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**Prayer Diary**

**April 2025**

**1 Tuesday**

*Frederick Denison Maurice, priest, teacher of the faith, 1872*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Masasi** *(Tanzania)*

Bp James Almasi

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Metlha Beleme, Diocesan Bishop

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Area Dean: David Kennedy

**2 Wednesday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Maseno East** *(Kenya)*

Bp Joshua Owiti

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Theo Naledi, retired Bishop

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Lay Chair: David McKenzie

*We pray today for Lee Taylor and the people of Berwick, as they gather for Lee’s institution as Vicar of Berwick upon Tweed by Bishop Helen-Ann.*

**3 Thursday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Maseno North** *(Kenya)*

***This week …***

***‘The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.’*** *(John 12:3)*

There is an intensity to our sense of smell which can evoke memory and provoke our passions; as we recall the passionate responses of both Mary and Judas in this gospel account, let’s pray for the fragrance of Christ to pervade his Church and provoke our passionate responses to worship and justice.

Bp Charles Kaskan Asilutwa

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Gaborone:

Revd Dr Celestino Chishimba, Dean and Archdeacon (Cathedral), Revd Dr Mooketsi Mokgatlhe, Fr Jooste Motshwane and

Fr Khalala Mokefane

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Secretary: *vacant*

Finance Officer: Robin Brims

* **The Mothers’ Union:**

Pray for Jackie Moore and the Faith and Policy department of the Mothers’ Union, that our faith may remain central in all we do.

**4 Friday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Maseno South** *(Kenya)*

Bp Charles Ong’injo

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Barnabas’ Church, Old Naledi (served by the Cathedral of the Holy Cross)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Blanchland with Hunstanworth and Edmundbyers and Muggleswick (in the Moorland Group of Parishes)**

Vicar: *vacant*

**5 Saturday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Maseno West** *(Kenya)*

Bp John Godia

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of Francistown:

Ven Isaac Mupfumi (Archdeacon - North),

Fr Samuel Moraloki, Fr Lekono Malabola,

Fr Bakang (Banks) Lesetedi and

Fr Reuben Bogatsu

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Mary’s Abbey Church, Blanchland

**6 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Passiontide begins*

* **Porvoo Communion:**

Diocese of Uppsala *(Church of Sweden)*

Diocese of Llandaff *(Wales)*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Iglesia Anglicana de Chile**

Primate: Most Revd Enrique Lago Zugadi

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of Francistown: St Patrick’s Church

and St Carantoc’s Church

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St James’ Church, Hunstanworth

**7 Monday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Masindi-Kitara** *(Uganda)*

Bp George Kasangaki

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Stephen’s, Tonota, St Alban’s, Moroka,

All Saints’ Matsiloje and St Paul’s Tati Siding (all served by the Parish of Francistown)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Edmund’s Church, Edmundbyers

**8 Tuesday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Massachusetts** *(ECUSA)*

Bp Julia Whitworth

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Christ the King, Orapa, St John’s, Makaleng and Sowa Town (served by the Parish of Francistown)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

All Saints’ Church, Muggleswick

## 9 Wednesday

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor, martyr, 1945*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Western Massachusetts** *(ECUSA)*

Bp Douglas Fisher

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Andrew, Selebi Phikwe:

Ven Kagelelo Mphetolang (Archdeacon - Central) and Fr Thabang Sikwane

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Matthew’s Church, Waskerley

**10 Thursday**

William Law, priest, spiritual writer, 1761

*William of Ockham, friar philosopher, teacher of the faith, 1347*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Masvingo** *(Central Africa)*

Bp Osiward Mapika

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Peter’s, Mmadinare and Church of the Good Shepherd, Bobonong (outstations of

St Andrew’s, Selebi Phikwe)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Bywell and Mickley**

Priest in Charge: Simon Grundy

Reader: Jane Algar

* **Praying for Unity:**

The Northern Baptist Association, its ministers and ecumenical officer

**11 Friday**

*George Selwyn, first bishop of New Zealand, 1878*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Matabeleland** *(Central Africa)*

Bp Cleophas Lunga

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Augustine’s Theological School:

Canon Professor James Amanze

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Peter’s Church, Bywell

**12 Saturday**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Matana** *(Burundi)*

Bp Seth Ndayirukiye

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Augustine, Serowe:

Fr Kealeboga Lekoba and

Fr Ford Godiraone Gaogane

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St John’s Church, Stocksfield

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

**13 PALM SUNDAY**

* **Porvoo Communion:**

Diocese of Derby

Diocese of Clogher *(Ireland)*

Diocese of Aalborg *(Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark)*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**The Church of England**

Abp Stephen Cottrell

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St James the Great, Mahalapye, including St Ignatius of Loyola, Machaneng:

Fr Boikhutso Gabaraane

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St George’s Church, Mickley

**14 MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Matlosane** *(Southern Africa)*

Bp Stephen Diseko

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Joseph, Shoshong:

Fr Olebile James Galebotswe

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Corbridge with Halton and Newton Hall**

Vicar: David Kennedy

Assistant Curates: Linda Hunter,

Claire Robson and Philip Smith

* Corbridge C of E First School

**15 TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mauritius** *(Indian Ocean)*

Bp Joseph Sténio André

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Mark, Lobatse:

Fr Octavius Bolelang and

***This week …***

***‘So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them.’*** *(Luke 19.32)*

What Jesus says will happen then does happen. It’s one of the ways the gospel story plays out, but with the underlying question whether we have eyes to see and faith to believe. Palm Sunday is perhaps the biggest mis-direct in the passion of Holy Week – this is the welcome King Jesus surely deserves. But it’s not how he said it will ultimately be. Let’s keep praying for eyes to see and faith to believe as we keep seeking the King in his passion.

Fr Godfrey Tsetsengwe

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Andrew’s Church, Corbridge

**16 WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mbaise** *(Nigeria)*

Bp Chamberlain Chiedu Ogunedo

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parishes of St Mary Magdalene, Palapye and St Cyprian, Seleke: Fr Abraham Kajane and

Fr George Moshapa

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Oswald’s Church, Halton

**17 MAUNDY THURSDAY**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mbale** *(Uganda)*

Bp Patrick Gidudu

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Broadhurst: Fr Moemedi Rabolo

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Heddon-on-the-Wall**

Priest-in-Charge: Rachel Scheffer

Associate Priest: Tom Birch

* Heddon-on-the-Wall C of E First School
* **Praying for Unity:**

For the Church of England’s Council for Christian Unity and its officers

**18 GOOD FRIDAY**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of North Mbale** *(Uganda)*

Bp Samuel Gidudu

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Matthew’s, Mochudi: Fr Joseph Supang

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Riding Mill**

Priest-in-Charge: Diana Johnson

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Shepherds Dene Diocesan Retreat House**

Warden and Staff

* Broomhaugh C of E First School, Riding Mill

**19 EASTER EVE**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mbamili** *(Nigeria)*

Bp Uzochukwu Obiora

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Paul, Molepolole:

Fr Lucky Lorekang, Fr Joseph Khombane and Fr Motshereganyi Sefanyetsto

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Ovingham and Wylam**

Vicar: Tom Birch

***This week …***

***‘But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.’***

*(Luke 24.11)*

The testimony of the first witnesses, the women at the tomb, was far from an idle tale – it’s a dynamic story which has galvanized the Church and the world and continues to do so 2,000 years later. Let’s pray for all who hear the good news of resurrection this Easter that they will believe, and that the truth will not be so easily dismissed.

**20 EASTER DAY**

* **Porvoo Communion:**

Diocese of Blackburn

Diocese of Brechin *(Scottish Episcopal Church)*

The Lutheran Church in Great Britain

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui**

Primate: Most Revd Andrew Chan

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

St Thomas’, Letlhakeng

(served by the Parish of St Paul, Molepolole)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Mary’s Church, Ovingham

**21 MONDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mbeere** *(Kenya)*

Bp Moses Masamba Nthukah

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parishes of St Andrew, Mmopane:

Fr Patrick Rampha, Fr Onkemetse Sam Mathabathe and St James, Kopong and

St Luke, Lentsweletau: Fr Paul Beleme

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St Oswin’s Church, Wylam

**22 TUESDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Mbhashe** *(Southern Africa*

Bp Mluleki Fikizolo

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parishes of Holy Trinity, Mmankgodi:

Fr Munyaradzi Mubata and

St Matthew, Thamaga: Fr Solomon Diphoko and St Mark, Moshupa: Fr Patrick Rampha

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Prudhoe**

Vicar: Daniel Freyhan

**23 WEDNESDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Meath and Kildare** *(Ireland)*

Bp Pat Storey

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parishes of St Peter, Mogoditshane and

St Martin Metsimotlhabe: Canon Joe Tsuaneng (Archdeacon-South)

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Shotley (in the Moorland Group of Parishes)**

Vicar: *vacant*

Reader: Alec Ryrie

**24 THURSDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Medak** *(South India)*

Bp-elect: A C Solomon Raj

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parishes of St John the Baptist, Gabane:

Fr Martin Mosima

and St Patrick, Kumakwane: Fr Bonny Bashe

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Slaley, Healey and Whittonstall (in the Moorland Group of Parishes)**

Vicar: *vacant*

Reader: Dorothy Dryden (PTO)

* **Praying for Unity:**

For the ecumenical preparations for this year’s ‘Thy Kingdom Come’ prayer project

**25 FRIDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Central Melanesia** *(Melanesia)*

Most Revd Leonard Dawea

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St Simon of Cyrene, Tiokweng:

Fr Botshabelo Beleme,

Revd Dr Nelson Mwaniki and Fr Chris Mensah

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Slaley

**26 SATURDAY OF EASTER WEEK**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Melbourne** *(Australia)*

Most Revd Philip Freier

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Parish of St John the Baptist, Tsabong:

Fr Andrew Seitshiro

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

St John’s Church, Healey and St Philip and St James’ Church, Whittonstall

***This week …***

***‘Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”’*** *(John 20.26)*

Wonderfully resurrection doesn’t politely knock and wait to be invited in; even with the doors shut the risen Christ interrupts and invades our space with transforming life and peace. Let’s pray that the Church will keep being interrupted by Christ’s risen life, and that his death-defying peace will invade our world more and more.

**27 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

* **Porvoo Communion:**

Diocese of Gothenburg *(Church of Sweden)*

Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway *(Scottish Episcopal Church)*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean**

Primate: Most Revd Gilbert Rateloson Rakotondravelo

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area: Khuis, Middlepits, Bogogobo and Kolonweng

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

**Benefice of Stamfordham with Matfen** Priest-in-Charge: Rachel Scheffer

**28 GEORGE, MARTYR, PATRON OF ENGLAND**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Meridional** *(Brazil)*

Bp Humberto Maiztegue Goncalves

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area: Maralaleng, Omaweneno, Malashe and Khisa

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Holy Trinity Church, Matfen

**29 MARK THE EVANGELIST**

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of Meru** *(Kenya)*

Bp Charles Mwendwa

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area:

Draaiheok, Makapong and Werda

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Stamfordham

**30 Wednesday**

*Pandita Mary Ramabai, translator of the scriptures, 1922*

* **Anglican Communion:**

**Diocese of México** *(La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico)* Bp Ricardo Joel Gómez Osnaya

* **Diocese of Botswana:**

Church of Epiphany, Maun:

Fr Sefularo Mogopodi

* **Corbridge Deanery:**

All Saints’ Church, Ryal

**About this month’s 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.

**Each week**, there is a short stimulus to prayer, normally based on the Sunday Gospel, to guide our next steps in ***Seeking, Sharing, Sending.*** We are grateful to Bishop Mark for these reflections

***ON SUNDAYS***, we follow a well-established pattern:

* First are intercessions for the Porvoo Communion (https://www.ireland.anglican.org/resources/493/porvoo-prayer-diary-2025). 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](http://www.anglicancommunion.org). Prayers on Sundays are for a Province of the Communion.
* Thirdly we remember our link Diocese of Botswana in Southern Africa.
* Fourthly, we pray for our own Diocese of Newcastle, especially the Corbridge Deanery, their churches, people and organisations, including Church Schools.

***ON WEEKDAYS,*** the pattern is similar on weekdays, but without the Porvoo Communion:

* Firstly, dioceses from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer
* Secondly, the Diocese of Botswana
* our own Diocese, and the people, parishes, churches and schools in Corbridge Deanery.
* On the first Thursday, we pray for the work of the Mothers’ Union in the Diocese. On subsequent Thursdays we pray for Christian Unity.

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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