



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER



# Prayer Diary

June to August 2018

## Foreword from Bishop Graham



On 29 June the Church celebrates the feast day of St Peter and St Paul and, whilst very different characters with different roles, they have been remembered jointly since the very early days of the Church, perhaps this being the date on which they were martyred.

St Peter was devoted to Jesus. Stories about him show someone who was impetuous yet courageous, extravagant in his emotions, energetic and impulsive in his style, slow to understand yet a preacher of the gospel, and someone who was ready to be imprisoned and to die for his devotion. Jesus had faith in him and for good reason, gave him the name πέτρος – petros, a word play on πέτρα – petra, meaning rock.

We build a picture of St Paul from Luke's record in Acts and from Paul's own pen in his letters. Here was a passionate, energetic, brave, convinced, vulnerable, directive, caring, clear thinking individual. Tom Wright, in his very readable *Paul: A Biography*, writes about Paul's vision being of a "united and holy community, prayerfully rooted in the scriptural story of ancient Israel, facing social and political hostility but insisting on doing good to all people, especially the poor."

What a debt we owe to them both as we continue to pray that the Church may ever stand firm upon the one foundation, Jesus Christ our Lord.

+ Graham



*Welcome* to this summer edition of the prayer diary!  
This quarter we're praying for three different deaneries in our journey around the diocese – Dudley, Stourbridge & Evesham.

We also pray for Bishops around the world using the Anglican Cycle of Prayer and the Porvoo prayer calendar ([www.porvoochurches.org](http://www.porvoochurches.org)) – these are included in italics at the bottom of each day.

Do let me know if you've got a story to feature on a Sunday in a future diary – the more notice you can give me the better! And don't forget that 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

## Bredon Hancock's First School turns 300!



During June, Bredon Hancock's CE First School will be celebrating its 300th birthday. It was founded by William Hancock, who left a sum of money with instructions that it be used to educate boys of the parish – there is still an ancient notice about this in Bredon Church.

Originally a boys' secondary school, Bredon Hancock's has changed significantly over the years, but it has strong links with the church

and there is a Georgian building on the site which still belongs to Bredon Church.

Over the past few months, pupils have been learning about the history of the school and the part it has played in the village. They are working with artists to create a celebratory installation with each class taking an aspect of the school's history to create a panel. And a new stained glass window is being produced for the foyer, which includes the children's designs all around the edge.

Headteacher, Mel Millar, said: "It's amazing to be surrounded by so much history and the children didn't realise how old the school is. We've been fortunate that a considerable amount of money has been spent on the school over the last few years, and all the work will be finished in time for our birthday celebration!"

Bishop John will join staff and pupils for a tour of the school on 15 June. He will bless their new celebration garden and be part of a service of thanksgiving and celebration in St Giles' Church. There will also be picnic for families on the school field. On 23 June, the school is joining a community day with a procession, country dancing and singing as well as traditional and modern games.

*Pray for the staff and children at Bredon Hancock's school during their special birthday celebrations.*

*Dudley Deanery - Rural Dean: Dominic Melville; Lay Chair: Anne Penn*

*The Anglican Church of Korea: Archbishop Onesimus Dongsin Park  
Diocese of Exeter: Bishop Robert Atwell with Bishop Nick McKinnel (Plymouth)  
Diocese of Nord-Hålogaland (Norway): Bishop Olav Øygard*

## Mon 28 Spring bank holiday

Pray for all those enjoying the Spring bank holiday today. For those for whom it's just a normal day at work and for those who feel alone.

*Diocese of Cuttack (India): Bishop Surendra Kumar Nanda*

## Tue 29 Ordinands in Training

Pray for all those who are currently in training for ordination from our diocese.

*Diocese of Cyanguu (Rwanda): Bishop Nathan Rusengo*

*Diocese of Kigali (Rwanda): Bishop Louis Muvunyi*

## Wed 30 Diocesan Finance Team

Pray for the finance team at the diocesan team in the diocese office and give thanks for all they do to support parishes. For Assistant Diocesan Secretary, Stephen Lindner, Assistant Accountant, Debra Fox, Senior Accounts Clerk, Thelma Milliken and Accounts Clerk, Jo Burr. Pray particularly for Finance Administrator, Marion Tunwell who will retire next month.

*Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf: Bishop Michael Lewis*

## Thur 31 Dudley Deanery

Pray for our Deanery in a time of change, as we develop a new shape to ministry in Dudley Town Centre, and for those churches looking to appoint new clergy in coming months; for Helen Laird, CYD Mission enabler in the Halas Team and Katryn Leclézio, Deanery Mission Enabler. Deanery Link Reader: Susan Cresswell; Lay Chair: Anne Penn; Rural Dean: Dominic Melville

*Diocese of Daejeon (Korea): The Revd Moses Nak Jun Yoo*

## Fri 1 JUNE Forge Group Ministry

Please pray for all who serve God at St Andrew, Netherton and for all on the PCC as they prepare for a clerical vacancy. Clergy: Mike Rutter; Reader: Norman Jeavons

*Diocese of Dallas (USA): Bishop George Sumner with Suffragan Bishop Paul Lambert*

## Sat 2 Forge Group Ministry

Please pray for the parish of St Peter, Darby End as the search for a new Vicar begins. For the churchwardens and PCC. Clergy: Mike Rutter; Ecumenical Partner: Brian Roberts

*Diocese of Damaturu (Nigeria): Bishop Abiodun Ogunyemi*

## Bishops in Mission weekend in Evesham

Over the weekend of 17 & 18 June, Bishops John and Graham, along with a team of around 20 people will be visiting Evesham deanery for a weekend of sustained mission.

The 'Bishops in Mission' weekend follows an invitation by the Archbishop of Canterbury for all bishops to work alongside those training for ministry (ordinands) by spending time sharing their faith in a local context. In Evesham, there will be a series of events in different parishes as well as in the town centre itself to help the churches reach out to those on the edges of its communities and share the love of Jesus with them.

Bishop Graham said: "98% of people in Evesham deanery are not particularly involved with the life of the church. We long that they will become involved and that the joy of the Gospel will be theirs too.

That's why over the weekend of 15 – 17 June we will be celebrating the life of every church community in the deanery and sharing personal stories about the difference that being a friend of Jesus has made in our lives."



*God of compassion,  
you sent your Son Jesus Christ  
to proclaim good news to the poor,  
recovery of sight to the blind  
and freedom for those who were captive or oppressed;  
send your Holy Spirit on us now  
that we may truly be your Kingdom People  
and draw the people of the Vale of Evesham  
to know Jesus Christ as their Saviour  
and to share the abundance of his risen life  
in love, compassion, justice and freedom.*

*Please pray for all those involved in this event, that the final preparations will go well and that during the weekend, people will encounter Jesus and begin to welcome him into their lives.*

*Dudley Deanery - Rural Dean: Dominic Melville; Lay Chair: Anne Penn*

*The Anglican Church of Melanesia: Archbishop George Takeli  
Diocese of Hereford: Bishop Richard Frith with Bishop Alistair Magowan (Ludlow)  
The Lusitanian Church (Portugal): Bishop José Jorge Pina Cabral  
The Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church Abroad: Archbishop Lauma Zušēvica*

## Mon 4 Forge Group Ministry

Pray for the communities of Dudley Wood & Cradley Heath. For Cradley Heath Community Link as we increase our ministry there and especially for the Alpha+ group. Also for the new PCC. Clergy: Alicia Baker, Chris Enwerem; Readers: Pauline Muller, Val Cope

*Diocese of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania): Bishop Valentino Mokiwa*

## Tue 5 Dudley Town Churches

The Black Country gets its name from its industry. The proximity of ironstone and coal fuelled an economy based on furnaces and ironwork. It was "black by day and red by night". The industry has declined for a century. Pray for the Black Country as it comes to terms with a new economic reality.

*Diocese of Davao (Philippines): Bishop Jonathan Casimina*

## Wed 6 Diocese of Peru

For the Anglican schools in Peru. Following heavy rains, flooding and landslides last year, two of these schools now have to undertake major building works. San Mateo in Lima needs a new classroom block; San Lucas in Arequipa needs a new roof. Pray for those who must find resources for these projects and those who will undertake the work.

*Diocese of Delaware (USA): Vacant*

## Thur 7 Dudley Town Churches

The Dudley community has been enriched by migration from the Caribbean since the 1950s. There is an Asian community and more recently migration from EU countries and asylum seekers from further afield. Pray that all are welcome and give thanks that the racism experienced by early arrivals is no longer acceptable.

*Diocese of Delhi (India): Vacant*

## Fri 8 Dudley Town Churches

The offices of the council which covers the Metropolitan Borough of Dudley are in the ecclesiastical parish of Dudley. Pray for the council, its elected officials and staff as they seek to serve the people of the Borough.

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

## Sat 9 Dudley Town Churches

Many in Dudley have low aspirations. Pray for the schools and Dudley 6th Form College as they strive to raise the sights of young people. Give thanks for the developments and work of Dudley College, recognised by OFSTED as "outstanding".

*Diocese of Derry & Raphoe (Ireland): Bishop Kenneth Good  
Diocese of Down & Dromore (Ireland): Bishop Harold Miller*

## Buildings symposium

On 13 June, the diocese will host a 'Buildings Symposium' welcoming people from across the Church of England to look at the future of our church buildings and how they must change to survive.



Heritage Buildings and Community Support Officer, Andrew Mottram, said: "An early outcome of the appointment of Place of Worship Support Officers (part funded by Historic England) was the recognition of the need to change the way church buildings are understood, used and managed. The recent 'Taylor Sustainability Review of Church Buildings' confirmed this need for change. However, there is still a great deal of work to be done to identify the most effective routes to success.

"Church buildings need to do more than just serve as places of worship if they are to survive the changing society in which they are located. Simply saving historic buildings because they are old is not enough; their roles both now and in the future, need to be considered from the very outset."

The one day symposium will share what has been learnt to date and also provide the opportunity for key leaders in the church and heritage sector to share their insights in what changes are necessary to secure the future of churches as places of mission. Speakers are coming from the Archbishops' Council, Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic England among others.

*Please pray for all those attending this symposium on 13 June.*

*Dudley Deanery - Rural Dean: Dominic Melville; Lay Chair: Anne Penn*

*Anglican Church in Mexico: Presiding Bishop Francisco Moreno*

*Evangelical Lutheran Church of Iceland: Bishop Agnes Sigurdardottir with Bishops Kristjan Ingolfsson and Solveig Gudmundsdottir*

*The Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church: Bishop Carlos Lozano*

## Mon 11 Dudley Town Churches

The churches of Dudley, St Thomas and St Luke (Top Church), St Francis (on the Wren's Nest estate), St James's (Eve Hill), St Barnabas (Russell's Hall Estate) and St Augustine's (Holly Hall) formed a single parish from April last year. Pray for us as we work out what that means and how we can work together while respecting individual church's identities.

*Diocese on the Coast (Nigeria): Bishop Joshua Ogunele*

## Tue 12 Dudley Town Churches

As well as the churches formed into a single parish there are St John's (Kate's Hill) that has remained outside the new parish (though part of the Benefice) and St Edmund's (under the Bishop of Ebbwfleet). Give thanks for the good relations and pray we all may work together.

*Diocese in Europe: Bishop Robert Innes with Suffragan Bishop David Hamid*

## Wed 13 Diocese of Morogoro

Pray for the work of Berega Hospital and its Director, Canon Isaac Mgego. For all the doctors and nurses as they seek to serve those living in a vast area of Morogoro Diocese with insufficient financial resources and staff. We pray for all those struggling to bring about change, especially through meetings between the Diocese and the Tanzanian Government.

*Diocese of Eastern Kowloon (Hong Kong): Bishop Timothy Kwok*

## Thur 14 Dudley Town Churches

Top Church is to be a "Resourcing Church". There will be a new congregation running in parallel with the existing (ageing) congregation which will be a resource and source of blessing to the area and its churches. Pray that vision may become reality.

*Diocese of The Bahamas and The Turks and Caicos Islands (West Indies): Bishop Laish Boyd*

## Fri 15 Halas Team Ministry

Please pray for the medieval Church and holy well of St. Kenelm, Romsley in the Clent Hills, and for our work in Romsley village in the hall, especially with children and lunch club and MU teas. For the right decisions about future ministry provision. For our school, Head: Suzanne Shackleton & ALM: Selina Tromans. Clergy: Dominic Melville; Reader: Pat Hall

*Diocese of the Free State (formerly Bloemfontein) (South Africa): Bishop Dintoe Letloenyane*

## Sat 16 Three Counties Show

The Royal Three Counties Show takes place in Malvern over the next three days. Please pray for those responsible for the Church tent at the show and for all those who visit.

*Diocese of Western Kowloon (Hong Kong): Bishop Andrew Chan*

**Lifepath Malvern**

Lifepath takes place annually in Malvern Priory, this year running from 18 – 22 June. It involves 620 children from 20 local schools, 100+ volunteers from 16 different churches and 14 different activities over five days!

Children join volunteers from local churches to journey back in time through the history of the Priory. From the foundation of the monastery

by Aldwyn and the other monks in 1085, looking at how the arches were built and stay standing, the stories told through the windows and brasses, the life of the monks – daily prayer, calligraphy, farming and food, through to new developments in medicine and science. Activity groups and collective worship sessions with action songs and stories are punctuated by bells calling for silence and a chance to reflect on their own 'lifepath'.

Lifepath couldn't happen without a dedicated team and they get fantastic feedback from both children ("Thank you for the best school trip ever... How do you make it so brilliant? It is phenomenal") and teachers ("I can't think of any way it could be improved. The activities were so carefully planned, with teaching and practical work in all cases").



*Please pray that every aspect of Lifepath this year will be inspired by God's Holy Spirit and enveloped in the love of Christ.*

*Dudley Deanery - Rural Dean: Dominic Melville;  
Lay Chair: Anne Penn*

*The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma):  
Archbishop Stephen Than Myint Oo  
Diocese of Argyll and the Isles (Scotland): Bishop Kevin Pearson  
Diocese of Connor (Ireland): Bishop Alan Abernethy  
Diocese of Lolland-Falster (Denmark): Bishop Marianne Gaerden*

**Mon 18 Halas Team Ministry**

Pray for the people of St Peter's Cradley as they begin to reflect on the question: "How we can be church for those who won't come to the building?" Pray for the courage to share our journeys of faith with our community. Clergy: Katryn Leclézio; Reader: Karen Chaplin; ALMs: Lynn Steward, Christine Cooley; Head of Cradley CE Primary: Marcia Harris

*Diocese of Dogura (Papua New Guinea): Bishop Tennyson Bogar*

**Tue 19 Halas Team Ministry**

Please pray for St John the Baptist, Halesowen, for our congregation and our ministry of hospitality for visitors, plans for the building to serve its community better, and growth in discipleship. For our school, Head: Steve Payne, the process to find his successor and Lorna Knowles, Acting Head. Clergy: Dominic Melville; Reader: Margaret Thomas

*Diocese of the Dominican Republic (Caribbean): Bishop Moisés Quezada Mota*

**Wed 20 The Protestant Church of Central Germany**

This weekend we are celebrating our second EKM youth festival. About 800 young people (14 plus) will gather to listen to music, to sing, to pray, to worship God and to enjoy a great festival atmosphere. Pray for all those who are preparing for and participating in this festival. May they help keep spreading God's gospel through music.

*Diocese of Doko (Nigeria): Bishop Uriah Kolo*

**Thur 21 Halas Team Ministry**

Pray for St Margaret of Antioch, Hasbury. That we may give a warm and inclusive welcome to all and grow together as disciples. For our nurture of our children, and for St Margaret's School; outgoing Head: Pam Griffiths, incoming Head: Sara Shepherd. For our ALMs, Helen, Anne, Graham, Marilyn, Anne, and all in our ministries. Clergy: Rob Hall; Reader: Susan Cresswell

*Diocese of Dornakal (India): Bishop Vadapalli Prasada Rao*

**Fri 22 Halas Team Ministry**

Please pray for all that St Peter's, Lapal does in our area; the Community Choir, Men's breakfast, Craft and Natter, Coffee Mornings, Pudding Club etc. For our links with Leasowes High School and Gower Gardens. For churchwardens Pam & Roy. Clergy: Hazel Charlton.

*Diocese of Dublin & Glendalough (Ireland): Archbishop Michael Jackson*

**Sat 23 Holy Trinity Old Hill**

Pray for people from the community to come to know the Lord and be changed by him. Pray for us as we welcome Rich Hackett as curate, with his family. Clergy: Nick Gowers; Readers: Yvonne Binder, Phil Hall, Robert Higham, Melissa Rose

*Diocese of Duk (South Sudan): Bishop Daniel Deng Abot w Bishop Thomas Tut (Ayod Area)*

## Ordinations

14 people will be ordained next weekend to serve in parishes across the Diocese.

12 candidates will be ordained Deacon in the Cathedral on Saturday and are entering their first year of training as a curate. A further two candidates have completed their first year and will be ordained Priest in their parishes next Sunday; they are now able to preside at the Holy Communion.

Bishop John will ordain the Deacons, while Bishop Graham will ordain the two Priests. Archdeacon Rick Simpson, Archdeacon of Auckland in the Diocese of Durham will be preaching having led the pre-ordination retreat for candidates.

### Ordained deacon:

- Adam Hadley, who will serve at St Thomas in Stourbridge
- Andy Smith, who will serve at All Saints in Worcester
- Chris Sheehan, who will serve in the Arch Benefice, Evesham (Church Lench with Rous Lench & Abbots Morton & Harvington)
- Jen Dennison, who will serve in the West Worcestershire Rural Team
- Julia Quinn, who will serve in Stourport on Severn and Wilden
- Peter Myres, who will serve in the Chase Team, Malvern (St Andrew's & All Saints, Malvern Wells & Wyche)
- Rich Hackett, who will serve at Holy Trinity, Old Hill
- Robin Parry, who will serve in the Worcester South East Team
- Timothy Hupfield, who will serve in Badsey with Aldington & Offenham & Bretforton
- Sue Adeney, who will serve in Upton-on-Severn, Ripple, Earls Croome w Hill Croome & Strensham as well as Hanley Castle, Hanley Swan & Welland
- Janet Hatton, who will serve at St John, Bromsgrove
- Jo Williamson, who will serve in Broadway, Evesham

### Ordained Priest:

- Becky Elliott serving in the West Worcestershire Rural Team
- Paula Honniball serving at St John the Baptist, Claines & St George Worcester

Please pray for all this year's ordination candidates.

*Dudley Deanery - Rural Dean: Dominic Melville; Lay Chair: Anne Penn*  
*The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion): Archbishop Nicholas Okoh*  
*Diocese in Europe, Bishop Robert Innes with Bishop David Hamid*  
*Diocese of Visby (Sweden), Bishop Thomas Petersson*  
*Diocese of Copenhagen (Denmark): Bishop Peter Skov-Jakobsen*



## Mon 25 Ecumenical & interfaith relations in Dudley Deanery

Please pray for the various Churches Together groups across the area, for the work of the Black Country Food Bank, the promotion of Fair Trade through the churches, and the continuing commitment to respectful and well-informed relations between different faith groups in the area, through the work of our schools as well as through the Dudley Interfaith Network.

*Diocese of Dunedin (New Zealand): Bishop Steven Benford*

## Tue 26 Retired Clergy in Dudley Deanery

Pray for the retired clergy living in Dudley Deanery, giving thanks for their ministry in supporting local parishes, some over very many years. Pray for them in their discipleship through changing circumstances and new challenges.

*Diocese of Dunkwa-on-Offin (Ghana): Bishop Edmund Ahmoah*

## Wed 27 Economy and Daily Life

Two years after the EU referendum pray for all involved with the continuing negotiations as the UK prepares to leave the EU. Pray for wisdom for all whose decisions will affect the working life of others, and businesses adapting to the changes they will have to face.

*Diocese of Durgapur (India): Bishop Probal Dutta*

## Thur 28 Mission Development Officer

Pray for Mission Development Officer, Doug Chaplin. For his work in the areas of social responsibility and our overseas links as well as developing work with the ALM scheme. For all that he does to support parishes across the Diocese.

*Diocese of Durham: Bishop Paul Butler with Bishop Mark Bryant (Jarrow)*

## Fri 29 Safeguarding team

Please pray for all those involved in safeguarding matters throughout the Diocese. For Hilary Highton, Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, her Assistant Delia Stokes and Administrator Liz Toone. For all Parish Safeguarding Officers.

*Diocese of Dutse (Nigeria): Bishop Yesufu Lumu*

## Sat 30 Armed Forces Day

Armed Forces Day takes place on the last Saturday of June each year. Pray for all those who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets.

*Diocese of East Carolina (USA): Bishop Robert Skirving*



**Taking Funerals Seriously**

About one third of funerals in this country are taken by Church of England ministers, but this figure is falling; we are losing our 'market share'.

These days, many people are opting for (or being steered towards) a 'non-religious' funeral, perhaps because the deceased did not go to church. But CofE research has shown that most mourners want a funeral service that is both personal and hopeful in the context of a supporting, caring community. These are elements which the Church – and perhaps only the Church – can and does provide. So maybe we are underselling ourselves? In times past, we waited for the phone to ring for our services; now maybe we need to be more vocal in the 'market place' and advertise the especially good and even unique things that the Church's funeral ministry offers.

Some of these themes were explored in a diocesan day workshop held in May. Now a small Diocesan 'Funerals Group' (Nick Wright, Alex Vaccaro; Alex French and Andy Hewines) is seeking to help our churches and deaneries respond imaginatively. One new step is to ensure that we have enough funeral ministers to readily respond to requests from funeral directors. It has been agreed that suitable ALMs may now be encouraged to add to their training in order to become 'Authorised Funeral Ministers'.

But all church members have a role to play: encourage people you know to make their funeral wishes clear to their families, and remind them of the good and important things that only the Church's ministry can provide for their families when they are bereaved.

*Please pray for all those who lead funerals in the Diocese and if any of these matters are important to you or your church, do get in touch with the Funerals Group through Nick Wright [revnmwright@btinternet.com](mailto:revnmwright@btinternet.com)*

*Stourbridge Deanery - Rural Dean: Andrew Sillis; Lay Chair: John Nicholson*

*The Church of North India (United): Archbishop Dr Prem Chand Singh  
 Diocese of Lincoln: Bishop Christopher Lawson,  
 Bishops David Court (Grimsby) & Nicholas Chamberlain (Grantham)  
 Diocese of Härnösand (Sweden): Bishop Eva Bystrom  
 Diocese of Lappo (Finland): Bishop Simo Peura*



**Mon 2 Stourbridge Deanery**

Stourbridge Deanery is incredibly diverse. Our churches are all vibrant and committed to serving their community, and reaching the people for Christ. Please pray for the renewal of our strength and for signs of the Kingdom. Rural Dean: Andrew Sillis; Lay Chair: John Nicholson  
*Diocese of East Kerala (India): Bishop Kayalakkakathu George Daniel*

**Tue 3 Belbroughton, Fairfield and Clent**

Pray for our three churches as we grow together as part of the 'Holy Cross Group Ministry'. Give thanks for visiting clergy and our volunteers. For Sue Oliver, to be licensed as Priest in Charge in September. ALMs: Rosie, Alison, Carol, John. Clergy: Richard Newton; Readers: Pauline Jones, Kim Topham  
*Diocese of East Ruwenzori (Uganda): Bishop George Turyasingura  
 Diocese of Karamoja (Uganda): Bishop Joseph Abura*

**Wed 4 Diocese of Peru**

For the Diocesan Synod and councils, as they consider the revision of the canons (the law governing the life of the church) to serve the Anglican Church of Peru in its new context. Pray for all those charged with investigating and shaping these new canons, and all who help and support them.  
*Diocese of East Tennessee (USA): Bishop Brian Cole*

**Thur 5 Churchill, Blakedown & Broome**

Pray for the ministry and discipleship in these churches during our vacancy. Give thanks for the 'Open the Book' team and Blakedown School, Head: Helen Beckford-Bond. For churchwardens Andrew Yardley, Jan Johns, Michael Clark. Pray for Canon Sue Oliver and her husband Bob, preparing to move to the benefice. Readers: Gerald Dyer, Andrew Hewines, Felicity Willows  
*Diocese of Eastern Himalayas (India): Vacant*

**Fri 6 Hagley & West Hagley**

Please pray for the Parish of St John the Baptist with St Saviour, as we seek to serve a growing local community, and to reach out to people of all ages; also for us and the whole Holy Cross Group. Clergy: Richard Newton; ALM: Jayne Mottershead  
*Diocese of Eastern Michigan (USA): Bishop Todd Ousley*

**Sat 7 The Lye and Stambermill**

Pray for connecting more deeply with the local area, the way forward for the Rufford Brickworks church plant, outreach through the internet cafe and Open Door coffee morning, and making the most of the many opportunities we have with children and young people. Clergy: Simon Falshaw, Chris Kent, Tom Fish; Reader: Graham Dyer  
*Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador (Canada): Bishop Geoffrey Peddle*

## Grants will improve Dudley Churches



Kate Andrew, Church Buildings Project Manager, been supporting three churches in the Dudley area in the delivery phase of their building conservation projects, all with major grants from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

St Thomas & St Luke has now finished a £275,000 project to provide safe access to the roof and functioning rain water disposal. The grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) was complemented by awards from seven other Trusts and foundations plus lots of volunteer time.

Although watertight, the church is still on the At-risk Register and the remarkable painted East window is one of the 100 most significant at-risk 'church treasures'. We are meeting HLF to explore the best way to approach the next stage of work.

St John's, Brockmoor has also been on the At-risk Register for many years. Some damage was all too obvious; peeling paint, falls of plaster and failures of sections of the electrical system. However, less visible was severe rot due to water getting into the building. A £280,000 project began in January and will deal with all these issues.

Building work is due to finish in mid-May and the contractor will be back on site for some traditional skills demonstrations at a public event with heritage displays on Black County Day, 14 July.

St Edmund King & Martyr's appearance on the At-risk Register is partly due to a very obvious hole in the porch ceiling caused by a failure of the drainage from the tower roof. Scaffolding started going up just after Easter and work on the £280,000 project will repair the tower roof as well as fit a new kitchen and toilets. A separate project to create a much needed access ramp for those with mobility impairments is planned to happen once the conservation work is complete.

*Please pray for all of Dudley's Churches and for Kate Andrew as she works to help the parishes ensure their buildings are fit for purpose and accessible to the community.*

*Stourbridge Deanery - Rural Dean: Andrew Sillis; Lay Chair; John Nicholson*

*The Church of Pakistan (United): Archbishop Humphrey Peters  
Diocese of St Albans: Bishop Alan Smith with Bishops Richard Atkinson (Bedford)  
& Michael Beasley (Hertford)  
Diocese of Linköping (Sweden): Bishop Martin Modéus*

## Mon 9 Worcester Cathedral

Pray for the Dean & Chapter (Peter Atkinson, Michael Brierley, David Bryer, Georgina Byrne, Vanessa Godfrey, Alwyn Pettersen, Anne Penn), Chief Operating Officer (Val Floy) and all worshippers, staff, volunteers, friends, & visitors. Pray for the day to day work of the Cathedral, offering worship, welcoming visitors, and engaging with the community.

*Diocese of Eastern Oregon (USA): Bishop Patrick Bell*

## Tue 10 Worcester Cathedral

Give thanks for the continued repair of the Cathedral fabric, especially the recently restored Great West Window. Pray for the plans and fundraising to convert the monastic Undercroft in the Cloisters into our new centre for learning, for the benefit of schools and the whole community.

*Diocese of Eastern Zambia (Central Africa): Bishop William Mchombo*

## Wed 11 Diocese of Morogoro

Pray for the congregation of St Elizabeth's Church in Tunguli, who are seeking to rebuild their church after its destruction in a violent storm. We give thanks for the work of their pastor, Dickson Dyahila, and for all the 258 people who are registered members of the congregation as they seek to make Christ known to the people of their area.

*Diocese of Easton (USA): Bishop Santosh Marray  
Diocese of Eau Claire (USA): Bishop William Lambert*

## Thur 12 St Peter, Pedmore

Please pray for close friendship with Pedmore Primary, Head: David Dunn, and for our children's and families' worker Beth Parry. Clergy: Sarah Northall, Paul Hedworth, Readers: Corrinne and Richard Sarjeant, Linda Kitto, Alan Sibley, Mary German

*Diocese of Edinburgh (Scotland): Bishop John Armes*

## Fri 13 Norton and Wollaston

Pray for the growing of God's Kingdom in our churches, schools & communities. For all who minister to and with us in the Joint Benefice of Norton and Wollaston. For 'All Sorts' Cafe-Church Leader: Richard Green; Children & Families Worker: Sian Morgan; Mission Enabler: Anne Batchelor; Clergy: Nick Kaleniuk, Diana Farmer, Tom Chapman; Reader: Dan Muthuveloe

*Diocese of Edmonton (Canada): Bishop Jane Alexander*

## Sat 14 Black Country Day

We pray for all those who live, work or worship in the Black Country on this day to celebrate the special heritage and community of this area.

*Diocese of Egbá (Nigeria): Bishop Emmanuel Adekunle  
Diocese of Egbá West (Nigeria): Bishop Samuel Ajani*

## Chaplaincy to the Police and Fire & Rescue



Last year, the Revd Dick Johnson became the first Joint Lead Chaplain for both West Mercia Police and Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, alongside continuing to work with Faith and Work in Worcestershire (FWW) part-time.

Dick said: "I have always enjoyed chaplaincy so working with both Services is

an exciting opportunity. The two services are increasingly working more closely together so it makes sense to have a joint chaplain."

Dick began chaplaincy with the Fire Service in 2007 as part of his work as Industrial Missioner with FWW. The work was valued to the extent that the Service has now allocated funds to a partnership with West Mercia Police that employs Dick for three days a week.

"Much of my role is about listening," Dick said. "Quite often I'm talking to staff about what is worrying them and it has little, apparently, to do with God and faith. But of course it does, as the work of emergency services, with all its tragedy and success, is very much part of God's world. It's about being a Christian presence keeping the rumour of God alive in a largely secular world. A particularly important part of my role is to provide support to crews who have been to difficult incidents – giving them the opportunity to talk through that experience with someone independent and process what they've seen."

The Joint Chaplain role makes up 60% of Dick's time, with the other 40% funded by the five denominations involved in Faith at Work in Worcestershire. "I'm a full time Chaplain with a number of portfolios. It's challenging, but immensely fulfilling and enjoyable."

*Please pray for Dick and those in the Police and Fire and Rescue services with whom he works.*

*Stourbridge Deanery - Rural Dean: Andrew Sillis; Lay Chair; John Nicholson*

*The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea: Archbishop Allan Migi  
Diocese of Newcastle: Bishop Christine Hardman with Bishop Mark Tanner (Berwick)  
Diocese of Moere (Molde) (Norway): Bishop Ingeborg Midttemme*

## Mon 16 St Mary, Oldswinford

Pray as we prepare for a vacancy, as our Priest in Charge retires. Give thanks for the work with young people and for the growth in lay ministry. For the work of our retired/retiring Readers, Roy Peacock, Kanthi Ariaraj; for Roger King as he prepares to be licensed as a Reader. Clergy: Stephen Agnew, Alex French; Readers: Kanthi Ariaraj; Mission Enabler: Anne Batchelor

*Diocese of Egbu (Nigeria): Bishop Geoffrey Okoroafor*

## Tue 17 St Andrew, Wollescote

Please pray for our local school Hob Green Primary and its head Stuart Brown, for the Tenants and Residents Association, and for plans for developing our church building. Clergy: Sarah Northall; Reader: Kath Davis

*Diocese of Egypt: Bishop Mouneer Anis  
Area Bishop for the Horn of Africa: Vacant; Area Bishop for North Africa: Bishop Samy Fawzy*

## Wed 18 The Protestant Church of Central Germany

During the summer holidays, volunteers and chaplains in many parishes and church districts are offering a retreat or recreational activities for children and young people. Please pray for this work and for all those who are engaged in this ministry. Ask God's blessing on their commitment to children and young people in our Church.

*Diocese of Eha - Amufu (Nigeria): Bishop Daniel Olinya*

## Thur 19 Amblecote Holy Trinity

Pray that we might grow in fellowship and in our ministry to those we serve. For our ALM Pat Overfield and Reader in training Mary Phillips. Clergy: Alan Williams; Readers: Eirlyn Jenkins

*Diocese of El Camino Real (USA): Bishop Mary Gray-Reeves*

## Fri 20 St Thomas, Stourbridge

As a town centre church, we want to provide spiritual experiences for all 'sorts and conditions'. We've recently begun a cafe-style Sunday congregation. Pray we grow confidence in the worship material before we properly launch the congregation later in the year. Please pray for signs of grace and growth. Clergy: Andrew Sillis, Adam Hadley; Readers: Hil Savage, Jim Grainger

*Diocese of Ekiti Oke (Nigeria): Bishop Isaac Olubowale*

## Sat 21 Ministry & Discipleship team

Pray for the Ministry and Discipleship Team at the Diocesan Office, led by Director Jonathan Kimber and supported by Team Secretary Emma Wollaston. Give thanks for all they do to support and encourage ministry and discipleship in parishes across the Diocese.

*Diocese of El Salvador (Central America): Bishop David Melgar*

## Tiny Tunes in Worcester



Tiny Tunes runs at St Martin's Church, London Road, Worcester on the fourth Monday of each month. The partnership with the Elgar School of Music brings classical music to babies and toddlers along with their carers.

Janine Parsons is Head of School at the Elgar School of Music and helped to set up the initiative with St Martin's. She said: "We had seen the idea elsewhere and thought it would be a great thing to offer in Worcester. Listening to music develops imagination and creativity and is great for the emotional development of young children. It's also really hard to get out to concerts when you're a parent so the idea was to provide something for the mums, dads and grandparents too!"

"For St Martin's, it's all about welcoming people into the church," said Shirley Scott, Concerts Administrator at the church. "We've got a great church for music here with excellent acoustics and facilities, and this fits well with our other concerts and our mission to the community. It enables a different group of people to come into church and feel comfortable and it's great to be able to help nurture young children."

Kate Stephenson-Pugh brings her two year old and baby to Tiny Tunes. She said: "It's great that there are different types of music. My son is quite cautious, but each time we come, he's paid attention to the music and has started to have a dance. It's a really good experience for the children and I enjoy it too!"

*Pray for all involved in Tiny Tunes at St Martin's Church and that all that attend will feel warmly welcomed into the church.*

*Stourbridge Deanery - Rural Dean: Andrew Sillis; Lay Chair: John Nicholson*

*The Episcopal Church in the Philippines*

*Diocese of Skara (Sweden): Bishop Åke Bonnier*

*Diocese of Leeds: Bishop Nick Baines with Bishops Tony Robinson (Wakefield), Toby Howarth (Bradford), Bishop Jonathan Gibbs (Huddersfield), Paul Slater (Leeds), Helen-Ann Hartley (Ripon)*

## Mon 23 All in schools

Pray for all pupils and staff in schools across the Diocese who are breaking up for the summer holidays. Pray that it may be a restful time for them.

*Diocese of Eldoret (Kenya): Bishop Christopher Ruto*

## Tue 24 Retired Clergy in Stourbridge Deanery

Pray for the retired clergy living in Stourbridge Deanery, giving thanks for their ministry over the years and for the help some are able to offer to local parishes. Pray for God's blessing on any facing new challenges and changing circumstances.

*Diocese of Ekiti West (Nigeria): Bishop Samuel Oke*

## Wed 25 Economy and Daily Life

32% of people who are employed work in micro-businesses with fewer than 10 employees. Many work alone and isolation can be a real issue. Pray for small businesses in your community, for all working alone or without support.

*Diocese of El-Obeid (Sudan): Bishop Ismail Gabriel Abudigin*

## Thur 26 Families

Pray for all the many different types of family which exist throughout our Diocese. Where family relations are complicated or difficult, please let God's presence be felt.

*Diocese of Ekiti (Nigeria): Bishop Christopher Omotunde  
Diocese of Ekiti Kwara (Nigeria): Bishop Andrew Ajayi*

## Fri 27 Diocesan Office Receptionists

Pray for those who work on reception at the Diocesan Office, dealing with enquiries and providing a friendly face for those entering the building. Liz Yapp, Jacci Hunt and Karen Blackwell.

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

## Sat 28 Those living in areas of conflict

Pray for all those who are living in places of war or conflict. Help to keep them safe and bring your peace to the world.

*Diocese of Embu (Kenya): Bishop David Muriithi Ileri*

## Our Ministry Experience Scheme

The first three participants on the diocesan Ministry Experience Scheme are approaching the end of their year. Melissa, Jonathan and Peter have lived in a vicarage in Dudley since September, praying together and getting practical experience of what it's like to be a vicar in a parish. All three have been discerning their calling to ordination.



Peter said: "It has been a fantastic way to be able to experience ministry. I've had the opportunity to be with people through the toughest and the best times of their life. There is an incredible sense of community in the Black Country. I feel like I've been invited into the family and it's been awesome to be part of that."

The three participants have lived together and say evening prayer together daily. Melissa said: "Taking the time to pause each evening as we say the psalms together has really helped me to look at the bible in a different way. It's brought the word of God into my innermost life."

Jonathan said: "It's been really enriching to learn from each other's traditions and spirituality as we come together to pray. And it's been brilliant to be involved in the full breadth of parish life. It's allowed us time and space to reflect on who we are and I've learnt a great deal over the last few months."

*Pray for Melissa, Peter and Jonathan as they continue their Christian journey and pray for the Ministry Scheme moving forward that there will be more 18-30 year olds keen to take up the opportunities of the scheme in September.*

*Evesham Deanery – Rural Dean: Richard Thorniley;  
Lay Chair: Liz Booth*

*Anglican Church in Rwanda: Archbishop Onesphore Rwaje  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lithuania:  
Bishop Mindaugas Sabutis  
Diocese of Derry and Raphoe (Ireland):  
Bishop Kenneth Good*

## Mon 30 Faith at Work in Worcestershire

Pray for all workplace chaplains and trustees of this Ecumenical project as FWW works with congregations to encourage and resource mission in the local economy through workplace chaplaincy. Dick Johnson (Development Officer); Jim Brown (Chair of Trustees); Roy Walford (Treasurer)

*Diocese of Enugu (Nigeria): Bishop Emmanuel Chukwuma*

## Tue 31 Parish and Deanery Treasurers

Please pray for all those who look after the finances of their parish or deanery.

*Diocese of Europe (USA): Bishop Pierre Whalon*

## Wed 1 AUGUST Diocese of Peru

For the congregations in remote areas with few facilities and poor public transport, and the clergy and ministers who serve them. Pray especially for Cabanaconde and the communities of the Colca Canyon, the people of Yarabamba, and those in the areas around Huancayo.

*Diocese of Evo (Nigeria): Bishop Innocent Ordu*

## Thur 2 Readers

Pray for all those who serve the church as Licensed Lay Ministers and give thanks for their ministry.

*Diocese of Etche (Nigeria): Bishop Precious Nwala*

*Diocese of Etsako (Nigeria): Bishop Jacob Bada*

## Fri 3 Evesham Deanery

Give thanks for the Bishops' Mission Weekend and pray that we will successfully take forward the opportunities presented by this time together. Pray for cooperation to develop within Benefices and Groups within the Deanery and that we may enjoy all that God wishes to provide. Rural Dean: Richard Thorniley; Lay Chair: Liz Booth; Treasurer: Matthew Buckingham; Secretary: Rosemary Roberts

*Diocese of Exeter, Bishop Robert Atwell with Bishop Nick McKinnel (Plymouth)*

## Sat 4 Broadway and Wickhamford

Please pray for Jo Williamson who was ordained this June and for her ministry as a Deacon this year in our parishes. For all who minister and serve in our parishes and for the people who visit our churches throughout the year. Pray for our parish as we seek to build the kingdom of God here and also run a stewardship campaign. Clergy: Shellie Massey, Jo Williamson

*Diocese of Ezo (South Sudan): Bishop John Kereboro Zawo*

**Cassius Francis – Just Finance**

The Revd Cassius Francis has been appointed as Just Finance Development Worker for the Black Country. He will work with churches and local community groups across the four boroughs, including Dudley in our diocese, to help the most vulnerable become better financially equipped, supporting the work of other organisations such as Christians Against Poverty, Community Money Advice, whg (Walsall Housing Group) and Credit Unions.



Just Finance is a national charity which was established to increase the supply of fair and affordable credit, build financial capability and develop fair financial systems in local communities. The Archbishop of Canterbury is the charity’s President and the Black County is now the fourth area in the country to benefit from a dedicated development worker.

Cassius is a Minister with the Wesleyan Holiness Church and trained for ordination at Queen’s Theological College in Birmingham. He said: “I wanted a role which would enable me to engage practically with people and offer support. Too often the most vulnerable only have access to credit at the highest cost. People don’t assess the high interest levels and can quickly get into a cycle of debt which it’s difficult to escape. Just Finance offers practical skills around budgeting and financial knowledge and a key part of my role will be to help people to access these.”

Cassius can offer training for church and community groups to help them support people in their communities. For example, it’s possible to arrange a ‘train the trainer’ session on simple budgeting skills and helping people be more prepared for the impact of Universal Credit. He is also planning some work with schools to help young people become more financial savvy.

*Please pray for Cassius in his new role and the people and parishes he will support.*

*Evesham Deanery – Rural Dean: Richard Thorniley; Lay Chair: Liz Booth*

*The Scottish Episcopal Church: Archbishop Mark Strange  
Diocese of Bristol: Vacant with Bishop Lee Rayfield (Swindon)  
Diocese of Helsinki (Finland): Bishop Teemu Laajasalo*

**Mon 6 Badsey, Offenham & Bretforton**

Pray for our work with Mission Enabler Emily, giving thanks for the signs of new life that this work is revealing, especially praying for the schools and Messy Church projects. Clergy: Philip Morton; Readers: Alan Bache, Joyce Bache, Sue Cole, Margaret Pye; Mission Enabler: Emily D’Silva  
*Diocese of Faisalabad (Pakistan): Bishop John Samuel*

**Tue 7 Clive Prior & the Littletons**

Please pray for our preparations as we are joined by our new Curate, Timothy. Also, for us as we discern the future for our new Benefice. Clergy: Philip Morton, Timothy Hupfield; Readers: Alan Bache, Joyce Bache, Sue Cole, Margaret Pye; Mission Enabler: Emily D’Silva  
*Diocese of False Bay (South Africa): Bishop Margaret Vertue*

**Wed 8 Diocese of Morogoro**

Give thanks for the visit of Trustees of the Mission Morogoro Charity; for their support in maintaining the tractor given to the Tunguli community through the combined efforts of our Diocese, Mission Morogoro and Moreton Morrell Agricultural College. Pray for all those working with the soil, that they will find ways of increasing vital food production.  
*Diocese of Enugu North (Nigeria): Bishop Sosthenes Eze*

**Thur 9 ASUM Group**

Please pray for Evesham, Norton & Lenchwick. For our growing children’s work team. For ALMs Caroline Green, Lindsay Ladbrook, Rosie Grove, Gail Preece, Admins Katy Tarplee, Carol Sheehan. For retired clergy: Bishop Robert Paterson, John Green, Nick Wright, Peter Knight. Clergy: Andrew Spurr; Readers: Andy Green, Jayne Fleetwood  
*Diocese of Federal Ministries (USA): Bishop Carl Wright*

**Fri 10 ASUM Group**

Pray for Hampton w Sedgeberrow & Hinton on the Green. For St Andrew’s Primary School & the Open the Book team and Sedgeberrow Primary School. For local ministry to Austen Court care home. Clergy: Mark Binney, Nick Wright; Retired clergy: Patrick Wooster, Leonard Burn; Readers: John Lynch, Elaine Major  
*Diocese of Esan (Nigeria): Bishop Friday Imaekhai*

**Sat 11 ASUM Group**

Pray for the community of Bengeworth For our youth group, Bengeworth CE Academy and St Richard’s CE Primary. Clergy: Mark Binney, Nick Wright. Retired clergy: Michael Grylls, Julian Bomyer; Readers: John Lynch, Elaine Major  
*Diocese of Fianarantsoa (Indian Ocean): Bishop Gilbert Rakotondravelo*

**Centenary of Women’s Suffrage**

We take for granted our right to vote in national and local elections, whether we choose to exercise our democratic right or not. A hundred years ago, only property-owning men could do this.

The Representation of the People Act of 1918 enabled all men over twenty-one, and 8.5 million of the 15 million women of Britain to vote, as long as they were over the age of thirty and owned property. Full parity for women came only in 1928.

Many people think that the campaign for women’s right to vote began with the suffragettes of the 20th century, but it began much earlier. Groups of women and men lobbied Parliament, spoke at public meetings, and raised awareness of injustice throughout the 19th century.

One such group was the Church League for Women’s Suffrage. The Worcester branch was led by a cathedral canon, James Maurice Wilson, who ran meetings from his home with his wife, Georgina. The Dean of Worcester, William Moore Ede and his wife Sarah were also active members, as was the Bishop.

The Church League shunned violent protest, but, by connecting equality with Christian principle, added to the tide of opinion that made the 1918 Act inevitable.

*O God, the light of the nations,  
we thank you for all who strive for justice and  
challenge our complacency.*

*Grant that we may use our voices and our votes for the good  
of all people,*

*and that our faithfulness to your all-embracing love may be known  
not just in our words, but also in our deeds.*

*Through Jesus Christ, our hope and salvation. Amen.*



*Evesham Deanery – Rural Dean: Richard Thomiley; Lay Chair: Liz Booth*

*Church of the Province of South East Asia: Archbishop Ng Moon Hing*

*Diocese of Portsmouth: Bishop Christopher Foster*

*Diocese of Stockholm (Sweden): Bishop Eva Brunne*

**Mon 13 The Lenches, Abbots Morton & Harvington**

Give thanks for Church Holiday Clubs, Open the Book, two wonderful First Schools and our local communities. Pray that the Gospel becomes alive for all through the witness of our Church Families. Pray for John Liggitt training as an ALM Worship Leader. Head Teachers: Helen Fishbourne and Samantha Price. Reader: Janet Stean; Clergy: Richard Thorniley, Fran Battin, Ruth Walker

*Diocese of Florida (USA): Bishop John Howard*

**Tue 14 Inkberrow, Cookhill, Kington with Domston**

Please pray for the entire benefice and surrounding villages. Give thanks that after a year the benefice has settled into its new pattern of worship and pray we will continue to welcome new people to our churches. Clergy: Bruce Rienstra, Diane Hayward-Wright, Vivienne Heenan; Readers: Nigel Seyler, Janice Swan, Hilary Lloyd, Peter Charlesworth

*Diocese of Fredericton (Canada): Bishop David Edwards*

**Wed 15 The Protestant Church of Central Germany**

On 18 Aug, we celebrate our “Night of the Churches” in Halle, the oldest and biggest ecumenical summer festival in Central Germany. In around 50 different locations people can participate at services, workshops, exhibitions and speak about faith and God. Please pray for our volunteers and chaplains. May this festival help inspire the faith of all who participate.

*Diocese of Freetown (Sierra Leone, West Africa): Bishop Thomas Wilson*

**Thur 16 All who work in the Diocesan Office**

Pray for all the different individuals working in the diocesan offices to help and serve the parishes.

*Diocese of Gahini (Rwanda): Bishop Alexis Bilindabagabo*

**Fri 17 Evesham Mission Enabler**

Pray for all Fresh Expressions of Church in Evesham (Fairfield Church, SoulFood, PubChat) and the many lay leaders who help to facilitate them. Pray that the new Dance Group for Young People, Espiritu, will be engaging and enriching for all involved. Mission Enabler: Sarah Hewitt

*Diocese of Fond du Lac (USA): Bishop Matthew Gunter*

*Diocese of Fort Worth (USA): Bishop Scott Mayer*

**Sat 18 Evesham Community Hospital**

Pray for all patients, relatives and staff at Evesham Community Hospital. Matron Shirley Hodgetts, Lead Chaplain Andy Green, Volunteer Chaplain Diane Hayward -Wright and all other volunteers who provide such valuable support throughout the year.

*Diocese of Gambia (West Africa): Bishop James Odico*

## Retreat Café, St Francis, Dudley

Earlier this year, the Retreat Café at St Francis's Church in Dudley was shortlisted for the Mayor of Dudley's 'Pride of Dudley' award. They were one of three finalists from over a hundred nominations for the award which is chosen by the local community.

The Café opened six years ago when St Francis was asked to take over responsibility for the building attached to the church which was originally built for community use. It is run voluntarily by the two churchwardens, Lorraine Robbins and John Barrett, who serve between 40 and 60 people each day between 9am and 3.30pm.

John said: "We can't believe how successful it's become! We welcome everyone and anyone and they can get a full cooked meal for less than £3. The all-day breakfast is particularly popular. We were shocked and thrilled to be nominated for the Mayor's award. Both Lorraine and I run the café because we enjoy it and it helps the church, so to be recognised in this way is an added bonus!"

All the food provided at the café is cooked to order and the café also caters for functions, including a meal club once a month where there serve around 35 people at a special rate. The café also offers work experience to four young people with learning difficulties who work regular shifts each day.

"Most people find us through word of mouth," continued John. "The feedback we receive is that people feel welcomed and unpressurised and we get lots of return custom. It's become a real hub for the local community."

*Please pray for all who are involved in The Retreat Café and for all those who find refreshment there.*

*Evesham Deanery – Rural Dean: Richard Thorniley; Lay Chair: Liz Booth*

*The Church of South India (United): Archbishop Thomas Kanjirappally Oomme  
Diocese of Kilmore, Elphin and Ardagh (Ireland): Bishop Samuel Ferran  
Diocese of Aarhus (Denmark): Bishop Henrik Wigh-Poulsen*



## Mon 20 Churches Together in Evesham

Pray for all the different denominations working together in Evesham to best serve their community.

*Diocese of Gboko (Nigeria): Bishop Emmanuel Nyitsse*

## Tue 21 Retired Clergy in Evesham Deanery

We give thanks for the variety of ministry within the Church of God, particularly for the service offered by retired clergy in the Evesham Deanery. We rejoice as they extend our understanding of the richness and diversity of service in Christ's name, stretching over the boundaries of generations.

*Diocese of George (South Africa): Bishop Brian Marajh*

## Wed 22 Families in Poverty

Please pray for all those families who are struggling to make ends meet. Particularly during the summer holidays for those children who would usually receive a free hot lunch at school and whose families can't afford to do the many activities that other children will experience over the summer.

*Diocese of Georgia (USA): Bishop Scott Benhase*

## Thur 23 Slavery Remembrance Day

Pray for justice and freedom for all still caught up in the modern slave trade through trafficking and bonded labour, in this country and around the world. Pray for the continued development and impact within the diocese of the Church of England's Clewer Initiative to support victims of modern slavery.

*Diocese of Gippsland (Australia): Vacant  
Diocese of Grafton (Australia): Bishop Sarah Macneil*

## Fri 24 ALMs

Pray for all those who serve their parishes as Authorised Lay Ministers, whether as evangelists, worship leaders, children's workers, administrators or others. Pray also for those who will start ALM training in September.

*Diocese of Gitega (Burundi): Bishop John Nduwayo with  
Coadjutor Bishop Aimé Joseph Kimararungu*

## Sat 25 University of Worcester & Chaplaincy

Pray for all who work and study at the University of Worcester. For Vice Chancellor David Green and for all who are part of the chaplaincy team there.

*Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway (Scotland): Bishop Gregor Duncan*





 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
DIOCESE OF  
WORCESTER

