

THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER



# Prayer Diary

March 2018 to May 2018

## Foreword from Bishop John



I pray that Easter this year will be richly blessed for you and that you will know the joy of the resurrection deep within your hearts. I pray, too, that you may be given grace to share that joy by praying for others to come to faith.

A good focus for praying for such prayer is Thy Kingdom Come, ten days of prayer running from Ascension Day until Pentecost. The Archbishop of Canterbury is inviting Christians around the world to pray as one during this time for people to know Jesus Christ. Millions of people

all over the globe will be praying and I hope that our prayers in this diocese will be particularly focussed at that time.

We are called to be Kingdom People in action as well as prayer. A good measure of how well we are living out our vocation is our attitude to the most vulnerable in our society. Among the latter are those with dementia and the week beginning 20 May is Dementia Awareness Week. I commend those suffering from dementia to your prayers, together with their carers. I also invite you to investigate the dementia friendly resources available on the diocesan website. Those with dementia are not treated well in our society. I hope our church can be different.



March 2018 to May 2018



*Welcome* to the Spring edition of our prayer diary. This quarter we're praying for Kingswinford, Kidderminster and Worcester East deaneries, as part of our yearly cycle covering all the parishes, as well as a variety of other stories from across the Diocese.

Please do let me know if you've got something that you'd like featured in a future edition of the prayer diary – just remember to tell me about it in enough time for me to schedule it in...I work at least a quarter in advance!

As usual, the Anglican Cycle of Prayer and Porvoo prayer calendar ([www.porvoochurches.org](http://www.porvoochurches.org)) are incorporated into each day - these are the dioceses and bishops listed in *Italics* under each entry.

Large print copies of the diary are always available – email me on [ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk](mailto:ssetchell@cofe-worcester.org.uk), or contact the Diocesan Office reception on **01905 20537** if you or someone you know would like one.

Best wishes,  
Sam Setchell, Communications Officer



### Live Lent

#LiveLent - 'Let your light shine' is the Church of England's Lenten journey through the Gospel of John, exploring what it means to be a witness. For each day throughout Lent, there is a short reading, a pause for reflection and prayer, and an idea for a

simple action that will enable the light of Jesus to shine through our everyday lives.

It is written in simple and accessible language by John Kiddle and includes a welcome from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York who say:

"These Lent reflections take you on a journey through the Gospel of John and give you an opportunity to explore what the gift of Jesus and the challenge of Jesus mean for you, in the context of your daily life.

"God offers us life for the sake of others. The light he gives us in Jesus Christ is not to be hidden but to shine – it's a gift to be lived and shared. Indeed, the more we share it and let it shine, the brighter it burns."

The reflections offer a journey through Lent and Easter into Pentecost and Thy Kingdom Come. Visit [www.churchofengland.org/lent](http://www.churchofengland.org/lent) to find out more including daily reflections and downloadable resources.

*Pray for all those in our churches currently running course or talks for Lent and pray that those taking part will have their faith refreshed and renewed.*

*Kingswinford Deanery - Rural Dean: David Hoskin; Lay Chair: Anthony Lovesey*

*Diocese of Peterborough: Bishop Donald Allister with Bishop John Holbrook (Brixworth)*

*Diocese of Meath and Kildare (Ireland): Bishop Pat Storey*

*The Church in Central America: Archbishop Sturdie Downs*

### Mon 26 Robert Higham, Diocesan Secretary

Please pray for Robert Higham, Diocesan Secretary, with his overall responsibilities for the Diocesan Office. In particular pray for Robert's work taking forward the Kingdom People vision in mission throughout the Diocese. Pray also for Robert's PA, Judith Nex.

*Diocese of Bath & Wells: Bishop Peter Hancock with Bishop Ruth Worsley (Taunton)*

### Tue 27 Calling Young Disciples Team

Please pray for Director of the Calling Young Disciples Project: Ruth Walker, Administrator: Liz Toon and Mission Enablers: Anne Batchelor, Helen Laird, Adam Legge, Amy Stokes, Clare Crew and Emily D'Silva

*Diocese of Bathurst (Australia): Bishop Ian Palmer*

### Wed 28 St Oswald's day

O God, you show your wonder in the lives of your saints and you have made this day holy by the death of Saint Oswald, your confessor and bishop. Grant that his example of holiness may lead us to follow in his footsteps.

*Diocese of Bauchi (Nigeria): Bishop Musa Tula*

### Thur 1 MARCH Director of Ordinands

Pray for Director of Ordinands & Vocation, John Fitzmaurice as well as Vocations and Training Officer, Sarah Fenby as they work to help individuals explore their vocation.

*Diocese of Belize (West Indies): Bishop Philip Wright*

### Fri 2 Kingswinford Deanery

Give thanks for all who have worked so faithfully in parishes across the Deanery over the years. Pray for the vision to build on the work of the past. Rural Dean: David Hoskin, Lay Chair: Anthony Lovesey

*Diocese of Bendigo (Australia): Bishop Matt Brain*

### Sat 3 Brierley Hill Team

Please pray for repair and improvement work at St John's Church in Brockmoor, the continued growth of Place of Welcome, Little Badgers, Messy Church, Open the Book and joint church working in Hawbush. Clergy: Simon Archer, Beryl Pritchett; Reader: Keith Colley; ALMs: Kathy Garton, Jan Yorke.

*Diocese of Benin (Nigeria): Bishop Peter Imasuen*

**Fairtrade Fortnight 26 Feb - 11 March**

This year, Fairtrade Fortnight runs from Monday 26 February until Sunday 11 March. During these two weeks, campaigners, businesses, schools and places of worship show their support for the farmers and workers who grow our food in developing countries.

“For hundreds of years, we were taught to serve, to be workers. Now with Fairtrade, we are entrepreneurs.” Marcial Quintero, member of Coobana, a Fairtrade banana co-operative in Panama.

It’s a scandalous reality that millions of farmers and workers are still being ripped off despite working hard to provide the products we love. Unfairness in global trade is rooted in centuries of exploitation.

Yet across the globe, Marcial and hard-working producers like him are unravelling this legacy. They’re fighting for a fair deal, supported by Fairtrade, earning their way out of poverty and transforming their communities.

Together we’re stronger, and more people choosing, sharing and shouting about Fairtrade in the UK means more power to producers like Marcial to break the stranglehold of poverty prices.

This year, the theme of Fairtrade Fortnight is “Come on in to Fairtrade” and meet your neighbours – the farmers who grow and produce the food we eat each day. For churches, this theme gives the opportunity to celebrate God’s welcome for all, and helps us consider how as Christians we can be good neighbours to others.

*Please pray for all farmers both here in the UK and abroad, that they will receive a fair price for the food that they produce. Pray also for all those who work to ensure food and other produce are fairly traded throughout the world.*

*Kingwinford Deanery - Rural Dean: David Hoskin; Lay Chair: Anthony Lovesey*

*Diocese of Canterbury: Archbishop Justin Welby with Bishop Trevor Willmott (Dover)*

*Diocese of Down and Dromore (Ireland): Bishop Harold Miller*

*Anglican Church of the Congo: Archbishop Zacharie Masimango Katanda*

**Mon 5 Brierley Hill Team**

Pray for St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. For those who have come to Christ by joining in the Thursday worship before the ‘Keep Fit’ class and the new and flourishing groups doing crafts and tower bell ringing. Clergy: David Hoskin, Simon Archer, Beryl Pritchett; Reader: Val Houghton

*Diocese of Bethlehem (USA): Bishop Sean Rowe*

**Tue 6 Brierley Hill Team**

Give thanks for the renewal of the musical life of Christ Church, Quarry Bank and pray that our music will inspire many in their walk with Jesus. For Musical Director: Richard Ganner. Clergy: David Hoskin, Simon Archer, Beryl Pritchett; Reader: Val Houghton

*Diocese of Bhopal (India): Bishop Robert Ali*

**Wed 7 Diocese of Peru**

At the end of 2016, the Commission on Life and Formation (VCF) presented its report about the state of the Anglican Church of Peru (IAP). In early 2018, a formation group will look at ways of responding to that report in order to deepen the discipleship of the members of the church in Peru, and seek ways to develop a Peruvian Anglican identity. Pray for all involved in that process of discernment and discussion.

*Diocese of Bida (Nigeria): Bishop Jonah Kolo*

**Thur 8 Spring**

March sees the start of Spring. Thank God for all the signs of new life during this time, for the flowers beginning to bloom, green grass, baby lambs and the many other changes that we see during this season.

*Diocese of Birmingham: Bishop David Urquhart with Bishop Anne Hollinghurst (Aston)*

*Diocese of Blackburn: Bishop Julian Henderson, with Bishops Philip North (Burnley)*

*& Geoffrey Pearson (Lancaster)*

**Fri 9 Christ Church, Coseley**

For continued growth of our Messy Church, and a strengthening of the links with our Primary Schools through Open the Book. Clergy: Emma Stanford, Tim Westwood; ALM: Bob Hill

*Diocese of Bo (Sierra Leone, Africa): Bishop Emmanuel Tucker*

**Sat 10 St Chad, Coseley**

Give thanks for our church and its organisations. Pray for our ongoing parish review to help us to see our strengths and weaknesses and plan for our future, particularly in the light of our vicar’s forthcoming retirement. For our work with children. Clergy: Alan Howes; Reader: Denzil Smith; ALM: Paul Love

*Diocese of Boga (Congo): Bishop Mugenyi Bahemuka*



### Mothering Sunday

Mothering Sunday is celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent and is traditionally the day when children, mainly daughters, who had gone to work as domestic servants were given a day off to visit their mother and family.

Centuries ago it was considered important for people to return to their home or 'mother' church once a year. So each year in the middle of Lent, everyone would visit their 'mother' church - the main church or cathedral of the area. Inevitably this return became an occasion for family reunions when children who were working away returned home and most historians think that this led to the tradition of children being given the day off to visit their mother and family. As they walked along the country lanes, children would pick wild flowers or violets to take to church or give to their mother as a small gift.

Mothering Sunday was also known as Refreshment Sunday because the fasting rules for Lent were relaxed that day. Simnel cakes have particularly been associated with the day. A Simnel cake is a fruit cake with two layers of almond paste, one on top and one in the middle. The cake is made with 11 balls of marzipan icing on top representing the 11 disciples (Judas is not included).



*Pray today for all mothers across the diocese. And also for all those who will find this day difficult.*

*Kingswinford Deanery - Rural Dean: David Hoskin; Lay Chair: Anthony Lovesey*

*Diocese of Chelmsford: Bishop Stephen Cottrell  
with Bishops Roger Morris (Colchester) and Peter Hill (Barking)  
Diocese of Karlstad (Sweden): Bishop Sören Dalevi  
The Church of England: Archbishop Justin Welby*

### Mon 12 St James the Great, Lower Gornal

Please pray that the congregation may be able to keep heart and give thanks for continued provision for traditional Anglicans. Thanks also for financial stability in difficult times. Clergy: Julian Mott.

*Diocese of Bolivia (South America): Bishop Raphael Samuel*

### Tue 3 Kingswinford & Wall Heath

Pray for our Lay Pastors/Visitors and ALMs For after-school Sticky Church & Pathfinders at St Mary's and Worship-After-School, Open-the-Book, Jigsaw Family Service & Homegroups at the Church of the Ascension. For St Mary's & Ascension CE Primary Schools, Headteachers: Beverley Roberts & Steve Hudson. Clergy: Giles Kendall, Jane Arnold; Readers: Jill Nicholls, Deborah Filgate, David Cousins

*Diocese of Bondo (Kenya): Bishop Johannes Angela*

### Wed 14 Diocese of Morogoro

We give thanks for the recent marriage of Bishop Godfrey to Tumaini and, as we pray for their continued happiness, so we, also, pray that their marriage will be a great blessing for the Diocese of Morogoro, and for Tumaini as she takes up the role a bishop's wife is expected to play in the life of the Church.

*Diocese of Bor (South Sudan): Bishop Ruben Ngong*

### Thur 15 St Mark, Pensnett

Give thanks for the wonderful congregation at St Mark's, the New Service and the faithful witness of so many: Clergy: Sue Oliver, Sue Hale; Reader: John Lawrence

*Diocese of Botswana (Africa): Bishop Metlhayotho Belemi*

### Fri 16 St Mary, Hurst Hill

For our new places of welcome initiative, our playground, and the Primary Schools we visit as Open the Book. Clergy: Emma Stanford, Tim Westwood; ALM: Bob Hill

*Diocese of Brandon (Canada): Bishop William Cliff*

### Sat 17 Gornal & Sedgley Team Ministry

Please pray for the three churches in the team; St Andrew the Straits, St Peter Upper Gornal and All Saints Sedgley as we seek to work closely together across the parish continuing to build God's Kingdom following the appointment in 2017 of a new ministry team. Clergy: Guy Hewlett, Catherine Mitchell; Reader: Jan Humphries

*Diocese of Brasilia (Brazil): Bishop Mauricio Jose Araujo De Andrade*

## New members of the Church Buildings Team

The Church Buildings Team at the diocesan office has changed. Mark Carter has been appointed as Church Buildings Officer and comes to the Diocese from five years as Operations Manager at Hereford cathedral.

Mark said: "I am looking forward to working with PCCs throughout the Diocese and gaining a better understanding of the range of ways in which parish churches are used, from worship to being accessible and welcoming community groups as parishes implement the Kingdom People vision."

We have also been fortunate to secure funding to appoint a Buildings Project Manager to support churches in some of our most deprived areas. Kate Andrew is working alongside Andrew Mottram, helping those parishes whose areas include some of the lowest income communities in the country to achieve projects on their buildings, in particular providing support with applications to the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Kate said: "I like church buildings and heritage and I love working with volunteers, so am looking forward to using my skills to help churches to improve their buildings."

Both Mark and Kate, as well as Andrew, will be working with parishes thinking about how they can make their buildings fit for purpose as both a spiritual and community resource.

*Please pray for Mark, Kate and also Andrew in the Church Buildings team as they work with parishes across the Diocese.*

*Kingswinford Deanery - Rural Dean: David Hoskin;  
Lay Chair: Anthony Lovesey*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latvia:  
Archbishop Janis Vanags with Bishops  
Einars Alpe, Hanss Martins Jensonis  
Diocese of Lichfield: Bishop Michael Iprave  
with Bishops Mark Rylands (Shrewsbury),  
Geoff Annas (Stafford), Clive Gregory  
(Wolverhampton),  
Diocese of St David's (Wales):  
Bishop Joanna Penberthy  
The Anglican Church in Hong Kong and  
Macao: Archbishop Paul Kwong*



Mark Carter



Kate Andrew

## Mon 19 Gornal & Sedgley Team Ministry

Please pray for our work with children and young people, giving thanks for 'Singing Angels' at St Andrew and the Junior church at All Saints, and the uniformed organisations at St Peter, praying for their leaders and helpers and the development of our 'Worship for All Services'. Clergy: Guy Hewlett, Catherine Mitchell, Reader: Jan Humphries

*Diocese of Brechin (Scotland): Bishop Nigel Peyton*

## Tue 20 Wordsley Team

Please pray for us as we prepare candidates for confirmation and for the dementia friends, our monthly Coffee, Cake and Chat. Clergy: Colin Jones, Lyn Rowson, Readers; Terry Blewitt, Christopher Geary

*Anglican Church in Southern Queensland (Brisbane, Australia): Archbishop Phillip Aspinall with Bishops Jeremy Greaves, Alison Taylor, Ian Lambert, Jonathan Holland, Cameron Venables*

## Wed 21 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

On 20 & 21 March, the church hosts an annual gathering for soldiers, military chaplains, church representatives and people engaged in secular work for peace and the promotion of non-violent solutions. This year we will focus on Africa as so-called forgotten continent and our engagement there. Pray for our small conference, for our growth in understanding of one other, for the peoples of Africa and for peace in the world.

*Diocese of Bristol: vacant with Bishop Lee Rayfield (Swindon)*

## Thur 22 Churches Together in Brierley Hill

Pray for all the Christian denominations working together in the Brierley Hill area.

*Diocese of British Columbia (Canada): Bishop Logan McMenamie*

## Fri 23 Retired Clergy in Kingswinford Deanery

Please pray for the retired clergy of Kingswinford Deanery, giving thanks for their vocation and ministry over the years. We ask that they may enjoy this new season of their lives and continue to grow closer to God in new and wonderful ways.

*Diocese of Buhiga (Burundi, Africa): Bishop Evariste Nijimbere*

## Sat 24 HMP Long Lartin

Please pray for the inmates, staff and volunteers at Long Lartin Prison, just outside Evesham. Particularly for the interfaith Chaplaincy team there.

*Diocese of Bujumbura (Burundi, Africa) Bishop Eraste Bigirimana*

# Palm Sunday Sunday 25 MARCH

## Celebrate the past: look to the future

Across this weekend, Holy Trinity Church in Old Hill, Dudley has been holding a celebration of the past, present and future with a range of activities and displays.

On Friday evening the church held a 'quiz and buffet', inviting participants to dress up in clothes from any decade since the 1870s and take a trip down memory lane with a quiz based around a traditional school day. Yesterday the church held a day of historic displays, refreshments, conversations and engaging talks on Old Hill history. The church wedding and baptism records were also available on display. Finally, today at 10.45am is a special service based around building on the historical 'firm foundations', celebrating God's grace to Old Hill and Holy Trinity Church and looking to God for the future of the church and community.



Vicar of Holy Trinity, Nick Gower, explains: "We are celebrating our heritage as part of our Lottery grant to repair the tower roof. It's a great opportunity to look back and see all that God has done through Holy Trinity and in the community of Old Hill. However, we want to look forward as well as back, so this weekend will also be the launch of our new logo and vision for our church family. We're looking forward to continuing to serve Old Hill for many more years and hope that the community can come and celebrate with us during the weekend."

Pray for all at Holy Trinity, Old Hill as they celebrate with their community.

*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Lund (Sweden): Bishop Johan Tyrberg*

*Diocese of Cashel, Ossory and Ferns (Ireland): Bishop Michael Burrows*

*Diocese of Ely: Bishop Stephen Conway with Bishop David Thomson (Huntingdon)*

*Archbishop of Jerusalem & the Middle East: Suheil Dawani*

## Mon 26 Kidderminster Deanery

Pray for the three team parishes in Kidderminster and district; for Bewdley/Wribbenhall; and for Wyre Forest West as they work together across Deanery boundaries with other rural parishes. Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins; Treasurer: Paul Blackham; Secretary: Susan Price.

*Diocese of Bukavu (Congo, Africa): Bishop Sylvestre Bahati*

## Tue 27 Kidderminster East Team Ministry

Give thanks for successful performances of a mystery play-style nativity at St Cassian's Chaddesley Corbett involving the local community and people of all ages. Pray for plans to celebrate the 750th anniversary of St Mary's Stone in 2019; that we will honour God in what we do. Team Vicar: Robert Legge; Reader: Christine Hickman-Smith

*Diocese of Bukedi (Uganda): Bishop Samuel Egesa*

## Wed 28 Economy and Daily Life

The Feast of the Annunciation, or Lady Day, (March 25th, but translated to April 9th this year because of Holy Week and Easter) is the traditional day for agreeing agricultural rents. Pray for all tenants, in town and country, for landlords and fairness in all dealings between the two.

*Diocese of Bukuru (Nigeria): Bishop Jwan Zhumbes*

## Thur 29 Chaplains to the Fire Service/Police

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service and West Mercia Police are in the process of combining their headquarters at Hindlip Park. Pray for all involved with this significant change, for Joint Lead Chaplain Dick Johnson, and local chaplains in Worcestershire, and for those in the Black Country working with West Midlands Police and the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service.

*Diocese of Bunbury (Australia): Bishop Alan Ewing*

## Fri 30 Good Friday

Eternal God, in the cross of Jesus we see the cost of our sin and the depth of your love; in humble hope and fear may we place at his feet all that we have and all that we are.

*Diocese of Bungoma (Kenya): The Revd George Mechumo*

## Sat 31 PCC members

Pray for all those who serve their church as members of the Parochial Church Council and give thanks for their important role in the mission of the Church.

*Diocese of Bunyoro-Kitara (Uganda): Bishop Samuel Kahuma*

*Diocese of Busoga (Uganda): Bishop Paul Naimanhye*

## Easter Gardens

"We used to have quite a small Easter garden in one of the transepts," says Michael Brierley, the cathedral precentor.

"But it seemed a bit out of the way and a missed opportunity. So we've started creating it right in the middle of the building, on the quire steps, so that you can't miss it. Our service team lays down plastic sheeting, the stonemasons construct the tomb, local garden centres kindly donate plants, our flower-arrangers decorate it with flowers on Holy Saturday ready for the joy of the resurrection, and to visitors' amusement, the vergers water the turf during Easter week to keep it going.

It's a fantastic visual focus, and the Easter message, explained on a board nearby, touches people's hearts."



Jesus Christ is risen today,  
Alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day,  
Alleluia!  
who did once upon the cross,  
Alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss.  
Alleluia!

*Please pray for all churches creating Easter gardens in their buildings or churchyards this weekend, that those who see them might be filled with the joy and hope of the risen Christ.*

*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Armagh (Ireland): Archbishop Richard Clarke  
Diocese of Funen (Denmark): Bishop Tine Lindhardt*

## Mon 2 Kidderminster East Team Ministry

Pray for St George's Church & the whole parish as we prioritise children and young people, and plan for a parish-wide Messy Church. Give thanks for Mission Enabler Adam Legge, and pray for work to bear fruit now after his departure. Clergy: Hugh Burton, Rach Akers, Readers: Lisa Manser, Mary Newell

*Diocese of Butare (Rwanda): Bishop Nathan Gasatura*

## Tue 3 Kidderminster East Team Ministry

Pray for the parishes of St Chad & St Cecilia. For the local Comberton Community as we continue to serve in Christ's love and for people to serve God in various roles. At St Cecilia, pray for those finding it harder to attend regularly, and for someone to become churchwarden. Clergy: Robert Legge, Rach Akers. Readers: Elaine Voice, John Chesworth, Geoff Surridge.

*Diocese of Butere (Kenya): Bishop Timothy Wambunya*

## Wed 4 Diocese of Peru

Paul Tester, previously youth officer for the Anglican Church of Peru, has begun a new job as CMS Mission Development Manager for Latin America. Pray for him in his new role, and for the Diocese as they discern the future for their youth work, especially for all those doing that work on a temporary basis until a replacement is found.

*Diocese of Buye (Burundi, Africa): Bishop Sixbert Macumi*

## Thur 5 Kidderminster West Team Ministry

Pray for the community of Holy Innocents as it seeks to develop a toddler praise and starts projects to tackle loneliness. For our ALMs. Clergy: Tim Williams, Laura Betson, James Treasure; Reader: Robin Burford

*Diocese of Byumba (Rwanda): Bishop Emmanuel Ngendahayo*

## Fri 6 Kidderminster West Team Ministry

Pray for all at St Peter's Church as it looks to serve the community in new and exciting ways and for the work we are doing with Barnardo's 1032 Wyre Forest Parenting & Family Support Service. For our ALMs. Clergy: Tim Williams, Laura Betson, James Treasure; Reader: Robin Burford

*Diocese of Calabar (Nigeria): Bishop Tunde Adeleye*

## Sat 7 Kidderminster West Team Ministry

Pray for the community of St John the Baptist. For St John's CE School, Acting Head: Caroline Lowe, as it continues its transition to become an Academy. For the on-going work of the Youth club, asking for God's Blessing on the team. For our ALMs. Clergy: Tim Williams, Laura Betson; Reader: Robin Burford

*Diocese of Calcutta (India): Bishop Ashoke Biswas*

## New Strategic Programme Manager

At the start of the year, Diane Reeves started as Strategic Programme Manager in the diocesan office. Funded through a grant from the Archbishops' Council, Diane will help manage our programme of projects in our four priority areas under the Kingdom People vision: children and young people; deepening discipleship; strengthening stewardship; and creating mission-focussed buildings.



Diane joined the diocesan office from the NHS. She has spent the last 17 years in NHS management working in the Sandwell and Birmingham area, most recently as Chief Accountable Officer for a Clinical Commissioning Group. Before moving into Management she worked as a GP. She is also a lifelong member of the Church of England, currently worshipping at St. Peter's Church in Harborne, Birmingham, where she leads intercessions, reads the lesson and enjoys helping with the coffee after the service!

Diane said: "Last year, I completed the Diocese of Birmingham's 3D Course (similar to the Bishop's Certificate) and had the opportunity to think about what I wanted to do in the future and whether God was calling me in a different direction. When I saw the advert, it seemed like a great match with my skillset and I'm really looking forward to using my experience to help bring God's Kingdom closer.

"My role as an NHS Manager was all about encouraging people to achieve their full potential. I'm bringing this management style to the role of Strategic Programme Manager – I'm not there to tell people what to do, but to help enable different groups to work together in delivering the Kingdom People vision."

*Please pray for Diane in this role and for those in the diocesan office who are developing our vision and priority areas.*

*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Uppsala (Sweden): Archbishop Antje Jackelén with Bishop Ragnar*

*Diocese of Llandaff (Wales): Archbishop Barry Morgan with Bishop David Wilbourne*

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

## Mon 9 Lady Day/ Mothers' Union

Mothers' Union members are challenged to tackle some of the biggest problems facing women today – female illiteracy, poverty, harassment in public spaces, gender-based violence. Our members pray for, campaign for and help those families facing difficulties.

*Diocese of Caledonia (Canada): Bishop David Lehmann  
Diocese of Calgary (Canada): Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson*

## Tue 10 Mothers' Union

Many know of Mothers' Union members' involvement in and commitment to family life in all its forms and the many adversities it faces. In so many situations, our members offer practical support and genuine encouragement, walking in Mary Sumner's footsteps.

*Diocese of California (USA): Bishop Marc Andrus*

## Wed 11 Diocese of Morogoro

We pray for Canon Isaac Mgego, the Director of Berega Hospital and Tunguli Clinic and for the doctors and nurses as they seek to provide medical care and treatment in the midst of a crisis which has seen a drastic reduction of medical staff by the Government.

*Diocese of Cameroon (Africa): Bishop Dibo Elango*

## Thur 12 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry

Please pray for St Barnabas, Franche as we develop a fresh expression of church in the community alongside the local school, St Catherine's. Pray we may grow in depth of faith as we share our faith with the people of our community. For our ALMs. Clergy: Bridget Woodall.

*Diocese of Canberra & Goulburn (Australia): Bishops Stuart Robinson,  
Stephen Pickard, Trevor Edwards*

## Fri 13 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry

Pray for the developing ministry and mission of music at St Mary. For James Bradley Musical Director and the choir. For Churchwardens Alan Wombell, Sue MacAskill, DCC members and ALMs. For St Mary's CE Primary School, Head Sarah Perrett. Clergy: Rose Lawley. Readers: Ian Strongman, Sue Bullock

*Diocese of Canterbury: Archbishop Justin Welby with Bishops Trevor Willmott (Dover),  
Jonathan Goodall (Ebbsfleet), Roderick Thomas (Maidstone), Norman Banks (Richborough)*

## Sat 14 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry

Give thanks for ongoing joy of family services and Youth Alpha at Holy Trinity Trimpey. Pray to make the building a real place of welcome for everyone and an encouragement to the community through working together. Clergy: Alex Vaccarro. ALM: Jane Twigg.

*Diocese of Cape Coast (Ghana, Africa): Bishop Victor Atta-Baffoe*

**Fairer Share in 2018**

From Stewardship Officer, Alison Maddocks:

Jesus told us that to enter the kingdom of heaven we need to be like little children.

If we were to ask children how Parish Share should be divided, I think they might well decide that it should be done on the basis of how much money people had in the first place.



This is the basic principle behind our Fairer Share system and 2018 will see the first complete re-run of the income survey that is the basis for calculating parish contribution to our shared cost of ministry. As last time, we'll be providing guidelines to try to ensure that all churches carry out their survey in the same way.

Last time there was significant variation in how widely people 'spread the net' as to who was included in the survey, which had a real impact on share calculation. When you receive the guidelines, please do try and follow them carefully. If people reduce the numbers included this will result in a higher 'per point' allocation for everyone. If just a few parishes were to act in this way, it would seriously undermine the 'Fairer' nature of the system. We know that for some the payment of Parish Share is a real struggle, for some genuinely unattainable. Fairer Share should act to bring this into the light so that we can act together to address it.

Let's make sure that like children we trust God to be at work through our good intentions and resist the all too understandable temptation to look for a faithless human fix.

*Pray for all those in the parishes and in the diocesan office who are working to ensure we all pay a fair share of the cost of mission and ministry across the Diocese.*

*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Derby: Bishop Alastair Redfern with Bishop Jan McFarlane (Repton)*

*Diocese of Clogher (Ireland): Bishop John McDowell*

*Diocese of Aalborg (Denmark): Bishop Henning Toft Bro*

*The Church of Ireland: Archbishop Richard Clarke*

**Mon 16 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry**

At St Oswald's Church in Broadwaters, pray for Churchwardens Brian and Sue, the 'Church on the Hill' Fresh expression in St Oswald's School and for the Place of Welcome Friday Coffee morning in the church. Clergy: Nigel Taylor

*Diocese of Carlisle: Bishop James Newcome and Bishop Robert Freeman (Penrith)*

**Tue 17 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry**

At Upper Arley, give thanks for 'Jam and Bread' and the new parents and children attending. Pray for the ongoing ministry to the village, Churchwardens Charles Beer and Anita Perkins, DCC members, our ALMs and the help of David Skitt. For Upper Arley CE Primary School, Head Ian Smith. Clergy: Rose Lawley.

*Diocese of Cashel & Ossory (Ireland): Bishop Michael Burrows*

**Wed 18 The Protestant Church of Central Germany**

On 19 & 20 April there is a conference on Israel and Palestine. Given our German history, we feel a particular responsibility towards the Jewish people and Israel. At the same time, we are aware of the need to support of our fellow Christians in Palestine. Pray for our meeting, for the peoples of Israel and Palestine, and for growth in peace and understanding.

*Diocese of Central Buganda (Uganda): Bishop Michael Lubowa*

**Thur 19 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry**

Please pray for St John the Baptist, Wolverley as we grow and develop our teams of volunteers. Pray we may be open to how God wants us to develop relationships with the local community and grow our work with schools. Clergy: Bridget Woodall; Reader: Fleur Bradley

*Archbishop of Cape Town: Thabo Makgoba Diocese of Cape Town (S.Africa): Bishop Garth Counsell*

**Fri 20 Kidderminster Ismere Team Ministry**

Pray for St Peter's Church in Cookley, for churchwardens Marlene and Jackie, for the dementia café and for work in the local community. Clergy: Nigel Taylor

*Diocese of Central Busoga (Uganda): Bishop Patrick Wakula*

**Sat 21 BCUIM**

Pray for the Chaplains of the Black Country Urban Industrial Mission: Ian Hancock (Pensnett Bus Garage), Tony Stone (ASDA Brierley Hill), Matthew Gordon (Walsall & Dudley Mental Health NHS: "Grit" Men's welfare project), Steve Bentham (Haden Cross Fire Station), Matt Brookes (Brierley Hill Fire Station), Dudley Town Centre Team coordinated by Jeremy Parkes and Bill Mash at Merry Hill Shopping Centre where we are seeking to set up a multi-faith chaplaincy team.

*Diocese of Central Ecuador (USA): Bishop Victor Scantlebury*

**Vocations Sunday**

There's an old quip that says – "if you were accused of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

Vocation is about living out the implications of the faith we profess. Crudely put there are two kinds of vocation – a) serving the world in God's name by acts of compassion or justice, and b) resourcing the church to better serve the world in God's name.... We need both!

Traditionally vocations have been understood in terms of ordained ministry, and we desperately need more of such vocations, people who will energise and envision the community of faith in its witness and mission by word and sacrament. But vocation mustn't be limited to this. Vocation is simply the answer to the question, how do you offer life in the service of God and of others and God's people (lay and ordained) can do this is a huge variety of ways, both within the church and within society.

Vocations Sunday offers us an opportunity to stop and reflect on our vocations individually and corporately. Are we living our faith as we would like to? What changes might we make? Who might we encourage to consider some form of ministry more seriously?

*Pray that God will foster a variety of vocations in our churches and communities and give us the courage to recognise and encourage the vocations of others.*



*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean:  
Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Blackburn:  
Bishop Julian Henderson with Bishop  
Philip North (Burnley)*

*Diocese of Brechin (Scotland):  
Bishop Nigel Peyton  
The Lutheran Church in Great Britain:  
Bishop Martin Lind*

*The Anglican Communion in Japan:  
Archbishop Nathaniel Uematsu*

*Deacons from 2017*

**Mon 23 Bewdley, Ribbesford & Button Oak**

We pray for Kim Leach, our Children's and Families' worker, for our work with St Anne's school, for the clubs, Mothers' Union and all activities that reach out to families in Bewdley. Clergy: Megan Gibbins; Readers: Barbara Fauset, Mike Robinson

*Diocese of Central Florida (USA): Bishop Gregory Brewer  
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast (USA): Bishop Russell Kendrick*

**Tue 24 All Saints, Wribbenhall**

Please pray for our community outreach project with the Knit and Natter group who support many charities. For retired clergy Mark Moreton, Heather Flack and Roger Woodward who have supported us during the vacancy. Clergy: Megan Gibbins; Readers: Mike Robinson, Barbara Fauset

*Diocese of Central Newfoundland (Canada): Bishop John Watton*

**Wed 25 Economy and Daily Life**

On St Mark's day pray for all whose work involves writing and communication of ideas. Pray for authors, journalists, bloggers, communications officers and publishers, giving thanks for the freedom we enjoy here and praying for all places in the world where this is not the case.

*Diocese of the Central Philippines: Bishop Dixie Taclobao*

**Thur 26 Mamble w Bayton**

Give thanks for everyone that works so hard to continue our worship and outreach during our vacancy, including our churchwardens and ALM's. Give thanks for the building work recently completed at Bayton Church and the resultant opportunities for mission. For Bayton Primary School, Head: Jolanda Simmonds. Clergy: Sallie Butcher; Reader: Christine Clarke

*Diocese of Central New York (USA): Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe*

**Fri 27 Rock w Heightington**

Give thanks for couples marrying in our churches and individuals being baptised. For our churchwardens, ALM's and all those currently supporting us. We see signs of God in our communities, and pray that we can be bold, patient and persistent in making the most of opportunities. Clergy: Sallie Butcher; Reader: Christine Clarke

*Diocese of Central Solomons (Melanesia): Bishop Ben Seka*

**Sat 28 Far Forest**

Pray for our new initiative to develop a youth group at the Far Forest Centre. Give thanks for the way in which the parishes within our benefice work together particularly during our vacancy. Pray for Far Forest Lea Memorial Primary School, Head: Mrs Collins Bullock, our churchwardens and ALMs. Clergy: Sallie Butcher, Reader: Christine Clarke

*Diocese of Central Tanganyika (Tanzania): Bishop Dickson Chilongani*



## Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come is a global prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus Christ. What started out as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York in 2016 to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer.

The hope is that:

- people will commit to pray with God's world-wide family - as a church, individually or as a family;
- people will be empowered through prayer by the Holy Spirit, finding new confidence to be witnesses for Jesus Christ.

Archbishop Justin Welby says: "I cannot remember in my life anything that I've been involved in where I have sensed so clearly the work of the Spirit. In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."

Across the Diocese, we are encouraging parishes and deaneries to set up prayer stations and hold prayer walks and events. There will also be two events on Pentecost Sunday to which everyone is invited – a Praying for Dudley event in Priory Ruins at 2.30pm and a service to pray for the whole diocese in the Cathedral at 6.30pm.

*Please pray that people across the Diocese will respond to this call to prayer and as a result will have the confidence to go out and share the Good News of Jesus' love with more people.*

*Kidderminster Deanery - Rural Dean: Hugh Burton; Lay Chair: Bernard Watkins*

*Diocese of Gothenburg (Sweden): Bishop Susanne Rappmann  
Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway (Scotland): Bishop Gregor Duncan  
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East: Archbishop Suheil Dawani*

## Mon 30 Churches Together in Kidderminster

Give thanks for the good relationships between the Christian denominations across the Town and for the projects overseen by Churches Together, especially the Foodbank, Street Pastors and Child Contact Centre.

*Diocese of Central Zambia (Africa): Bishop Derek Kamukwamba  
Diocese of Central Zimbabwe (Africa): Bishop Ishmael Mukuwanda*

## Tue 1 MAY Retired Clergy in Kidderminster Deanery

Please pray for the retired clergy of Kidderminster Deanery, giving thanks for their vocation and ministry over the years. We ask that they may enjoy this new season of their lives and continue to grow closer to God in new and wonderful ways.

*Diocese of Chandigarh (India): Bishop Younas Massey*

## Wed 2 Diocese of Peru

The Anglican Church of Peru has four schools: San Mateo and Santísima Trinidad/Cristo Redentor in Lima, and San Lucas and St Mark's in Arequipa. Pray for Ricardo Vergara, chair of the board of education, and for all the teachers, staff and pupils.

*Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (USA): Bishop Audrey Scanlan*

## Thur 3 Worcester East Deanery

Pray for the Rural Dean and Lay Chair, for all clergy and laity ministering in the Deanery; and for the Mission Enabler working in the parishes of St George, St Stephen and Claines. Give thanks for vacancies filled and for new colleagues. Pray for Bishop Perowne CE College, Head: Mark Pollard.

*Diocese of Chelmsford: Bishop Stephen Cottrell with Bishops Peter Hill (Barking), Roger Morris (Colchester)*

## Fri 4 St John the Baptist, Claines

Pray for our project to re-order the church. For Paula Honniball as she is Priested in July. For retiring churchwarden Rachel Cramp and fellow warden Phil Kear. For Mission Enabler Adam Legge and our joint mission with St Stephen's. Clergy: Jo Musson, Jennie Hayward, Peter Davies, Paula Honniball; Readers: Jean Smallwood, John Butterworth, Judy Morris, Jan Kear

*Diocese of Chester: Bishop Peter Forster with Bishops Keith Sinclair (Birkenhead), Libby Lane (Stockport)*

## Sat 5 St George w Mary Magdelene

Pray for our new Café Church, Kingdom Arts, and Noah's Ark our toddler service. Give thanks for our joint mission with St Stephen's; for our new PCC Secretary Amanda Taylor. Pray for a churchwarden to support Michael Silvey. Clergy: Jo Musson, Jennie Hayward, Peter Davies, Paula Honniball; Readers: Jean Smallwood, John Butterworth, Judy Morris, Jan Kear

*Diocese of Chhattisgarh (India): Puma Sagar Nag*

**Rogation Sunday**

Rogation Sunday is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessings on the fruits of the earth and the labours of those who produce our food.



The word "rogation" is from the Latin *rogare*, "to ask." Historically, the Rogation Days (the three days before Ascension Day) were a period of fasting and abstinence, asking for God's blessing on the crops for a bountiful harvest. Less of us today directly derive our livelihood from the production of food, yet it is good to be reminded of our dependence upon those who do and our responsibility for the environment.

Traditionally a common feature of Rogation days was the ceremony of beating the bounds, in which a procession of parishioners, led by the minister and churchwardens would proceed around the boundary of their parish and pray for its protection in the forthcoming year. As it is no longer practical to follow exact boundaries many services will be held that have a focus on specific elements of creation such as livestock, fields, orchards and gardens.

*A prayer for Rogationtide:*

*Remember, Lord, your mercy and loving-kindness towards us.*

*Bless this good earth, and make it fruitful.*

*Bless our labour, and give us all things needed for our daily lives.*

*Bless the homes of our parish and all who live within them.*

*Bless our common life and our care for our neighbour.*

*Hear us, good Lord. Amen.*

*Worcester East - Rural Dean: Charles Thomas; Lay Chair: Mike Bunclark*

*Diocese of Southwark: Bishop Christopher Chessun with Bishops Richard Cheetham (Kingston), Jonathan Clark (Croydon), Karowei Dorgu (Woolwich)*

*Diocese of Björgvin (Norway): Bishop Halvor Nordhaug*

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

**Mon 7 St Stephen, Worcester**

Pray for growing links with children, young people and families, especially through the involvement of a Mission Enabler. For a new homegroup and enquirers' group. Clergy: Andy Todd; licensed and retired clergy: David Morphy, Sheila Nall, Stephen Malkinson; Readers: Margaret Mandrell, Abigail Penfold

*Diocese of Chicago (USA): Bishop Jeffrey Lee*

**Tue 8 All Saints, Worcester**

Pray for our youth and young adults that they may walk into their vocation with courage and humility. Pray especially for Asher Wood currently living and working in the Liv Village project in South Africa, one of our mission partners. For Ordinand Jonny Gordon. Clergy: Rich Johnson, Owen Gallacher, Paul Swann

*Diocese of Chichester: Bishop Martin Warner with Bishops Mark Sowerby (Horsham), Richard Jackson (Lewes)*

**Wed 9 Diocese of Morogoro**

We pray for all those involved in the planning of our next Diocesan visit and for those parishes which are beginning to build firm links with parishes in Morogoro. We pray that we will all have the humility and openness to learn from one another so that we might all become better disciples of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

*Diocese of Chile: Bishop Hector Zavala Muñoz with Suffragan Bishop Abelino Manuel Apeleo*

**Thur 10 Ascension Day**

A hymn of glory let us sing. New songs throughout the world shall ring. Christ, by a road before untrod, ascendeth to the throne of God. Alleluia!

**Fri 11 St Martin in the Cornmarket**

Please pray for the future of the Parish and our Development Project. Pray that our worship will lead us to God and for stability and peace. Clergy: Tim Clarke, Colin Butler

*Diocese of Chotanagpur (India): Bishop B Baskey*

**Sat 12 St Barnabas, Worcester**

Pray for our vision to become an ECO-Church. For us as we endeavour to include children in our services; to deepen our discipleship; to serve the parish every day and as we raise funds to improve access. Clergy: Julieann Watson, Kalantha Brewis; Tolladine Missioner: Sue Martyr; ALMs Mark Watson, Julia Adams, Jackie Campbell

*Diocese of Christ the King (Southern Africa): Bishop Peter Lee*

**Christian Aid Week 13 -19 May**

From house-to-house collections, sponsored walks, church collections and Big Brekkies, Christian Aid Week brings kingdom builders from all walks of life and Christian traditions together to step out in mission for the world's poorest people.

This year the focus is on Haiti.

Haiti is one of the poorest countries in the world. This makes it much harder for them to cope with the relentless earthquakes, storms and hurricanes they endure. The people are resilient, and they're constantly fighting to survive and climate change is only making it worse.

In Haiti, Marcelin raised his three daughters alone, amidst the catastrophic natural disasters of recent years. They're not just survivors. They're fighters. But they're only so strong. They won't survive the next hurricane without your help.

This Christian Aid Week, you can be in their corner. You can help them build a home that will weather the next storm, so they won't need to fight to survive anymore. Christian Aid Week unites kingdom builders like you from all walks of life. We step out in mission for our neighbours like Marcelin, because we believe in life before death. We believe God's Kingdom is stronger than the storm.

*Please pray for Marcelin and other inhabitants of Haiti and for all those raising money for Christian Aid this week.*

*Worcester East - Rural Dean: Charles Thomas; Lay Chair: Mike Bunclark*

*Diocese of Gloucester: Bishop Rachel Treweek with Bishop Robert Springett (Tewkesbury)*

*Diocese of Västerås (Sweden): Bishop Mikael Mogren*

*The Anglican Centre in Rome*

*Diocese of Christchurch (New Zealand): Bishop Victoria Matthews*

**Mon 14 Christ Church, Tolladine**

Give thanks for the lovely people of Tolladine. May those who live and work in the area be inspired and feel the heartbeat of God and love mercy and do justice. CMS Pioneer Missioner: Sue Martyr

*Diocese of Chubu (Japan): Bishop Peter Ichiro Shibusawa*

**Tue 15 St Wulstan, Worcester**

Give thanks for PCT@5, our informal monthly service; for the Youth Offending Team working on the church and garden; for Thursday Friends Café, a ministry to the lonely. Clergy: Charles Thomas; Reader: Phillip Howell.

*Diocese of Clogher (Ireland): Bishop John McDowell*

**Wed 16 The Protestant Church of Central Germany**

We have just celebrated the ordination of a new group of young ministers. Please pray for this cohort of young clergy, and those in the early years of ordination, that they and their parishes will grow through their ministry. Pray also for the exchange visit of newly ordained pastors between EKM and Worcester.

*Diocese of Cochin (India): Bishop Baker Ninan Fenn*

*Diocese of Coimbatore (India): Bishop Timothy Ravinder*

**Thur 17 St Nicholas, Worcester**

Pray for us as we seek to grow in faith through our 'Word on Wednesday' bible study and prayer time and give thanks for those who contribute to the life of the church. For Reader in Training, Nick Stephens. Clergy: Diane Cooksey, Helen Caine (Methodist), Andrew Mann-Ray (URC)

*Diocese of Colombia (USA): Bishop Francisco Duque*

**Fri 18 Worcester South East Team**

Pray for St Martin, London Road. Give thanks for all who supported the recent vacancy, especially for the ministry of recently deceased Canon David Rogers and Sister Joan Hudspeth. Pray for us as we look forward to new mission opportunities following the appointment of our new Team Rector. Clergy: Rob Farmer, Stephen Buckley; Reader: Mike Bunclark

*Diocese of Connor (Ireland): Bishop Alan Abermethy*

**Sat 19 Worcester South East Team**

Pray for St Philip & St James, Whittington that we can develop our church building to strengthen our links in the community. Pray for our links to Whittington CE School, Head: Gary Richards, and the areas of new housing. For our ALM. Clergy: Andrew Stand, Bishop Christopher Mayfield, Stephen Buckley; Readers: Mike Bunclark, Tim Parker

*Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross (Ireland): Bishop William Colton*

**Dementia Awareness Week 21 – 27 May**

A number of churches around the diocese are becoming more dementia-friendly, discovering that the journey begins with some simple steps. Some are starting to go further. You can see one example, the Evesham Tea Service, on our diocesan web site, and we will soon be telling more stories.

This week doesn't only offer an opportunity to think about how your church could become more dementia-friendly. It's also a reminder of the importance of praying for those who are living with dementia, for their families and carers, and for all who are affected by the emotional and mental symptoms of the various physical illnesses we call dementia.



*Here is a prayer you can use:*

*God of hope and resurrection,  
you know us better than we know ourselves,  
and draw us to peace and wholeness in your love.  
We remember before you  
those who are unable to remember their own lives.  
Guard and treasure their lost memories for them,  
and hold their past in your safe hands,  
that when the death of the body comes,  
you may bring them to the full life of the resurrection,  
restore and heal the memories of their lives,  
and give them back to themselves,  
that we with them may rejoice in your love,  
and find the fullness of life in your presence,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

For ideas, and to see what others are doing, visit the diocesan website:  
[www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/dementia-friendly-churches](http://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/dementia-friendly-churches)

*Worcester East - Rural Dean: Charles Thomas; Lay Chair: Mike Bunclark*

*Diocese of Guildford, Bishop Andrew Watson with Bishop Jo Wells (Dorking)*

*Diocese of Viborg (Denmark): Bishop Henrik Stubkjær*

*Diocese of Colorado (USA): Bishop Robert O'Neill*

**Mon 21 Worcester South East Team**

At St Mark in the Cherry Orchard we give thanks for the support of the local community towards our Bees, Butterflies and Wildlife project. Pray that we may build up our links in our community, especially with the groups using our church hall. Clergy: Andrew Stand, Richard Heading, Stephen Buckley; Readers: Mike Bunclark, Tim Parker; ALM Carol Oliver

*Diocese of Costa Rica (Central America): Bishop Hector Gonzalez*

**Tue 22 Worcester South East Team**

We pray for the people of Holy Trinity & St Matthew, and for the wider parish in Ronkswood; praying also for our Building Project and for all those who have worked tirelessly for the future of our Church. Clergy: George Davis; Reader: Tim Parker

*Diocese of Coventry: Bishop Christopher Cocksworth with Bishop John Stroyan (Warwick)*

**Wed 23 Economy and Daily Life**

Pray for all in the midst of GCSE's, A-levels and college exams, and for decisions to be taken about next steps by all young people, especially those anticipating entering the job market.

*Diocese of Connecticut (USA): Bishop Ian Douglas with Suffragan Bishop Laura Ahrens*

**Thur 24 Worcester Almshouses**

For the chaplaincies at Laslett's and St Oswald's. For loving communities where the elderly can be valued. For Nash's & Wyatt's Court, Berkeley's Court and Walsgrove Court (All Saints Parish), Queen Elizabeth's Almshouses (St George's Parish) and The Royal Albert and St Swithun's (St Martin's Parish) catering for the elderly and disadvantaged.

*Diocese of Cueibet (South Sudan): Bishop Elijah Matueny Awet*

**Fri 25 Retired Clergy in Worcester East**

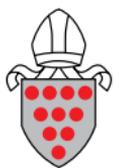
In this season of the Holy Spirit enlivening the church, we pray for the retired clergy of the Deanery, that they may have a renewed sense of their first calling and discover ever fresh dimensions of vocation for later life.

*Diocese of Cuernavaca (Mexico): Bishop Enrique Treviño Cruz*

**Sat 26 Diocesan Synod members**

Pray for all those who are members of diocesan synod. Pray that their discussions will further God's mission in the Church and that they are able to return to their parishes to inspire others.

*Diocese of Curitiba (Brazil): Bishop Naudal Alves Gomes*



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

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DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER

