CALENDAR OF PRAYER

‘Praying for each other; praying with each other’

‘We are called to discover God in a new way, and to bring God in a new way to that place where we are...’

Tom Wright

May 2020
1 MAY  

**WESTGATE-ON-SEA: ST JAMES**

Clergy: Stephen Rae

_Anglican Communion:_

*Mthatha (formerly St John’s) (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Hummingfield Ndwandwe*

*Yei (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Hilary Adeba Luate*

2 MAY  

**WESTGATE-ON-SEA: ST SAVIOUR**

Clergy: Karen Gooding

Pray for a deepening of our common life through prayer. Pray that God’s Holy Spirit will come rushing into the dry corners of our lives, and refresh us with grace so that we can rest in his love and reflect it throughout our wider community.

_Anglican Communion:_

*Muhabura (Uganda) The Rt Revd Cranmer Mugisha*

*Yeri (South Sudan) The Rt Revd John Abraham Nyari*

*Ijumu (Nigeria) The Ven Paul Olarewaju Ojo*

3 MAY  

**PRAYING FOR TEACHERS AND CHILDREN DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS**

Please give thanks for all the teachers and staff who are supporting the children of our essential key-workers. Remember our children and young people as they have find themselves in different ways of learning. Pray for those who were due to take exams and those who are assessing their work for final grades. Pray especially for key-workers’ children, splitting their week between school and home, may they try to do their best in this complex situation. Pray for motivation for staff and children to find a renewed delight in learning. Pray for a sense of the presence of God, in schools and at home as parents, teachers and children, look forward with hope. (Prayer Request written by Miranda Ford, Lay Chair of the Ospringe Deanery)

_Anglican Communion:_

*Pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (The Anglican Communion in Japan)*

*The Most Revd Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu - Primate of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai & Bishop of Hokkaido*
4 May  PRAYING WITH THE WEST BRIDGE DEANERY

Area Dean: Ravi Holy
Lay Chair: Caroline Spencer
Secretary: Caroline Spencer
Treasurer: Nigel Poole

Anglican Communion:
Mukono (Uganda) The Rt Revd James William Ssebaggala
Yewa (form. Egbado) (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Michael Adebayo Oluwarohunbi
Ikara (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Yusuf Janfalan

5 May  WEST BRIDGE DEANERY: CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICATE

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:
Brian Chalmers, John Hewes, Alan Ramsay, Chris Duncan, Garth Barber

Anglican Communion:
Multan (Pakistan) The Rt Revd Leo Rodrick Paul
Yirol (South Sudan) The Rt Revd David Roch Angong
Nyang (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Paul Tokmach Lual
Aluakluak (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Isaac Nyaryiel Aleth
Ikeduru (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Maduwike

6 May  WEST BRIDGE DEANERY: CHAPLAINS

Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work wherever they go!

Anglican Communion:
Mumbai (Formerly Bombay) (North India) The Rt Revd Prakash Patole
Yokohama (Japan) The Revd Ignatius Osamu Irie
7 MAY     CHARTHAM AND UPPER HARDES WITH STELLING

Clergy: Philip Brown

Please pray for patience and wellbeing at this time, especially for those who are alone.

As we continue to provide services and contact, we would appreciate prayer for our online safety and security.

And for older folk who don’t have internet access, that we can continue to be in touch by phone. That God will deepen and maintain in us, that spiritual unity and fellowship we have in Christ, regardless of distance and situation.

We give thanks for our services and the many people who are joining us at Compline and Holy Communion, and the various other meetings and get togethers we have.

Anglican Communion:

Mumias (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joseph Wandera
Yola (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Markus Ibrahim
York (England) The Most Revd & Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu

8 MAY     KINGS WOOD BENEFICE

Clergy: Vacant

Reader: Gerry Willis

Churchwardens: John Willis, Maureen Taylor, Roz Goodenough, Tony Denne, James Russell, Gail Pavey, Geoff Jenkins, David Potter

School: St Mary’s Church of England Primary School

Pray with us: Heavenly Father, Guide us in our search for a new priest to minister here in our benefice of King’s Wood. Give to us wisdom, openness to your will and a clear focus to sustain our future and grow your church.

May we truly be a valued presence in our communities, a place where everyone can belong and be loved, a place to find peace and to find God. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

And we invite prayer especially for those with whom we were engaging at our Sunday Breakfast and Baby & Toddler Group.

Anglican Communion:

Mundri (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Bismark Monday Avokaya Azumu
Ysabel (Melanesia) The Revd Ellison Quity
9 May

**THE UNITED WYE BENEFICE**

Clergy: Ravi Holy, Linda Cross, Lorraine Lawrence  
Readers: Paul Burnham, Maureen Burnham, Kevin Rall, Lucy Carvill  
School: Bodsham Church of England Primary School

**Anglican Communion:**

*Mundu Area (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Samuel Lomue Eluzai*  
*Yukon (Canada) The Rt Revd Larry David Robertson*  
*Ikka (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Godfrey Ekpenisi*

10 May

**PRAYING FOR REFUGEES DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS**

Please pray for those who are exploited and vulnerable. Pray for refugees and for the many families struggling to feed their children. Pray for those who, during this pandemic, will be living in close proximity with each other. Pray that God will grant those in need moments of peace and comfort. Pray for refugee children living in dysfunctional households, pray that these children will know Jesus and experience his protective presence. Pray today for all those who have no home to call their own, pray that they will be met at their point of need with welcome, kindness and generosity. Amen (Prayer request written by Domenica Pecoraro Kent Refugee Projects Officer)

**Anglican Communion:**

*Pray for the Anglican Church of Kenya*  
*The Most Revd Jackson Ole Sapit - Primate and Archbishop of All Kenya*

11 May

**MAIDSTONE DEANERY**

Area Dean: Chris Lavender  
Lay Chair: Diane Enfield  
Secretary: Anne Cole, Treasurer: Susan Ghinn  
School: St Augustine Academy

Please pray for the various ways in which the churches are engaging with their communities, alongside other agencies, at this difficult time. Pray for those churches in interregnum, and for all those having to engage with further uncertainty. Please pray for the clergy who due to move in the not too distant future, but who have to negotiate as to how, and when, that happens. Generally pray for the systems and structures as we seek to adapt to a different way of being church, and not forgetting the financial challenges that all will face.

**Anglican Communion:**  
12 May

MAIDSTONE DEANERY: CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

Ron Gamble, David Jones, David Grimwood, Clinton Davis, Julian Waite, Adie McCall, Joy Green, Brian Reed, Valerie Pearce, Robin Williamson, Peter Maurice, Kes Grant, Alison Francis, Brian Stevenson, Colin Terry, Liz Walker

Anglican Communion:

Muyinga (Burundi) The Rt Revd Paisible Ndacayisaba

Zanzibar (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Michael Hafidh

Ikwo (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Kenneth Ifemene

13 May

MAIDSTONE DEANERY: CHAPLAINS

Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work where ever they go!

Elizabeth Bryson, Clifford Goble, Nicola Mitra

Anglican Communion:

Zaria (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Abiodun Ogunyemi Saliu Bello

14 May

ALLINGTON: ST NICHOLAS WITH MAIDSTONE: ST PETER

Clergy: Chris Lavender

Curate: Barry Knott

Reader: Mary Garrett

May God bless all those who do so much in our community church. We give thanks to God for the fellowship and the joy of community life together. In these times of uncertainty and instability may God refresh each and every one of us. May God enthuse us to maintain contact, to remain positive and to return reinvigorated to a new normality. May God be glorified in our time of need.

Anglican Communion:

Mytikyina (Myanmar) The Rt Revd John Zau Li

Zonkwa (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jacob Kwashi

Zululand (Southern Africa) Vacant
15 MAY  
LOOSE: ALL SAINTS

Clergy: Steve Price, Chris Thom
Curate: Chris Watson Lee
Reader: Barbara Lewis

Anglican Communion:
Nagpur (North India) The Rt Revd Paul Dupare
Aba (Nigeria) Vacant

16 MAY  
MAIDSTONE: ALL SAINTS WITH ST PHILIP WITH ST STEPHEN (TOVIL)

Clergy: Ian Parrish

School: Archbishop Courtenay CE Primary School

We pray that God might guide and encourage us in seeking out new and innovative ways of finding community in isolation.

This period of Social-distancing gives the Mission Learning Communities an opportunity of Dwelling in the Word, of gaining new insights, of reading the Scriptures, of being more aware of God’s presence in our lives.

Guide us, O Lord, through the changes and grant us guidance and peace of spirit; that we may not be anxious in adversity, or too busy to let the moment pass by, but in faith surrender our souls to your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Anglican Communion:
Nairobi (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joel Waweru Mwangi
Aba Ngwa North (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Nathan Kanu
Ikwuano (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Chigozirim Onyegbule

17 MAY  
PRAYING FOR THE NHS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Today let us pray for the NHS. For our Doctors and Nurses who are working so hard to bring healing, comfort and relief. We give thanks for their skill, their sympathy and their resilience, and we pray that God will bless and uphold them in the days ahead. We pray also for hospital staff, for paramedics, for pharmacists, and for all those who are currently volunteering to help the vulnerable and the needy, giving grateful thanks for their willingness to put others before themselves.

Anglican Communion:
Pray for the Anglican Church of Korea
The Most Revd Moses Nagjun Yoo - Primate of Korea and Bishop of Daejeon
MAIDSTONE: ST ANDREW (BARMING HEATH)

Clergy: Chris Lavender
Curate: Barry Knott
Reader: John Sweetman

We give thanks to God for all those who support the community of St Andrew. For those who routinely provide fellowship and care through Explorers in the school, social events, community activity in the hall, and fund-raising initiatives. May God refresh them in these challenging times and equip them for what is to come.

We pray and give thanks to God for all those who are selflessly doing so much in the wider community to support those who are in need. May they sense the presence of God in all they do.

Anglican Communion:
Nakuru (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joseph Muchai
Abakaliki (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Monday Nkwoagu
Ilaje (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Fredrick Olugbemi

MAIDSTONE: ST FAITH WITH RINGLESTONE HALL

Clergy: Arthur Houston
Readers: Sue Shaw, Ann McDonald

Please give thanks with us for the technology that is opening up many new possibilities during this time of isolation. As we join in prayer this brings a greater sense of togetherness, and is a good preparation for us, as our plans to develop a new community and worship center progress. The Bible has many examples of faith surviving and flourishing in times of exile. As we face the challenges, may we also look for the opportunities.

Lord, help us to remain open minded, generous hearted, responsive to change, trusting in you and remembering that it is all for your glory.

Anglican Communion:
Nambale (Kenya) The Rt Revd Robert Magina Barasa
Aberdeen & Orkney (Scotland) The Rt Revd Anne Dyer
Ile - Oluji (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Abel Oluyemi Ajibodu
20 MAY

MAIDSTONE: ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Clergy: Vacant
Churchwardens: Tony Chadwick, Melanie Williams

Pray with us: St Luke’s is currently in an interregnum, and at the time of writing the parish profile has just gone online. Pray that the right candidate will be attracted and for wisdom for those on the interview panel. Pray also for the Churchwardens, PCC and volunteers seeking to support those affected by the current suspension of services and the need for many to remain at home. We think especially of those who live alone, those with health conditions and those who find understanding what is going on difficult. Help us to keep praising God as he walks with us.

Anglican Communion:

Namibia (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Luke Pato
Abuja (Nigeria) The Most Revd Henry Chukwudum Ndukuba (Primate)

21 MAY

MAIDSTONE: ST MARTIN

Clergy: Joyce Addison
Reader: Robin Fassenfelt

Please pray for the well-being of our community during this pandemic. We pray in particular for the elderly, those living alone, our vulnerable families, and those who are homeless. We give thanks to God for the pastoral care that the congregation is extending to one another, and to their neighbours in need. We thank God for Melanie and Andrew, our Ignite enablers, and all they are doing. Please also pray for our Wardens Chris and Keith who are doing a fantastic job. We ask you to pray for our local supermarket workers, health practitioners and first responders - in this area and globally.

Anglican Communion:

Namirembe (Uganda) The Rt Revd Wilberforce Kityo Luwalira
Abyei (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Michael Deng K Bol
Accra (West Africa) The Rt Revd Daniel Sylvanus Mensah Torto
22 May

PARKWOOD: CHRIST CHURCH

Clergy: Phil Goodey
Reader: Linda Thatcher

Please pray for our Life Cafe a new project starting in Parkwood as we attempt to provide a free meal to the most vulnerable young and old who are self-isolating in the community. Please pray for our clergy and for Linda our reader.

We hold up God all who are unwell, all who are lonely and all who are afraid. And we give thanks for our social media prayer groups, and all those offering individual support across our congregations - and beyond.

Anglican Communion:

Nandyal (South India) The Rt Revd Eggoni Pushpalalitha
Adelaide (Australia) The Most Revd Geoffrey Martyn Smith

23 May

MAIDSTONE: ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS

Clergy: Neil Bryson
Reader: Elizabeth Bryson, Eleanor Relle
Schools: St Michael’s CE School Federation (Infant), St Michael’s CE Junior School

Pray with us: the scattered people of God are now encouraged to grow in their relationship with the Lord by setting aside the normal Mass times for reading the Bible, praying their own intercessions and joining in an act of spiritual communion. Please pray for the congregation, that when they gather in the church building, they will have grown closer to the Lord, and that, during this time of isolation, they will reach out to all they know with the good news of the risen Lord. Elizabeth, one of the Diocesan Anna Chaplains is working hard, delivering services individually by telephone. Pray for her ministry.

Anglican Communion:

Nasik (North India) Vacant
Afikpo (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Paul Udogu
Ilesa (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Samuel Olubayu Sowale
Ilesa South West (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Samuel Egbebunmi
Please pray for Andrew, the Churchwardens and Ministry Leadership Team as Andrew’s time as Acting Archdeacon of Maidstone is extended.

Our worship together on Zoom, the new WhatsApp group, and all the new ways of being that might emerge when the lockdown comes to an end.

Those who are isolated both physically and digitally, that telephone networks will keep everyone in touch

Homeless Care, Maidstone Borough Council and the Churches’ roles in coordinating volunteer support for the most vulnerable. And give thanks for the Maidstone Churches Winter Shelter and all those from St Paul’s who volunteered.

Anglican Communion (Saint Augustine / Anglican Communion Sunday):

Pray for all members of the Anglican Communion around the world

For the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, and all primates and bishops. For members of the Anglican Consultative Council

For the Secretary General, The Most Revd Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon,

For the staff at the Anglican Communion Office in London and the UN offices in Geneva and New York
25 May  PRAYING FOR THE RURAL COMMUNITY DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Lord of creation, we are battered and bruised by recent events, yet still we go on. We pray for our farming community whose work never ceases. Through floods, changes to agricultural policy, fluctuating prices and now coronavirus, the work of our farmers continues. Sowing, lambing, calving and feeding livestock, in good weather or bad, good health or ill health, daily life on the farm never stops.

Lord of creation remind us daily of your love for us and your promise that as long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, night and day, shall not cease. Amen (Prayer request written by Revd Chris Hodgkins)

Anglican Communion:
Nasir (South Sudan) The Rt Revd Simon Lual Bang Jal
Agra (North India) The Rt Revd Prem Prakash Habil
Indianapolis (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows

26 May  NORTH DOWNS DEANERY

Area Dean: John Corbyn
Lay Chair: Rhian Banham
Secretary: Sue Heywood
Treasurer: Vacant

‘Inspire,’ is a joint project in the Deanery. This is held on a Sunday afternoon every other month at Leeds Church. Four services were held before the present interruption. Thank God for the development of this contemporary worship service, for the team and the vision. Please pray for wisdom in how this should continue and develop.

Anglican Communion:
Natal (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Dino Gabriel
Aguata (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Dr Samuel C. Ezeofor

27 May  NORTH DOWNS DEANERY: CLERGY WITH PERMISSION TO OFFICATE

Please pray with us for those with Permission to Officiate within our Deanery. We thank God for their willingness to continue serving the Church with generosity and joy. May they be upheld and strengthened in their ministry. Please pray for:

David Bond, Yvonne Salmon, Richard Love, Lesley Ludlow, Robin Gill, Anthony Hirst

Anglican Communion: National Indigenous Archbishop (Canada)
The Most Revd Mark Lawrence MacDonald
Ahoada (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Clement Ekpeye
Pray for all those exercising chaplaincy ministry - formally and informally - within Schools, uniformed organisations, residential care communities, community clubs, businesses, health care groups, prisons, police, armed services and in sport. May God give them wisdom to respond to the opportunities given, to be assured of their calling to be witnesses to Christ. May they know the support of local churches and see God at work where ever they go!

Anglican Communion:

Navajoland Area Mission (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd David Bailey
Aipo Rongo (Papua New Guinea) The Rt Revd Nathan Ingen
Ajayi Crowther (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Olugbenga Oduntan

Clergy: Philip Goodey
Readers: David Parry, Gordon Mackley

Please pray for Phil, Yvonne and Alan our clergy, David and Gordon our readers and Karen who is in the Living Well team.

We give thanks for social media prayer groups and for all the individual support that is working so brilliantly across our congregations - and beyond. We hold up God all who are unwell, all who are lonely and all who are afraid. Lord have mercy.

Anglican Communion:

Ndokwa (Nigeria) The Rt Revd David Obiosa
Akobo (South Sudan) The Rt Revd John Jock Chol
30 May  LEN VALLEY BENEFICE

Clergy: John Huggins
Reader: Joan Drury, Pamela Cuerden
Schools: Ulcombe CE Primary School, Harrietsham CE Primary School

Pray today for the Len Valley Benefice, where we are offering Sunday ‘thoughts for the Day’, with prayer, on YouTube. These are reaching around 250 viewers. We are also continuing our Breakfast church Alpha series by sharing a structure to worship together, the videos, questions and related kids’ activities. Pray that in our apartness, we will sense community in God. Pray that in our village communities, we will all find ways to join in local care initiatives, phoning, praying and shopping. Pray for Anne Price and Richard Birch, as they start to take more funerals, whilst the vicar is self-isolating.

Anglican Communion:

Nebbi (Uganda) The Rt Revd Alphonse Watho-kudi
Akoko (Nigeria) The Most Revd Gabriel Akinbiyi
Akoko Edo (Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jolly Oyekpen
Iowa (The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Alan Scarfe

31 May  DOVER TOWN

Clergy: John Corbyn
Reader: Virginia Corbyn
Readers in Training: Ann Harrison, Peter Roberts
Schools: St John’s CE Primary School, Leeds & Broomfield CE Primary School, Thurnham CE Infant School Headteacher Chris James, Chair of Governors Sue Jackson.

Give thanks for very positive partnership between church and school and for committed foundation governors. Home-groups are key in our life. Pray that during this time members may continue to support one another and for groups meeting virtually. Pray for our coming curate Cathrine Ngangira, (from Zimbabwe via the St Anslem community at Lambeth Palace). Pray for her as she completes her studies and applies for a work visa.

Anglican Communion:

Pray for the Anglican Church of Melanesia
The Most Revd Leonard Dawea - Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Melanesia and Bishop of Temotu
CONNECTED IN PRAYER:
DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Changing Lives Prayer Network

God ever-present:

• As we journey through unprecedented this pandemic times, hold us in your peace and give us courage.

• As we face the impacts of Coronavirus, we pray for healing, wisdom and freedom from fear.

• We pray for strength, wisdom and stamina for all those whose work is vital to the well-being of others at this time.

• As we reimagine community life, open to us new opportunities to share and learn with others.

• Deepen our understanding of what it means to be church, connected in love and reaching out in hope.

• May our seasonal journey with Jesus to the cross and through the open tomb assure us of resurrection life.
You walk with us Lord in this season of global turbulence.
You walk with us Lord when ‘normal’ changes day by day.
You walk with us Lord as ‘together’ becomes something new.
You walk with us Lord, always, in your risen presence.
Amen.

We hope you find this calendar useful and will consider continuing to use it in church and in your personal prayer.

Each month’s calendar is usually available about a week before the end of the previous month. To discover the various ways you can access future editions, please visit www.canterburydiocese.org/calendar-of-prayer

Cover painting: Primrose Northrop, Jesus journeying with us, acrylic on cloth 2020