

This week ...

‘Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?”’ (John 3.9)

Nicodemus thought he knew the faith, but his conversation with Jesus turns his understanding upside down; in this ‘Year of Sharing’ in our diocese, and in this week, let’s pray that more and more people will be asking questions about Jesus and that we will have courage and opportunity to share our faith with them in response.

1 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Canterbury
Diocese of Down and Dromore (*Church of Ireland*)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Nippon Sei Ko Kai
Primate: Most Revd David Eisho Uehara
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Bishop Ingeborg Midttømme
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley, Bishop of Newcastle

2 Monday

Chad, bishop of Lichfield, missionary, 672 *

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Toamasina (*Indian Ocean*)
Bp Jean Paul Solo
- **Diocese of Møre:**
The Diocesan Council
Chair: Arnt-Ove Tenfjord
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Bishop Mark Wroe, Bishop of Berwick
- * Canon Ruth Hulse, Canon for Worship and Congregational Life at the Cathedral

3 Tuesday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Tohoku (*Nippon Sei Ko Kai*)
Bp Francis Kiyosumi Hasegawa
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Diocesan Director: Bjørn Olaf Storhaug
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Area Dean: Sarah Lunn

4 Wednesday

Bernard Gilpin, priest, ‘Apostle of the North’, 1583
[CNS]

Owine, companion and biographer of Chad, c.670
[CNS]

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Tokyo (*Nippon Sei Ko Kai*)
Bp Francis Xavier Hiroyuki Takahashi
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Diocesan Office Manager: Elin Næsje Sætre
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Lay Chair: Alice Murray

5 Thursday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Toliara (*Indian Ocean*)
Bp Samitiana Jhonson Razafindralambo
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Department of Ministry:
Head: Maria Vassali Gjære
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Deanery Secretary: *vacant*
Finance Officer: *vacant*
- **The Mothers’ Union:**
For MU trustees as they oversee the work of members in our Diocese, that they may touch the lives of families in our communities.

This Prayer Diary can be downloaded each month from the Newcastle diocesan website:

www.newcastle.anglican.org/prayerdiary

6 Friday

Baldred, hermit, and Billifrith, hermit and jeweller of the Lindisfarne Gospels, 8th cent. [CNS]

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Tonj (*South Sudan*)
Bp Peter Yuol Gur
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Adviser for Culture: John Erik Brakstad
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Benefice of Lower North Tyne
Vicar: Sarah Lunn
Associate Priest: Claire Maxim
Readers: James Feeley and
Melanie Wilkinson

7 Saturday

Perpetua, Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage, 203
*Admiral Lord Collingwood, naval commander, 1810 [CNS] **

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Torit (*South Sudan*)
Abp Ogeno Opoka and Bp Martin Abuni
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Adviser for Diakonia: Eline Elnes Rabbevåg
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Giles' Church, Birtley
- * Chris Elder, Diocesan Secretary

This week ...

“A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink.’”
(John 4.7)

That Jesus initiates this conversation is striking on multiple levels, but it stems from his basic human need in the midday heat; this week let's pray for all those whose share relief and resources to help meet basic human needs in our communities and around the world, especially those who do it out of their own recognition of humanity's ultimate need of God.

8 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Chelmsford
Diocese of Karlstad (*Church of Sweden*)

- **Anglican Communion:**
The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East
Primate: Most Revd Hosam Naoum
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Adviser for Catechesis: Bente Wangensteen
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Aidan's Church, Thockrington

9 Monday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Toronto (*Canada*)
Bp Andrew Asbil
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Adviser for Church Affairs (Theology, Mission, Links): Marie Marti Høgset
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Giles' Church Chollerton and
St Christopher's Church, Gunnerton
- Chollerton C of E First School

10 Tuesday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore (*South India*)
Bp Samuel Rajadurai
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Adviser on Church Buildings:
Svein Magne Harnes
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Peter's Church, Humshaugh
- Humshaugh C of E First School

11 Wednesday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago (*West Indies*)
Bp Claude Berkley
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Department of Personnel
Head: Anne-Marit Hagelund
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Mungo's Church, Simonburn

12 Thursday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Truro
Bp David Williams
- **Diocese of Møre:**
Personnel Advisors: Lars Skagestad and
Siv Brudevoll

- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Michael's Church, Wark
- Wark C of E First School
- **Praying for Unity:**
For the healing of all the divisions within the Anglican Communion.

13 Friday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe (Ireland) Bp: Michael Burrows
- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Area Dean: Sindre Stabell Kulø
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Benefice: North Tyne and Redesdale Team
Team Rector: Claire Maxim
Associate Priest: Sarah Lunn
Reader PTO: Ken Prudhoe

14 Saturday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Twic East (South Sudan)
Bp Jacob Deng Garang Akech
- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Kristiansund and Nordlandet
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Cuthbert's Church, Bellingham

This week ...

“One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” (John 9.25)

Jesus brings light to the world and sight (and insight) to those who are in the dark, yet the blind man is continually interrogated by those who refuse to accept his healing; this week let's pray for God's light to shine in the darkest places and for the Holy Spirit to open the eyes and hearts of those who refuse to see the truth.

15 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT** **Mothering Sunday**

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia
Diocese of Lichfield
Diocese of St David's (Wales)
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Anglican Church of Kenya
Primate: Most Revd Jackson Ole Sapit

- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Frei, Kvernes and Bremsnes
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Cuthbert's Church, Corsenside and All Saints' Church, West Woodburn

16 Monday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Udi (Nigeria)
Bp Chjioke Augustine Aneke
- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Kornstad, Aure and Stemshaug
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Cuthbert's Church, Elsdon

17 Tuesday

Patrick, bishop, missionary, patron of Ireland, c.460

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Northern Uganda (Uganda)
Bp Johnson Gakumba
- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Tustna and Edøy
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Peter's Church, Falstone

18 Wednesday

Cyril, bishop of Jerusalem, teacher of the faith, 386

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Ughelli (Nigeria)
Bp Cyril O Odutemu
- **Diocese of Møre, Outer Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Brattvær and Hopen
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Aidan's Church, Thorneyburn

19 **JOSEPH OF NAZARETH**

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Ukwa (Nigeria)
Bp: Samuel Kelechi Eze
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Area Dean: Vida Wilhelmsen Rygh
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Francis' Church, Byrness
- **Praying for Unity:**
For Bishop Stephen Wright and all Roman Catholic congregations and their priests in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle

20 Friday

Cuthbert, bishop of Lindisfarne, missionary, 687
[CNS] *

Herbert of Derwentwater, 687 [CNS] **

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Umuahia (Nigeria)
Abp Ikechi Nwachukwu Nwosu
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Tingvoll and Straumsnes
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Holy Trinity Church, Horsley
- * Archdeacon Rachel Wood
- ** Canon Jennifer Cooper, Director of Training IME2

21 Saturday

Thomas Cranmer, archbishop of Canterbury,
Reformation martyr, 1556

- **Anglican Communion:**
Te Pihopatanga o Te Upoko o Te Ika
(Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia)
Bp Waitohiariki Quayle
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Gjemnes, Øre and Hov
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
Church of St John the Baptist, Otterburn

This week ...

“Jesus said, ‘Take away the stone.’” (John 11.39)

The account of Lazarus being raised from the dead is full of hints and signs of all that is still to come in the gospel, ultimately resurrection life; this week let's pray for those situations in our lives, and in our world, which seem to be at stalemate, or have reached a dead end, that God would somehow roll the stone away and breathe new life and hope.

22 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Passiontide begins

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Lund (Church of Sweden)
Diocese of Cashel, Ossory and Ferns (Ireland)
Diocese of Ely
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Anglican Church of Korea
Primate: Most Revd Onesimus Dongsin Park

- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Romfo and Øksendal
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
For the lay ministers and retired clergy who help to maintain regular worship in the churches of the Deanery

23 Monday

Felgild and Ethilwald of Farne, hermits, 699
[CNS]

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Uruguay (America)
Bp: vacant
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Ålvundeid, Mo and Stangvik
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St George's Church, Wall

24 Tuesday

Walter Hilton of Thurgarten, Augustinian canon,
mystic, 1396

Oscar Romero, archbishop of San Salvador,
martyr, 1980

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Utah (ECUSA)
Bp Phyllis Spiegel
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parishes of Todalen and Øye and Ranes
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Oswald's Church Heavenfield

25 ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Uyo (Nigeria)
Bp Owen Ukafia
- **Diocese of Møre, Inner Nordmøre Deanery:**
Parish of Asskard
- **Bellingham Deanery:**
St Mary's Church, Bingfield

Today, Archbishop Sarah Mullally will be formally installed in Canterbury Cathedral. We pray for her, for the Province of Canterbury and for the worldwide Anglican Communion.

26 Thursday

Harriet Monsell, founder of the Community of St John the Baptist, 1883

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Valparaiso (Chile)
Bp: vacant
- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Dean: Grethe Lystad Johnsen
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Rachel Wood, Archdeacon of Northumberland
- **Praying for Unity:**
For all taking part in united acts of worship and witness this coming Holy Week

27 Friday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Vanuatu (Melanesia)
Bp James Tama
- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Molde Cathedral and Bolsøy
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Catherine Sourbut Groves, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne

28 Saturday

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Vellore (South India)
Bp H Sharma Nithiyanandham
- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Parishes of Kleive and Røvik and Veøy
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Pray for Stephen Tranter, Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations

29 PALM SUNDAY

- **Porvoo Communion:**
Diocese of Armagh (Church of Ireland)
Diocese of Funen (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Denmark)
Diocese of Sodor and Man
- **Anglican Communion:**
The Anglican Church of Melanesia
Primate: Abp Leonard Dawea

This week ...

“If anyone says anything to you, just say this, ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” (Matthew 21.3)

Jesus clearly has a plan and has prepared ahead, just as centuries before God’s plan was revealed through the prophets who are subsequently quoted; as we enter Holy Week once again, let’s pray that our lives and the life of the world, with all their competing plans and agendas, will be renewed and re-centred by God’s plan of salvation for all creation.

- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Parishes of Sekken and Midsund
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
Pray for all the Hon. Assistant Bishops:
Bp Stephen Platten, Bp John Packer,
Bp Mark Bryant

Please pray today for Brogan Hume and the people of Cramlington, as Bishop Mark collates and inducts him as Rector of Cramlington.

30 MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Venezuela (ECUSA)
Bp: vacant
- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Parishes of Nettet and Eresfjord
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all whose work is based at Church House, Percy Main

31 TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- **Anglican Communion:**
Diocese of Vermont (ECUSA)
Bp Shannon MacVean-Brown
- **Diocese of Møre, Cathedral Deanery of Molde:**
Parishes of Eikesdal and Vistdal
- **Diocese of Newcastle:**
For all whose work in based at Bishop’s House in Newcastle

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-2026>). The Porvoo Declaration commits the churches which have signed it to “share a common life” and “to pray for and with one another.”
- Secondly 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 link Norwegian Diocese of Møre, its pastors and parishes.
- Lastly we pray for our own Diocese of Newcastle, and the Bellingham 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 our link Diocese of Møre
- Thirdly our own Diocese, and the people, parishes, churches and schools in Bellingham Deanery
- On the first Thursday, we pray for the work of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese, on subsequent Thursdays for aspects of ecumenism, and in January we pray on each day of the Week of Prayer for Unity for a different tradition.

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

Botswana during January, April and October.

Møre during March, June and September.

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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