



Diocese of Newcastle Prayer Diary December 2020

There are two significant changes in this month's Prayer Diary.

Firstly, MARK WROE, Bishop-Designate of Berwick, has provided weekly themes around Biblical texts to nourish our prayers as we make our next steps in *growing church bringing hope*.

Secondly, ROB KELSEY, Assistant Archdeacon, at the suggestion of Mark Nash-Williams, the Bishop's Adviser on the Environment, has prepared condensed versions for every day of the prayers in a new book, *Praying for the Earth*. You will find a further note about this book at the end of this month's Prayer Diary.

I hope that these two additions will help to make the Prayer Diary more than simply a list of people and places to pray FOR (important though that is) but also a list of concerns and issues to pray ABOUT.

Richard Hill

This week ...

'... we are the clay and you are our potter,
we are all the work of your hand.'
(Isaiah 64:8)

Let us pray that all of us will be open to God's transforming love, that we will be comforted and strengthened, that our actions and attitudes will be shaped by God's love, and we will have courage to share God's love in the world.

1 Tuesday

- **Diocese of Seoul (Korea)** Bp Peter Lee
- **Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador (Canada)** Bp Geoffrey Peddle
- **Diocese of Newcastle**
For all who support our Bishops in their ministry
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Area Dean: John Park
Lay Chair: vacant

• TIMES AND SEASONS

Help us to appreciate all that is special about the present time of year, and to live our lives in keeping with the natural order.

2 Wednesday

- **Diocese of the Seychelles (Indian Ocean)**
Abp James Richard Wong Yin Song, Primate
- **Diocese of Eastern Oregon (USA)**
Bp Patrick Bell
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For Bishop Christine in her diocesan and national responsibilities
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Deanery Secretary: Joyce Templey
Finance Officer: Linda Rudd
- **CLIMATE CHANGE**
Help us play our part in reducing our country's carbon emissions.
Grant us the personal and political will to make a difference.

3 Thursday

Francis Xavier, missionary, apostle of the Indies, 1552

- **Diocese of Sheffield** Bp Pete Wilcox
Diocese of Eastern Zambia (Central Africa)
Bp William Mchombo
Diocese of Easton (USA) Bp Santosh Murray
- **Diocese of Newcastle**
For Mark, Bishop-designate of Berwick
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Ashington Holy Sepulchre
Priest-in-Charge: Christopher Grocock
Reader: Paulette Thompson
- **The Mothers' Union**
We pray for the work of the MU in supporting local refugees and for all families affected by domestic violence.
- **THE OCEANS**
In your mercy protect all who work
and travel on the sea,
and preserve the teeming life
of coral reef and ocean depth.

4 Friday

John of Damascus, monk, teacher of the faith, c.749

Nicholas Ferrar, deacon, founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637

- **Diocese of Sinyanga (Tanzania)**
Bp Johnson Chinyong'ole
Diocese of Eau Claire (USA)
Bp William Jay Lambert
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all who work at Church House, North Shields
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Bolam with Whalton & Hartburn with Meldon & Netherwitton
Ministry team: Fiona Sample and Pamela Walker
- **LANDSCAPES**
As the environment forms us,
may we form an environment
that is beneficial to all your creatures.

5 Saturday

- **Diocese of Gasabo (Rwanda)**
Most Revd Laurent Mbanda, Primate
Diocese of Edinburgh (Scotland)
Bp John Armes

- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For the work of education throughout our diocese and region in schools, universities, colleges, and lay education
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Andrew's Parish Church, Bolam
- **SEA CREATURES**
May we prevent the pollution
of our seas and rivers,
and maintain the integrity
of our blue and beautiful planet.

This coming week ...

'He will feed his flock like a shepherd ...'
(Isaiah 40:11)

Let us pray that all of us will be generous with God's transforming gifts, that we will be mindful of all that God has given us rather than what we do not have, and willing to work in partnership and share what God has provided.

6 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

(Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326 *)

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Chester
Diocese of Kuopio (*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Reformed Episcopal Church of Spain
(*Extra-Provincial to the Abp of Canterbury*)
Bp Carlos López-Lozano
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For St Nicholas' Cathedral, its mission and ministry, and for all involved in the ongoing Development Project
- **Morpeth Deanery**
St Andrew's Parish Church, Hartburn
- * The Dean of Newcastle, Geoff Miller
- **FARMING**
We pray for all who make their living
from the land.
Defend them from disease, and help them
to protect the animals in their care.

This Prayer Diary can be downloaded each month from the Newcastle diocesan website:
www.newcastle.anglican.org/prayerdiary

7 Monday

Ambrose, bishop of Milan, teacher of the faith, 397

Dioma, apostle to Mercia, 658 [CNS]

- **Diocese of Shyira** (*Rwanda*)
Bp Samuel Mugisha
- **Diocese of Edmonton** (*Canada*)
Bp Jane Alexander
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all those responsible for diocesan finance and parish giving
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Meldon
- **REDUCTION OF CONSUMPTION**
Grant us wisdom and restraint in our spending and consumption, and make us mindful of the value of simple gifts.

8 Tuesday

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- **Diocese of Shyogwe** (*Rwanda*)
Bp Jered Kalimba
- **Diocese of Egba** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Emmanuel Adekunle
- **Diocese of Lafia** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Godwin A Robinson
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all who guide candidates through selection and training for lay and ordained ministry
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Giles' Parish Church, Netherwitton
- **NUCLEAR POWER**
We pray for wisdom in our response to the apparent promise of nuclear power. Help us to weigh up the carbon-free benefits and the radioactive dangers.

9 Wednesday

Ember Day

- **Diocese of Sialkot** (*Pakistan*)
Bp Alwin John Samuel
- **Diocese of Egba West** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Samuel Oludele Ogundeji
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For our Archdeacons Mark Wroe and Catherine Sourbut Groves

- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Whalton
- Whalton C of E First School
- **WEATHER PATTERNS**

As we read the signs of the ever-changing weather, help us also to understand the signs of the times in which we live.

10 Thursday

- **Diocese of Singapore** (*S E Asia*)
Bp Titus Chung
- **Diocese of Egbu** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Geoffrey Okoroafor
- **Province of Alexandria** (*formerly the Diocese of Egypt*)
Abp Mouneer Hanna Anis
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all those involved in the development of Discipleship and Ministry for Mission
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Bothal and Pegswood with Longhirst
Vicar: John Park
Reader: Jane Park
- **Praying for Unity**
For all Bodies in Association with Churches Together in Britain and Ireland
- **LAKES AND PONDS**
Help us to preserve the precious waters of the earth, and the flora and fauna that depend on their presence.

Embertide in Advent

In addition to our regular prayers for those preparing for ordained or lay ministry, and those who support and encourage them, please pray this Advent

- for those feeling a call to ministry, but have not yet talked to anyone about it;
- for the Bishops' Advisers and all those preparing to attend a Panel in 2021.

11 Friday Ember Day

- **Diocese of Sittwe** (*Myanmar*)
Bp James Min Dein
- **Diocese of Eha-Amufu** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Daniel Olinya
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all clergy and readers who continue to serve the Church in many ways beyond retirement
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Andrew's Parish Church, Bothal
- **TREES AND WOODS**
As we give thanks
for the company of trees,
remind us of their power to heal
the minds and spirits of a fallen humanity.

12 Saturday Ember Day

- **Diocese of Ekiti** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Christopher Tayo Omulunde
- **Diocese of Ekiti Kwara** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Andrew Ajayi
- **Diocese of Ekiti Oke** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Isaac Olubowale
- **Diocese of Ekiti West** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Rufus V A Adepoju
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all who at Diocesan and local level share in the care of church buildings
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Margaret's Chapel, Pegswood (a Local Ecumenical Partnership)
- **BIRDS**
As we consider the birds of the air,
give us the wings of faith
to see your kingdom
in the world around us.

This coming week ...

'.. he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed ...' (Isaiah 61:1)

Let us pray that all of us will be more engaged in God's transforming mission in our communities, giving thanks for our engagement in schools, foodbanks, debt relief, care homes, hospices and hospitals, community development, outreach to children and families, and many others.

13 **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham
Diocese of Borg (*Church of Norway*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Falkland Islands
(*Extra-Provincial to the Abp of Canterbury*)
Bp Timothy Thornton
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all who seek to inspire children
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Parish Church of St John the Evangelist,
Longhirst
- **PLASTICS**
Help us to reduce our reliance on plastic,
in bottles and bags
and consumables of all kinds.

14 Monday

John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith, 1591

- **Diocese of Sodor & Man** Bp Peter Eagles
- **Diocese of El Camino Real** (*USA*)
Bp Mary Gray-Reeves
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all who in church and community reach out to encourage and support young people
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Cresswell and Lynemouth
Priest-in-Charge: Mina Munns
Associate Priest: Debbie Baker
- William Leach Campus of the Northumberland C of E Academy
- **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
As we borrow the earth from our children, may we not take for ourselves more than we can return.

15 Tuesday

- **Diocese of Sokoto** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Augustin Omole
- **Diocese of El Salvador** (*Central America*)
Bp Juan David Alvarado Melgar
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For the developing work and witness of our Resource Church at St Thomas' in the city, and for all those reaching out to people of all ages through Fresh Expressions of Church

- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Kirkwhelpington with Kirkharle and Kirkheaton and Cambo
Priest-in-charge: *vacant*
NS Minister: Frances Dower
- **LIGHT POLLUTION**

We thank you
for the lights of the natural world
and for the lights of human ingenuity.
May we continue to see the stars,
and wonder at our place in the universe.

16 Wednesday

- **Diocese of South Ankole** (*Uganda*)
Bp Nathan Ahimbisibwe
Diocese of Eldoret (*Kenya*)
Bp Christopher Ruto
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all involved in building and promoting links and partnerships ecumenically, internationally and through inter-faith and ethnic relations
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Holy Trinity Parish Church, Cambo
- Cambo First School
- **AIR POLLUTION**

We give thanks for the air in which
we live and move and have our being.
Help us to make amends
when we pollute its purity,
for the sake of all your creatures.

17 Thursday

O Sapientia

Eglantyne Jebb, social reformer, founder of 'Save the Children', 1928

- **Diocese of South Dakota** (*USA*)
Bp John Tarrant
Diocese of El-Obeid (*Sudan*)
Bp Ismail Gabriel Abudigin
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all responsible for the safeguarding and protection of vulnerable people, including children

- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Wilfred's Church, Kirkharle
- **Praying for Unity**
For all who are losing faith, for whatever reason, with the ecumenical movement
- **WATER POLLUTION**

Help us to nurture
the living water of our faith,
and to protect
the springs and rivers of the world.

18 Friday

- **Diocese of South Kerala** (*S India*)
Bp Dharmaraj Rasalam, Primate
Diocese of Ely Bp Stephen Conway
Diocese of Embu (*Kenya*) Bp David Ireri
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all the Church's musicians and worship leaders, especially in this Advent and Christmas season.
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Bartholomew's Parish Church, Kirkwhelpington
- **THE RAINFORESTS**
Bless native peoples and forest dwellers,
and help us with them
to learn the lesson of our shared
belonging and interdependence.

19 Saturday

- **Diocese of South Rwenzori** (*Uganda*)
Bp Jackson Nzerebende
Enugu (*Nigeria*) Bp Emmanuel Chukwuma
Diocese of Enugu North (*Nigeria*)
Bp Sosthenes Eze
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For those living with disabilities who need to rely on others to support them during the festive season
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Bartholomew's Church, Kirkheaton
- **FARM ANIMALS**
We ask your blessing on all
beasts of burden and food production.
Forgive us
when we are careless of your creatures.

This coming week ...

'He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty ...' (Luke 1:53)

Christmas feels strange this year. As we remember the values of the King born among us, let us pray that we will know comfort and joy this Christmas and that each of us in our churches will be able to speak of, and offer, comfort and joy to those in need.

20 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Oslo (*Church of Norway*)
Diocese of Durham
Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness (*Scottish Episcopal Church*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
Pray for mission agencies and their ministry throughout the Anglican Communion, including the Mothers' Union throughout the world
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all engaged in ministries of healing, deliverance and pastoral care
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Longhorsley
Priest-in-Charge: Audrey McCartan
- Longhorsley St Helen's C of E First School
- **GLOBALIZATION AND FAIR TRADE**
We give thanks for the diversity of foods and products available to us, and pray for those who provide the goods that we enjoy.

21 Monday

- **Diocese of South West Tanganyika** (*Tanzania*) Bp Matthew Mhagama
Diocese of Esan (*Nigeria*)
Abp Friday Imaekhai
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all involved with the administration of trusts and charities in our Diocese and local communities
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Mitford with Hebron
Priest-in-charge: Alyson Lamb
Readers: Sean Fugill, Paul Kidd, John Laursen, Liz Hawkins, Jane Clark and Janice Robinson

• **WASTE REDUCTION**

Help us to reduce what we waste, and to remember that, as the earth is our only home, nothing is altogether thrown away.

22 Tuesday

- **Diocese of Etche** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Precious Nwala
Diocese of Etsako (*Nigeria*) Bp Jacob Bada
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all engaged in chaplaincy in hospitals, schools, prisons, the armed forces and with older people
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Parish Church of St Mary Magdalene, Mitford
- **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS**
May we taste and see how good the world is.
Raise our awareness of the beauty and susceptibility of the earth.

23 Wednesday

- **Diocese of Evo** (*Nigeria*)
Bp Innocent Ordu
Diocese of Exeter Bp Robert Atwell
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all involved in community action with homeless and destitute people this Christmas, including the food banks and shelters
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Cuthbert's Parish Church, Hebron
- Tritlington C of E First School
- **INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE**
We give thanks for all those who have raised our awareness of climate heating.
May we, together, create the political climate for effective action.

24 CHRISTMAS EVE

- **Diocese of Ezo** (*South Sudan*)
Bp John Kereboro Zawo
Diocese of Faisalabad (*Pakistan*)
Bp John Samuel
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all engaged in evangelistic and faith-sharing projects this Christmas

- **Morpeth Deanery**
Benefice of Morpeth
Rector: Simon White
Associate Priest: Elizabeth Brown
Assistant Curates: Jeremy Cooper and Paul Rusby
Readers: Harriet Gilfillan, Janet Hedley and Val Cowan
- Morpeth All Saints C of E First School
- **Praying for Unity**
For all that the churches seek to do together to bring aid to the homeless, needy, suffering and forgotten people of our region
- **FLOODING**
Help us, as a society,
in our flood protection and prevention,
to work with, not against,
the natural way of things.

25 CHRISTMAS DAY

- **Anglican Communion:** Pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for the people of Bethlehem
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all spending this day alone
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Aidan's Church, Stobhill
- **CHRISTMAS**
Being found in human form, Christ embodied his love for the material world.
Help us, like him, to give substance to our concern for the environment.

26 STEPHEN, DEACON, FIRST MARTYR

- **Diocese of Fianarantsoa** (*Indian Ocean*)
Bp Gilbert Ratelison Rakotondravelo
- **Diocese of Florida** (USA)
Bp John Howard
- **Diocese of False Bay** (*Southern Africa*)
Bp Margaret Brenda Vertue
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all our brothers and sisters in our Link Dioceses: Møre, Botswana and Winchester
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
The Church of St James the Great, Morpeth
- **BIODIVERSITY**
Make mindful of the rich diversity of life
in all its fullness,
and help us to protect
the biodiversity of the natural world.

This coming week ...

'We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes ...' (1 John 1:1)

As we approach a New Year, we pray for our next steps in **growing church bringing hope**, that each of us will have renewed boldness to trust in and to declare the good news of God in Jesus Christ in word and action.

27 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

(William, Lord Armstrong, industrialist, scientist and philanthropist [CNS]*)

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Chichester
Diocese of Mikkeli (*Evangelical Lutheran Church in Finland*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
Pray for Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** For all involved in the work of Streetpastors, Samaritans and ChildLine.
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Mary's Parish Church, Morpeth
- * Canon David Bilton
- **ORGANIC FARMING**
We give thanks for those who respect the earth and maintain its natural balance.
We pray for an encouraging market for those who produce organic food.

28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS

- **Diocese of Fond du Lac** (USA)
Bp Matthew Alan Gunter
- **Diocese of Fort Worth** (USA)
Bp Scott Mayer
- **Diocese of Newcastle:** for all involved in the continuing development of the church's ordained and lay ministers
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Woodhorn with Newbiggin
Vicar: Anthony O'Grady
Reader: Deborah Ehala and Carol Todd
- Grace Darling Campus of Northumberland C of E Academy

Continued >>>>

- **ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE**
May we respect the green spaces
round our towns and cities,
for the refreshment of urban dwellers,
and the well-being of rural communities.

29 JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, martyr, 1170

- **Diocese of Fredericton** (*Canada*)
Bp David Edwards
Diocese of Freetown (*Sierra Leone*)
Bp Tomas Arnold Ikunika Wilson
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all who support others through the ministry of spiritual direction
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
Benefice of Seaton Hirst
Priest-in-Charge: David Twomey
Associate Priest: John Swinhoe
- The Josephine Butler (Primary and Secondary), Thomas Bewick and James Knott campuses of the Northumberland C of E Academy
- Northumberland C of E Academy
Executive Director: Andrew Day
Chaplain: Sally Milner
- **NATURAL DISASTERS**
Help us to understand
the powers at work in your creation,
and to support our neighbours
when natural disasters devastate their
lives.

30 Wednesday

- **Diocese of Gahini** (*Rwanda*)
Bps Alexis Bilindabagaboa
Diocese of Gambia (*West Africa*)
Bp James Allen Yaw Odico
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For guidance and grace as we face the promises and challenges of a new year of *growing church bringing hope*
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St Andrew's Parish Church, Seaton Hirst
- **TRANSPORT**
Help us to discern
the true cost of transport,
and tread lightly on the earth,
wherever we go.

31 Thursday

John Wyclif, reformer, 1384

- **Diocese of Gasabo** (*Rwanda*)
Bp Onesphore Rwaje
Diocese of Gboke (*Nigeria*)
Bp Emmanuel Nyitsse
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all involved in the Diocesan Synod, the Bishop's Council and the Mission and Pastoral Committee
- **Morpeth Deanery:**
St John's Parish Church, Seaton Hirst
- **Praying for Unity**
For all planning ecumenical initiatives in 2021
- **TOURISM**
In all our journeys
may we travel thoughtfully,
and reduce the impact of humanity
upon a fragile ecology.

Canon Rob Kelsey's book, *Praying for the Earth*, aims to be a resource for the Church and for individual Christians, in the belief that environmental concerns should be an integral part of the public and private prayers of all Christian people. Proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to an environmental good cause, and copies can be ordered from here:

<https://www.sacristy.co.uk/books/ministry-resources/prayers-earth-environment>.

We shall include a further selection of condensed versions of Rob's prayers in the January Prayer Diary.

About this Prayer Diary

We continue to include in the Prayer Diary all those commemorated in **Celebrating the Northern Saints**, [CNS] and to remember our lay, residentiary and honorary canons on the day of the saints and influential people who have given their canonry its designation and/or stall in the Cathedral.

SUNDAYS

For each Sunday, we follow a well-established pattern:

- First are intercessions for the Porvoo Communion (<https://www.ireland.anglican.org/resources/493/porvoo-prayer-diary-2020>). The Porvoo Declaration commits the churches which have signed it to “share a common life” and “to pray for and with one another.”
- Second are intercessions from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, available at www.anglicancommunion.org. Prayers on Sundays are for a Province of the Communion.
- Thirdly we pray for our own Diocese of Newcastle.
- Fourthly we remember the Morpeth Deanery, its churches, people and organisations, including Church Schools, where possible, on the same day as the parish of which they are part.

WEEKDAYS

The pattern is similar on weekdays, but without the Porvoo Communion:

- Firstly, dioceses from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer
- Secondly, our own Diocese of Newcastle.
- Thirdly, people, parishes, churches and schools in Morpeth Deanery.
- On Thursdays, we pray for the work of the Mothers’ Union in the Diocese (first week) and for Christian Unity (subsequent weeks).

We pray for our **Link Dioceses** as follows:

Botswana during January, April and October.

Møre during March, June and September.

Winchester during May, August and November.

The **Deaneries** are incorporated in the Prayer Diary in such a way as to include the **Benefices** (with names of ordained and lay ministers) and also, for benefices with more than one church, the constituent **churches**, in order that every congregation – and the local community in which it is set – can be remembered at least once during the year.

January	Morpeth (cont.) and Norham	July	Newcastle East
February	Bedlington	August	Newcastle West
March	Bellingham	September	Tynemouth
April	Corbridge	October	Alnwick
May	Hexham	November	Bamburgh & Glendale
June	Newcastle Central	December	Morpeth

I try to mark important days in the life of the Diocese (e.g. Diocesan Synods, Institutions and Licensings, ecumenical occasions) with a special note, but can only do so if I have the information early in the previous month. **Please don’t hesitate to send me information and prompts in good time.**

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