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Cover painting: Spring garland - watercolour on cotton paper by Primrose Northrop

CALENDAR OF PRAYER

'Praying for each other; praying with each other'



April 2026

1 Wed Deal: St George the Martyr

Clergy: Vacant

Churchwardens: Trevor Longman, Lynn Watson

Anna Chaplains: Mary Donaldson, Jean Kerr, Paul Kerr, Liz Larner

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Victoria Nyanza – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

2 Thurs Praying Together: Maundy Thursday

Lord Jesus Christ on this holy day you taught us the way of humble love and to depend on you.

You gave us the commandment to love one another as you have loved us.

Cleanse our hearts, strengthen us to serve and keep us faithful as we follow You.

Help us to a new awareness of Your presence and bring us to the joy, thanksgiving and glory of Easter.

Amen.

Prayer written by Sally Murray - Authorised Lay Minister and Chaplain in the Sandwich Deanery

Anglican Communion:

Maundy Thursday

The Diocese of Virgin Islands – The Episcopal Church



Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES ➔ CHANGING LIVES

Lord of life,

You are the oasis in our desert,

The current that carries us on,

Soak us in your Spirit; drench us in your joy,

That we might turn the tides of injustice,

And offer to a thirsty world your wellspring of love.

Amen.

Hokusai's Wave has become one of the most recognised images in the world, and is part of the inspiration for our Lent picture. The wave speaks of power, movement and transformation. As you look at it, bring to Jesus those situations which feel overwhelming, or where you long to see a tsunami of love and grace break through.

To find out more about the Changing Lives Prayer network, visit canterburydiocese.org/prayer or email Lbywater@diocant.org

Image: 'Living Water' by Primrose Northrop 2026

THE WONDER OF PRAYER

LENT – LIVING WATER



'Those who drink the water I give will never be thirsty again. It becomes a fresh, bubbling spring within them, giving them eternal life.' (John 4:14 NLT)

Jesus, wellspring in the wilderness –

- As we make our lenten journey, may we find in you refreshing and renewal.
- Give us confidence to talk about you to the people around us, that your living water might reach the dry places in their lives.
- Pour your blessing on Archbishop Sarah as she begins her new ministry, and saturate her in the wonder of your love.
- Draw close to those for whom church has been a place of pain, and help us to work together to build communities of faith where all feel safe.
- Cause your rivers of peace to flow in the wastelands of war, watering the dry ground with hope.



3 Fri Praying Together: Good Friday

Christ Jesus, you emptied yourself on this day:
Of divinity, of sonship, of life.
Christ Jesus, help me:
Empty me of my emptiness.

Prayer written by Revd Professor Charlotte Sleigh - St Martin's & St Paul's, Canterbury

Anglican Communion:

Good Friday

The Diocese of Virginia – The Episcopal Church

4 Sat Praying Together: Holy Saturday

Lord Jesus, in the stillness of this Holy Saturday,
keep our hearts poised between sorrow and the
promise of your resurrection; teach us to wait with
trust, and to feel the first warmth of your dawning
hope already stirring in the dark.

Prayer written by Victoria Friedrich - Licensed Lay
Minister at Folkestone: St Eanswythe with St Saviour

Anglican Communion:

Holy Saturday

*The Diocese of Southern Virginia – The Episcopal
Church*

5 Sun Praying Together: Easter Sunday

In joy and hope we pray. Risen Christ, when darkness overwhelms us may your resurrection light lead us. Help us Lord, to continue to strive for love and peace. For us, you endured death and conquered it, so that our sins may be forgiven. Heavenly father please continue to guide us, so we may honour you in all we do. Allow us to walk more closely with you and know the peace that only you provide. Amen.

Prayer written by Stephen Short - St Saviour's Westgate-on-Sea

Anglican Communion:

Easter Day

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:6)

La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico

6 Mon Parish of Upper Deal and Great Mongeham

Clergy: Monica Cameron

Assistant Curates: Lynn Overington-Hickford, Nicholas Tomaszewski, John Wakeman

Self-Supporting Minister: Patrick Kavanagh

Schools: Sholden CE Primary School, Deal Parochial CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Southwestern Virginia – The Episcopal Church

30 Thurs Barham Downs with Adisham and Aylesham Benefice

Clergy: Stefan Thomas, Nick Ratcliffe

Assistant Curate: Clary Read

Readers: Esther Jonas, Simon Pooley

Anna Chaplain: Esther Jonas

School: Adisham CE Primary School

Barham CE Primary School

Pray with us today as the benefice goes into interregnum, that it allows our wonderful church communities to revisit and to be Spirit-guided as to where the mission of God is to further flourish, and how to sustain the current services, both traditional and informal, and for all ages. We pray that our churches are seen as safe havens, places of spiritual nourishment and rest, no matter our backgrounds and traditions. We rejoice in the different expressions of mission and service, in particular pastoral care over the last nine years, and in the calling of those inspired by Christ to serve, teach, preach, and in knowing that Christ is always with us (Matt 28:19-20).

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wulu – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

29 Wed Praying together with the East Bridge Deanery: for 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.

In particular, please pray today for the Chaplains ministering in East Bridge Deanery:

Hilary Hills, Ray Horton, Helen Jones, Esther Jonas

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Worcester – The Church of England*

7 Tue Praying Together: Listening at the Empty Tomb

Risen Christ,
in the stillness of this Easter dawn, teach us to listen for Your voice among the echoes of the empty tomb. Where fear once settled, sow courage; where resignation lingered, breathe Your new beginning.
Like Mary in the garden, open our ears to the whisper of our name, spoken with tenderness and hope. As we step into the week ahead, attune our hearts to the quiet movements of Your grace – the subtle invitations, the gentle nudges, the unexpected consolations.
Guide us to discern Your resurrection life unfolding in places long overlooked.
Make us bearers of Your risen joy.
Amen.

Prayer written by Canon Dr Neville Emslie -
Director of Mission and Ministry

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of West Virginia – The Episcopal Church*

8 Wed Eastry and Woodnesborough

Clergy: Andrew Brown

Assistant Curate: Hilary Baldwin

Reader-in-Training: Susan Brearley

Schools: Eastry CE Primary School, Northbourne CE Primary School

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wad Medani – Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan

9 Thurs Sandwich and Worth

Clergy: Sebastian Hamilton

Reader and Anna Chaplain: Derek Kirkaldie

Pray today for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we live out 'The Warm Welcome Project', our five-year vision to safeguard fabric, and grow our missional life within the community - in particular in these six areas: Children & Young People (For our growing engagement with schools, and for ongoing development of larger plans), Teaching & Praying, Eco Church, Pastoral Care (for discernment of the role of Anna Chaplaincy within our congregation), Tourism & Visitors (for the launch of our new Audio Tour, Guidebook, and tourist resources), and Little Gardens of Sandwich (thanksgiving for a successful revival in 2025, and prayers for Saturday 6th June 2026)

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Waiapu –

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

27 Mon Praying together with the East Bridge Deanery: for clergy and people

Area Dean: Vacant

Lay Chair: Paul Allen

Secretary: John Andrews

Treasurer: Michael Gallagher

Anglican Communion: The Diocese of Windward Islands – The Church in the Province of the West Indies

28 Tue Praying Together: Breathing Resurrection into Our Daily Life

Spirit of the Living Christ,
breathe Your resurrection life into the familiar rhythms of our days. In our conversations, kindle gentleness; in our decisions, plant wisdom; in our uncertainties, stir holy boldness. Help us listen for the still, small movements of Your guidance— not only in sacred moments, but in the ordinary, overlooked spaces where grace often begins. When we falter, lift us; when we fear, steady us. Shape our discerning hearts so that every choice, every kindness, every act of service becomes an echo of the empty tomb. Make us witnesses to Your transforming hope. Amen.

Prayer written by Canon Dr Neville Emslie -
Director of Mission and Ministry

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wondurba – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

26 Sun Canterbury: Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ

The Dean: David Monteith

Archdeacon: William Adam

Canon Librarian: Tim Naish

Canon Missioner: Emma Pennington

Canon Treasurer: Andrew Dodd

Precentor, Residentiary Canon Designate: Lindsay Yates

Non-Executive Members of Chapter: Jane Ibbotson, Pim Baxter, Guy Perricone, Paul Sylva, Richard Oldfield

Receiver General, Chief Operating Officer: Kathryn Beldon

Director of Finance and Planning: Julie Wood

Please pray for our congregations, volunteers and staff who all contribute to the daily life of our community. Following the installation of Archbishop Sarah and the media attention around it, pray for us as we welcome visitors. Please pray for Torin Brown, our Pilgrim Officer who looks after so many people walking the different pilgrimage routes to and from Canterbury; many of whom tell us they are seeking meaning, purpose, and love for their lives. Hundreds or more regular watch out online live-streamed services and who tells us about how that strengthens their faith. So please also pray for our global community.

*Anglican Communion:
4th Sunday of Easter
The Church of Nigeria*

10 Fri Walmer and Cornilo

Clergy: Seth Cooper

Assistant Curates: Norman Gilliland, Paul

Henderson, Malcolm Sawyer

Schools: The Downs CEPS, Kingsdown & Ringwould CE Primary School

Please give thanks for the many who do so much in the life of our churches to sustain and grow our mission and ministry. Especially for those in lay and ordained leadership roles. We particularly thank God for our ministry among school children, our community projects, and discipleship courses.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

11 Sat Praying together with the Canterbury Deanery: for clergy and people

Area Dean: Vacant

Lay Chair: Roger Vickerman

Secretary: Harry Macdonald

Treasurer: Andrew Dodd

Anglican Communion:

Te Pihopatanga o Te Waipounamu – The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

12 Sun Praying together with the Canterbury Deanery: for 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:

Bernard Allen, Carl Fredrik Arvidsson, Clive Barlow, John Barton, Miriam Bier Hinksman, Sara Bimson, Richard Bolton, Martin Burrell, Perry Butler, Julia Butterworth, Bill Campen, Helen Connoll, Nina Coulthard, Diane Fawcett, Peter Freeman, David Houghton, Peter Ingrams, Christopher Irvine, Brian Kelly, Lorraine Lawrence, Steve Lillicrap, Alastair Mansfield, Audrey McCartan, Brian McHenry, Derek Mottershead, Charmaine Muir, Geoff Pearson, Shiela Porter, Peter Richmond, David Roper, Eileen Routh, John Spriggs, Howard Such, Sue White, Grahame Whittlesea, Paul Wilton

*Anglican Communion:
2nd Sunday of Easter
Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola*

24 Fri Sturry: St Nicholas with Fordwich: St Mary the Virgin & Westbere: All Saints with Hersden

Clergy: Vacant
Churchwardens: Jane Freeman, Martin Pilgrim
Local Preacher: Ron Chadwick
School: Sturry Church of England Primary School

Gracious God, as we seek a new part-time priest, we pray that all those involved in the appointment process may receive your guidance and wisdom. We give thanks for our ecumenical partnership and for the support we receive from the Methodist Circuit. We ask your blessing on those who lead our worship, praying that, through their ministry, we may all be strengthened and encouraged in our faith. We pray for the newly formed group of Prayer Warriors who will be praying for the children and young people in our community. Amen.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Willochra –
The Anglican Church of Australia*

25 Sat Thanington: St Nicholas & St Faith

Clergy: Nick White

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Winchester – The Church of England*

22 Wed Harbledown: St Michael & All Angels

Clergy: Peter Harnden

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wernyol – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

**23 Thurs St Dunstan, St Mildred & St Peter
Canterbury Benefice**

Clergy: Jo Richards

Readers: Tessa Taylor, Margaret Wells

We give thanks for the work of our volunteers and church officers - particularly in this season of APCM's. We pray in our Benefice that church officer posts will be filled, as we currently have churchwarden vacancies across all three churches. We would also value prayer for our eco-church work as we focus on care for God's creation and reducing our carbon footprint.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wiauso – The Church of the Province of West Africa

**13 Mon Praying together with the Canterbury
Deanery: for 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.

Pray in particular today for:

Lindsay Collins, Alison Walker, Stephen Laird, Joy Atkins, Jeremy Law, Martin Robbins, Dave Stroud, Kevin Maddy, Helen Connoll, Geoff Pearson, Jo Richards, Sally Pickersgill, Peter Joyce, Dawn Watson, Tricia Hill, Thomas Pote, Angie Stupple, Caroline Spencer, Lucy Sullivan, Paul Glass, Richard Braddy

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wandí – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

14 Tue Praying Together: Discerning the Risen One on the Road

Lord Jesus,
Walker beside the weary,
as You drew near to the disciples on the Emmaus road, draw near to us in our confusion, questions, and half-formed prayers.
Open the Scriptures of our lives, that we may recognise Your steady presence burning within us. Slow our hurried steps so that we may notice Your companionship;
calm our anxious minds so that Your wisdom may surface gently.
In moments of doubt, break the bread of reassurance. In moments of clarity, ignite our courage to follow. Guide our discernment, that our hearts may rise with Yours in renewed purpose and hope.
Amen.

Prayer written by Canon Dr Neville Emslie -
Director of Mission and Ministry

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Wangaratta – The Anglican Church of Australia*

21 Tue Praying Together: Waiting in the Garden of New Creation

Creator God,
You raised Christ from the tomb and breathed new creation into a weary world.
Teach us to wait with Easter patience – alert, trusting, expectant.
Where old wounds still ache, let resurrection light seep tenderly into hidden places.
Where decisions weigh heavily, help us discern the path shaped by love, humility, and truth.
Grant us the attentiveness of gardeners who know that new life often begins underground, unseen. Strengthen us to nurture what You are quietly growing in us and among us, until hope blossoms, courage matures, and joy breaks open like morning.
In Christ our Risen Lord.
Amen.

Prayer written by Canon Dr Neville Emslie -
Director of Mission and Ministry

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

19 Sun Almshouses Canterbury

We pray today for the residents of the Canterbury Almshouses, and for those who minister amongst them.

*Anglican Communion:
3rd Sunday of Easter
The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)*

20 Mon Hackington: St Stephen

Clergy: David Vannerley
Assistant Curate: Sally Pickersgill
Chaplain: Dawn Watson
Anna Chaplain: Sally Pickersgill
School: The Archbishop's School

We would very much welcome prayerful support as we continue the search for a new Rector for this growing congregation. We are also very concerned to understand God's will for us as we seek to re-establish our children's work and reach deeper into the communities of Hackington.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Wau – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan*

15 Wed Blean: St Cosmus & St Damian

Clergy: Stephen Laird, Stacey Rand
Reader: Peter Clough
Reader-in-Training: Henrik Schoenefeldt

Pray with us today. At Blean Church we are giving a renewed focus to mission, with a spring series of talks and sermons on Sundays, mostly from visiting speakers. Please pray for our PCC and ministry team as we draw inspiration from what we hear, and consider how our outreach may be enriched and extended through regular worship and planned events.

*Anglican Communion:
The Diocese of Wanglei – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan*

16 Thurs Canterbury: All Saints

Clergy: Patrick Ellisdon

Assistant Curates: Angela Swindley, Joy Dunton

Reader: Gavin Netherton

School: St John's Church of England Primary School

We are thankful that the Ignite midweek church event continues to welcome people, sharing food, fellowship and faith. Please pray for the volunteers running Ignite, that they would have the strength to serve and the inspiration to encourage others.

We are grateful to have received funds for the church's building project. Please pray that plans go smoothly and that work will be done safely. May the work be a blessing to those who live in the area, creating a more aesthetic look, reflecting the creativity of our God.

Please pray for the church's ministry on a Sunday, for all our services. May they be times when people can stop and focus on God. May all be welcome, affirmed, and included, especially new people attending the church. May those who gather together at All Saints make friends and encourage one another.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Wanyjok – Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

17 Fri Canterbury: St Martin & St Paul

Clergy: Mary Kells, Charlotte Sleigh

Readers: Samuel Keeler-Walker, Rosemary Walters, Mary Butcher, Roxane Lee-Afonso

St Martin's is embarking on an ambitious fundraising project which will involve reordering the inside of the church to facilitate a toilet, and disabled access, as well as more flexible use of the space. We are also seeking to raise funds to develop a St Martin's Centre next door, which we hope will be a place of welcome to pilgrims, visitors and the local community. Please pray for us in these ambitious plans to build up St Martin's and build out into the community, that God may guide us and provision us in this journey.

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Warri – The Church of Nigeria

18 Sat Canterbury: St Mary Bredin

Clergy: Barney De Berry, Stephen Carter

Reader: Martin Collings

Anglican Communion:

The Diocese of Washington – The Episcopal Church