisms, deepening discipleship, more encounters with the Holy Spirit, and continued partnership with other churches in the city centre. Clergy: Rich Johnson, James Ellin, Jess Fellows, Fraser Oates

Tue 31 All Saints' Worcester Resourcing Projects

For our resourcing partnership projects in Kempsey and Inkberrow, that the churches there may flourish in ministry and mission as we journey together. For future partnership opportunities and increased collaboration across churches.

Wed 1 NOVEMBER All Saints' Day

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thur 2 All Souls' Day

May God in his infinite love and mercy bring the whole Church, living and departed in the Lord Jesus, to a joyful resurrection and the fulfilment of his eternal kingdom. Amen.

Fri 3 St Richard's Hospice

Pray for staff, patients and their families at St Richard's Hospice and for the chaplaincy team who support them. Chaplaincy Lead: Clare Griffiths

Sat 4 Finance Team

Please pray for the Diocesan Finance Team and give thanks for all they do to support parishes, especially in these uncertain times. Shaun Mooney, Ryan Bates, Chris Boden, Robyn Rooney, Jo Burr, Jessica Lambert and Sucki Dhaliwal.

M Araucanía (Chile):
Vacant

T The Arctic (Canada):
Bishop David Parsons

W Argentina (South America):
Bishop Brian Williams

**Th Northern Argentina
(South America):**
Vacant

F Argyll and The Isles (Scotland):
Bishop Keith Righlin

S Arizona (USA):
Bishop Jennifer Reddall

All Saints' Sunday & All Souls' Day

No Christian is solitary. Through baptism we become members one of another in Christ, members of a company of saints whose mutual belonging transcends death. All Saints' Day and the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed on All Souls' Day both celebrate this mutual belonging.

All Saints' Day celebrates those in whose lives the Church as a whole has seen the grace of God powerfully at work. It is an opportunity to give thanks for that grace, to be encouraged by the example of the saints and to recall that holiness may grow in ordinary circumstances, as well as the extraordinary crises, of human living.



The Commemoration of the Faithful Departed celebrates the saints in a more local and personal way. It allows us to remember with thanksgiving before God those we knew but see no more.

May Christ who makes saints of sinners, who has transformed those we remember, raise and strengthen us that we may transform the world; and may God give to us and to all those we love, his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next. Amen.

Worcester Deanery:
Area Dean - Diane Cooksey
Lay Chair - Robert Pearce

Mon 6 St John the Baptist, Claines

Please pray for our church during our vacancy, for God's guidance in the appointment, for strength for the churchwardens and thanks for the retired clergy helping out. For our work with local schools, our outreach in the community and for our new ALMs. Clergy: Peter Davies, Jennie Haywood; Readers: Jan Kear and Rachel Cramp

La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico:
Archbishop Enrique Treviño Cruz

Norwich (England):
Bishop Graham Usher,
Bishop Jane Steen

Tue 7 St George, Worcester

Please pray for our church during the vacancy, for God's guidance in the appointment, and for the PCC. Giving thanks for the retired clergy helping out. For our ministry at St George's CE School, our new Youth Group and for our new ALMs. Clergy: Peter Davies, Jennie Haywood, Readers: Jan Kear and Rachel Cramp

Luleå (Sweden):
Bishop Åsa Nyström

Wed 8 Diocese of Morogoro

We pray for all rural communities in the Diocese of Morogoro, where it is the responsibility of everyone to play their part in cultivating the land to produce food for day to day living. We give thanks that the tractor provided by our diocese some years ago still plays a vital role in providing food for the Tunguli community.

Arkansas (USA): **M**
Bishop Larry Benfield

Armagh (Ireland): **T**
Archbishop John McDowell

Thur 9 St Stephen, Worcester

Pray for our outreach to children and families as we prepare to begin a new worshipping community through Sunday Stars. For our continued collaboration in mission and ministry with our neighbouring churches at Claines and St George. Give thanks for all the ministries offered by those at St Stephen to the wider community. Clergy: vacant, Lindsey Coulthard, Ann Waizeneker, Stephen Malkinson; Reader: Margaret Mandrell.

Armidale (Australia): **W**
Bishop Rod Chiswell

Arochuku/Ohafia (Nigeria): **Th**
Bishop Johnson Onuoha

Fri 10 St Martin in the Cornmarket, Worcester

At St Martin in the Cornmarket in Worcester, please pray for the Lord's blessing on the renewed church grounds and site - that it might be fruitful in being a work of mission. Clergy: Nick Kaleniuk, Tim Clarke

Aru (Congo): **F**
Bishop Georges Titre Ande

Sat 11 Growing as Kingdom People

Lord God, we thank you for all the places we can find you in our communities. Help us to remember that Jesus came to transform the world and we all have a role to play in that.

Asaba (Nigeria): **S**
Bishop Kingsley Obuh

Most holy God hear our prayers for all who strive for peace and all who fight for justice. Help us, who today remember the cost of war, to work for a better tomorrow; and, as we commend to you lives lost in terror and conflict, bring us all, in the end, to the peace of your presence. Amen.

Worcester Deanery Leadership Team: Paul Fulbrook, Stephanie Watson

Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola: Archbishop Carlos Simao Matsinhe

Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church: Archbishop Urmas Viilma, Bishop Tiit Salumäe, Bishop Joel Luhamets

Diocese of Rochester (England): Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, Bishop Simon Burton-Jones

M *Asante-Mampong (West Africa): Archbishop Cyril Kobina Ben-Smith*

T *Saint Asaph (Wales): Bishop Gregory Cameron*

W *Athabasca (Canada): Bishop David Greenwood*

Th *Atlanta (USA): Bishop Robert Wright*

F *Attooch (South Sudan): Bishop Moses Anur Ayom*

S *Auckland (New Zealand): Bishop Ross Bay*

Meco War Memorial

The Meco war memorial marks the events of 3 October 1940, when a lone German aircraft dropped bombs on the Meco Mining Company factory in Bromyard Road, Worcester. It was the only bombing raid on the city that resulted in the death of civilians. The bombs killed seven workers aged 19 to 77, Doris Tindall lost her sight and over 50 other staff were injured. In 1947 a memorial plaque was unveiled and dedicated at the factory to commemorate those who had died. Doris Tindall's name was also included.



Due to the closure of the Komatsu Mining Company the memorial needed to be moved and earlier this year, the memorial was rededicated in St John-in-Bedwardine Church in a special service to which the family members of those listed on the memorial were invited. Today we remember all those who have been impacted by conflict and war and those who work for peace.

Mon 13 Worcester Southeast Team

At St Philip and St James, Whittington, we give thanks for the completion of our Elizabethan Room. We pray that it that will allow us to strengthen our links in the expanding community that we serve. Clergy: Andrew Stand, Peter Hart & Rob Farmer; Reader: Mike Bunclark.

Tue 14 Worcester Southeast Team

At Holy Trinity with St Matthew, pray for our ongoing exploration of 'being church' without a building. For our community leaders who are partnering with us. Clergy: Rob Farmer; Reader: Marion May

Wed 15 The Protestant Church of Central Germany (EKM)

As the old church year comes to an end, prepare our hearts for Advent.

Thur 16 Worcester Southeast Team

At St Mark in the Cherry Orchard, please pray that we may build up our links in the community especially with the groups who use our church hall, with Cherry Orchard School and our links to Acorns Children's Hospice. Clergy: Andrew Stand, Peter Hart & Rob Farmer; Reader: Mike Bunclark

Fri 17 Worcester Southeast Team

At St Martin with St Peter, please pray for growth in our ministry with children and families, in the local schools especially Red Hill (CE) Primary, for Mainly Music, Junior Church and our junior choir. Clergy: Peter Hart, Richard Wood; Reader: Mike Bunclark

Sat 18 Archdeacon Robert Jones

Please pray for the Archdeacon of Worcester, Robert Jones as he retires from the role with a farewell service of Choral Evensong in the Cathedral tomorrow evening.

Interfaith Week

Today marks the end of the 15th annual Interfaith Week (12 to 19 November), which aims to strengthen good interfaith relations, increase awareness of the different faith communities in the UK, and to increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs.

Each year, thousands take part directly and millions encounter its positive messages through social media. A wide mix of different bodies take part: faith and belief bodies; local interfaith organisations; community and voluntary organisations; workplaces and staff networks; local authorities; emergency services; schools, colleges, universities and youth organisations; chaplaincies; sports organisations; libraries, museums and art galleries; hospitals and hospices; and many others.

As part of Interfaith week, Worcestershire Interfaith Forum held "Pilgrimage now" – an exhibition in Worcester Cathedral. This explored how pilgrimage has become such a popular inclusive experience, good for mental, physical & spiritual health. It included contributions from those of all faiths and none.

Inter Faith Week



Pray for all interfaith networks and the diocesan Interfaith Resources Group in the Diocese.

Pray for events which have happened during Interfaith Week and those which take place throughout the year. Please pray also for the national Interfaith network.

Mon 20 St Barnabas with Christ Church

We give thanks for our partnership with neighbouring St Wulstan and St Nicholas parishes. We rejoice in our involvement with our church schools and are reimagining how we use our two buildings for ministry and mission. Clergy: Sarah Northall, Andy Gandon; Reader: Julie Berrow

Tue 21 St Wulstan, Worcester

We give thanks for our ever-deepening partnership with neighbouring St Barnabas with Christ Church and St Nicholas parishes, and we rejoice the growing variety of important community initiatives to which we can offer a home. Clergy: Sarah Northall; Readers: Cary Taylor, Phillip Howell

Wed 22 Economy & Daily Life

Pray for the work of foodbanks across the Diocese, especially those where donations struggle to meet demand, and giving thanks for the many volunteers who give their time. Pray for all who have to resort to using foodbanks to make ends meet, and for a restructuring of our economy so that foodbanks may no longer be necessary.

Thur 23 St Nicholas, Warndon

We give thanks for our developing work with children and families through All Age worship. We pray for continued guidance as we explore new ways of working more collaboratively with neighbouring parishes. Clergy: Diane Cooksey, Rosie Moss, Methodist Deacon Corinne Brown; Reader: Nick Stephens

Fri 24 Retired Clergy, Worcester Deanery

We pray for our retired clergy and their families in their continued journey of faith, mindful of new challenges they may be facing in retirement. May God's blessing and peace be upon them.

Sat 25 Growing as Kingdom People

Pray that our worship will always be the best that it can be, reaching out to those of different generations. Give thanks for those parishes who are working together to resource each other; growing and developing their worship as a result.

*Interfaith in Worcester - Catherine Lack
Interfaith in Dudley - Calum Burke
Bishop's Advisor on Interfaith Matters - John Chesworth*

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma): Archbishop Stephen Than Myint Oo

St Edmundsbury & Ipswich (England):

*Bishop Martin Seeley,
Bishop Mike Harrison*

Aberdeen and Orkney (Scotland): Bishop John Armes

North West Australia M
(Australia):
Bishop Gary Nelson

Aweil (South Sudan): T
Bishop Abraham Yel Nhial

Awerial (South Sudan): W
Bishop David Akau

Awgu / Aninri (Nigeria): Th
Bishop Emmanuel Ugwu

Awka (Nigeria): F
Archbishop Alexander Chibuzo Ibezim

Awori (Nigeria): S
Bishop J Akin Atere



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF
WORCESTER



If you have a story to feature on a Sunday in a future diary, please do get in touch! Large print copies of the diary are always available – email Sam Setchell, Communications Officer on ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk, or contact the Diocesan Office reception on **01905 20537** if you or someone you know would like one.

