

Spring 2025

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

Prayer Diary

INCLUDES
Prayer requests
from clergy
across the Diocese
of Norwich



Rural Ministry

**“I am the good shepherd;
I know my sheep
and my sheep know me.”**

John 10:14

The Revd Joshua Whitnall
looking after sheep in Norfolk



Foreword from the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher

As we turn the pages of the Gospels we see agricultural images woven through the text. Jesus used them in his parables, noting the different types of soil where a farmer might accidentally sow seed, and in his sayings, such as “I am the good shepherd” and “I am the vine”. He notices the birds of the air, the lilies of the fields, the fruitful and unfruitful trees.

The American theologian Norman Wirzba, in his book *Agrarian Spirit, Cultivating Faith, Community, and the Land*, comments that those with a close connection with the land “understand that a human life cannot flourish apart from good food, clean water, amiable company, good work, excellent tools, fertile soil, pollinating bees, helpful neighbours, protein-producing herbivores, and strong traditions of memory that pass on essential insights and skills to following generations.”

I see those strong traditions whenever I have the joy of visiting one of our many rural congregations. They also have the best shared suppers! A small rural church is not a failed large church, it has its own joys, gifts and opportunities.

Our rural communities face many

challenges at present. Working the land can be hard, lonely work, beset by worry about everything from plant and animal diseases to finance, and subject to the vagaries of the weather and the increasing toll of climate change. The great many rural churches that our ancestors left for us can also be a challenge to keep up and keep going.

We need to pray that the Lord will send ministers, ordained and lay, for all our parishes, but during Lent, and the months covered by this Prayer Diary, can I particularly ask you to pray for our rural parishes that are in vacancy (please see page 23). Together with my colleagues, I am keen that the right clergy hear God’s called to serve these places.

My Lent appeal is to fund the helpline run by the wonderful Norfolk-based charity YANA, or You Are Not Alone. YANA helps people in farming and rural communities who are struggling with their mental health, stress and depression. It aims to prevent loss of life through suicide and those it has helped say it was a lifeline in their hour of need. Please join me in supporting this vital work.

+ Graham Norwich

Please note the Prayer Diary is compiled some weeks in advance of distribution. Therefore, during the preparation and time covered by this Prayer Diary, some vacancies will have been filled, clergy may have moved and others will be announced. Please do continue to pray for each parish even if the details have changed.

Over this quarter the Sunday prayers will be the Common Worship additional Collects:
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Sunday 2 March – Next before Lent

Holy God,
you know the disorder
of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love
your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 3 St Peter Mancroft (Norwich)

Clergy: Edward Carter, Fiona
Haworth, Naomi Tuma. LLMs:
Gill Persicke, Catherine Waddams.
For the work of the Mancroft
Ringing Discovery Centre as it
helps train a new generation of
bellringers.
Diocese of Maiwut (South Sudan)

Tuesday 4 St Stephen (Norwich)

Clergy: Ian Fifield, Sam Luscombe.
LLMs: Dave Humphreys, Princess
Olufunnke Abidemi Olugboji.
That God will guide us as we look
for our next vicar.
Diocese of Makamba (Burundi)

Wednesday 5 Thorpe End

Ash Wednesday
Churchwardens and PCC during
the vacancy. LLM: Jenefer Barnard.
Diocese of Makueni (Kenya)

Thursday 6 Thorpe Hamlet (Norwich)

Clergy: Patrick Jordan.
For our new Hope into Action
House.
Diocese of Makurdi (Nigeria)

Friday 7 Thorpe St Andrew (Norwich)

Clergy: James Stewart.
For the Junior Choir and the
rebuilding of the collapsed wall.
Diocese of Malabar (South India)

Saturday 8 Timberhill (Norwich)

Clergy: Richard Stanton.
Bishops Graham (Norwich),
Jane (Lynn) and Ian (Thetford).
Diocese of Malaita (Melanesia)

Sunday 9 – First Sunday in Lent

Heavenly Father,
your Son battled with the
powers of darkness,
and grew closer to you
in the desert:
help us to use these days to grow
in wisdom and prayer
that we may witness
to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 10 Trowse (Norwich)

Clergy: Rosemary Braby.
LLM: Chris Sanham.
Diocese of Malakal (South Sudan)

Tuesday 11 Deanery of Norwich North

Rural Dean: Tim Yau.
Lay Chair: Nicky Burr.
Meeting of the College of Canons.
Diocese of Lake Malawi (Central
Africa)

Wednesday 12 Drayton

Clergy: Marc Palmer.
Drayton Junior.
Diocese of Northern Malawi
(Central Africa)

Thursday 13 Hellesdon

Churchwardens and PCC during
the vacancy. LLM: Milee Brambleby.
Diocese of Southern Malawi
(Central Africa)

Friday 14 Horsford, Felthorpe and Hevingham

Clergy: Margaret McPhee.
LLM: Richard McPhee.
Horsford Primary.
For those attending the Lent
group; preparation for Holy Week
and Easter, for the children's Easter
activity morning on the 19 April;
for the work with Hevingham and
Horsford Primary Schools.
Diocese of West Malaysia (South
East Asia)

Saturday 15 Horsham, Spixworth & Croswick

Clergy: Rosemary Maskell.
St Faiths Primary (Horsham).
We give thanks for the opportunity
to welcome people to our churches
for Snowdrop and Bluebell walks
each year. For the beauty of
creation, thanks be to God.
Diocese of Malek (South Sudan)

Rural church in numbers

The Church of England has over **10,000 churches** in rural areas and 40% of those who attend church go to rural churches.

The average number of church buildings per Church of England diocese is **377**.

In the Diocese of Norwich, we have **640 church buildings**.

By this measure, we have the second largest number of church buildings in any diocese in the country. Only the Diocese of Oxford has more, with 811 churches. However, the population density in the Diocese of Norwich is less than half that of the Diocese of Oxford, with only **520 people per square mile** compared to 1,100 people per square mile.

Scan QR code
or visit:
DofN.org/
PrayerDiary
for full article.



Helpful resources

The Arthur Rank Centre is an independent ecumenical charity helping UK rural communities flourish by inspiring, encouraging and equipping local churches.
www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk

‘How Village Churches Thrive’ is an inspiring and practical handbook drawing on the wisdom of a wide variety of people in ten key areas that enable village churches to flourish.
www.DofN.org/thrive

Exploring Norfolk Churches is a dedicated website exploring the walks, trails, history and architecture of our wonderful churches in Norfolk and Waveney. Articles written by Eliza Greenwell, Church Care Development Adviser for the Diocese of Norwich.
www.exploringnorfolkchurches.org

Sunday 16 – Second Sunday in Lent

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter into the mystery of
Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Monday 17

Mile Cross (Norwich)

Clergy: Martin Hartley.

LLM: Lee Marsden.

Parish Support Team: Safeguarding

– Sue Brice, Peter Sayer,

Helen Norris, Brenna Wells.

Diocese of Malek Rup (South Sudan)

Tuesday 18

Old Catton (Norwich)

Clergy: David Hagan-Palmer, Sally

McCubbin. LLM: Jo Mash.

Old Catton Junior.

For our expanding mission to young
people through schools and clubs.

Meeting of Bishop's Staff.

Diocese of Malindi (Kenya)

Wednesday 19

Sprowston and North Norwich Team Ministry

Norwich New Catton, Norwich

New Catton St Luke, Norwich St

Mary Magdalene, Sprowston.

Clergy: Carol Pritchard, Dean Akrill,

Graham Kirk-Spriggs, Tim Yau.

LLMs: Andrew Hudson, Stephanie
Grand, Margaret Gray.

Te Pihopatanga o Te Manawa o Te
Wheke (Aotearoa, New Zealand
and Polynesia)

Thursday 20

Taverham with Ringland

Clergy: Paul Seabrook, Stella Green,
Val Hooker, Gill Osborne,
Phil Charlesworth.

LLMs: Jane Dryden, Ben Fiaz.

Taverham Junior. Meeting of

Bishop's Council of Trustees.

Diocese of Manchester (England)

Friday 21

Deanery of Norwich South

Rural Dean: Patrick Richmond. Lay

Chair: Sandra Isaac, Roger Wood.

Church Leaders of member

churches of Norfolk and Waveney

Churches Together: Bishop Peter

(Roman Catholic), Liz Hoffbauer

(Quakers), Lythan Nevard (URC)

Diocese of Mandalay (Myanmar)

Saturday 22

Bowthorpe (Norwich)

Clergy: Mark Elvin. Cloverhill

Infant & Nursery (Bowthorpe),

St Michael's Junior (Bowthorpe).

For all our mission to produce
changed lives for Christ.

Meeting of Diocesan Synod.

Diocese of Manicaland (Central
Africa)

Sunday 23 – Third Sunday in Lent

Eternal God,
give us insight
to discern your will for us,
to give up what harms us,
and to seek the perfection
we are promised
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 24 Costessey

Clergy: James Pinto. LLMs Margaret Proudfoot, David Thompson.
Give thanks for growing links with
our local primary school, pray for
openings at the secondary school.
Diocese of Maper (South Sudan)

Tuesday 25 Cringleford

The Annunciation
Colney, Cringleford. Clergy:
Graham Wilkins, Charlotte Eagles,
John Wigfield. LLMs: Shirley Wood,
Tim Harle. Cringleford Primary.
That we would share God's love
with all our community.
Diocese of Mara (Tanzania)

Wednesday 26 Earlham

Clergy: Julian Bryant, Ben Rogers.
For God's provision as we appoint a
new vicar.
Diocese of Maralal (Kenya)

Thursday 27 Eaton Christ Church (Norwich)

Clergy: Patrick Richmond.
LLMs: John Harrison, Alistair Bolt.
Our growth plan and ordinand,
Ros Wright, to be ordained in 2025.
Diocese of Marathwada (North
India)

Friday 28 Eaton St Andrew (Norwich)

Clergy: James Cook. LLM: Neil Rout.
For vision and unity at our
upcoming Away Day on 5 April.
Diocese of Maridi (South Sudan)

Saturday 29 Heigham Holy Trinity (Norwich)

Clergy: Richard James, Alastair Gledhill. LLMs: Jonathan Mason,
Elizabeth Scott, Nigel Parfitt.
For outreach to our diverse
parish through kids' clubs and
door-to-door.
Diocese of Marsabit (Kenya)

Embracing church



Is clypping...

- a) ensuring the churchyard is neat and tidy?
- b) compiling a folder of information about the history of the building?
- c) the congregation holding hands in a line stretching all around the church?

Is rogation...

- a) a springtime day of prayer for a good harvest?
- b) a form of ploughing?
- c) the congregation holding hands and rotating around the church?

If you happen to be a pupil at Flitcham or Sandringham and West Newton Primary Academies you will probably know that the answers are 1c and 2a.

Every spring children at the schools on the royal estate celebrate Mothering Sunday and Easter – and the old rural church traditions of clypping and rogation.

Deputy headteacher Nichola Keir said: “As rural schools in the heart of the Sandringham Estate, both Sandringham and West Newton and Flitcham Primary have specific traditions harking back through generations of local farming.”

Close to Mothering Sunday, pupils, staff and parents hold hands to encircle and embrace, or “clyp” their local church – an ancient way of showing love for the mother church. Nichola said they finish with a joyful hymn.

The children also enjoy springtime rogation walks through their villages, led by Rector of Sandringham, Revd Paul Williams. Focusing on the beauty of the natural world, they end with prayers of gratitude and blessing.

Easter celebrations also embrace school and church. “Both schools enjoy typical Easter celebrations with egg hunts, re-enactments of elements of the Easter story and a home-made Easter bonnet parade,” said Nichola.

“At Flitcham, the children are given a brief of creating a minute Easter garden scene using natural materials and these are often paraded alongside the bonnets.

“Both schools also attend their respective churches in order to share in an Easter communion service to which families are also invited.”

The schools are part of the Norwich Diocesan Educational Academy Trust (DNEAT).

Sunday 30 – Fourth Sunday in Lent

God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Monday 31 Swardeston

East Carleton, Intwood,
Ketteringham, Swardeston.
Clergy: Paul Burr. LLM: Peter Worby.
Diocese of Maryland (USA)

Tuesday 1 The Mitre

St Alban Lakenham, St Barnabas
Heigham w St Bartholomew,
St Thomas Heigham.
Clergy: Tom Eagles, Joanna Payne,
Adam Poole. LLM: Diana Timms.
Diocese of Masasi (Tanzania)

Wednesday 2 Deanery of Redenhall

Rural Dean: Chris Hutton.
Lay Chair: Jennifer Vere.
Diocese of Maseno East (Kenya)

Thursday 3 Dickleburgh and the Pulhams

Dickleburgh, Pulham Market,
Pulham St Mary, Rushall,
Starston, Thelveton. Clergy: Carl
Melville. LLM: Gale Hodgkinson.
Dickleburgh, Pulham Primary.
Diocese of Maseno North (Kenya)

Friday 4 Earsham Group (Ditchingham)

Alburgh, Broome, Denton,
Ditchingham, Earsham, Hedenham.
Clergy: Chris Hutton, James
Shelton. LLMs: Christine Edwards,
Philip Edwards, Christopher
Whipps. Alburgh-w-Denton
Primary. Ditchingham Primary,
Earsham Primary.
Diocese of Maseno South (Kenya)

Saturday 5 Redenhall with Scole

Billingford, Brockdish, Needham,
Redenhall with Harleston and
Wortwell, Scole, Thorpe Abbots.
Clergy: James Shelton.
LLMs: Lynda Mansfield, John Taylor,
Jamie Worthington. Archbishop
Sancroft (Harleston), Harleston
Primary.
Diocese of Maseno West (Kenya)

Sunday 6 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:
lead us to ponder the mysteries of
his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our
Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 7 The Diss Team Ministry

Bressingham, Burston, Diss,
Fersfield, Gissing, North Lopham,
Roydon, Shelfanger, South
Lopham, Tivetshall, Winfarthing.
The Churchwardens and PCC during
the vacancy. LLM: Susan Drake.
All Saints Primary (Winfarthing),
Diss Junior, St Andrew's Primary
(Lopham).
Diocese of Masindi-Kitara (Uganda)

Tuesday 8 Deanery of Repps

Rural Dean: Will Warren.
Lay Chair: Mary Howard.
Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith
(Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn)
Diocese of Massachusetts (USA)

Wednesday 9 Cromer

Clergy: Will Warren, Julia
Chamberlin. LLMs: Susan Wells,
David Masters.
Diocese of Western Massachusetts
(USA)

Thursday 10 Poppyland

Antingham, Northrepps,
Overstrand, Sidestrand, Southrepps,
Thorpe Market, Trimingham. Clergy:
Sian Reading. LLMs: Tim Bennett,
Janet Payne, John Scott. Overstrand
The Belfry Primary.
Diocese of Masvingo (Central Africa)

Friday 11 Quintet

Aylmerton, Beeston Regis,
Gresham, Runton. Clergy: Jeremy
Sykes. LLM: Pamela Thompson.
Diocese of Matabeleland (Central
Africa)

Saturday 12 Roughton

Bessingham, Felbrigg, Gunton
w Hanworth, Metton, Roughton,
Sustead. Clergy: Julia Chamberlin
(Roughton and Felbrigg).
St Mary's Primary (Roughton).
Diocese of Matana (Burundi)

YANA Helpline

Ginnie Edgecombe is one of the Trustees of YANA and joined in 2020. Here she explains how money from the Bishop's Lent Appeal will support the YANA helpline.

“YANA provides a variety of services, but right at the core of what YANA does is to provide a confidential helpline which people can ring if they're struggling, and its specifically for people working in the agricultural sector.

The helpline operates 24/7 every day of the year and between 10am and 1pm Monday to Friday, it's a live helpline. Outside of those hours, there is an answerphone service, so the caller leaves a message and someone calls them back in a matter of hours.

All of the helpline staff are volunteers, carefully selected and trained so that they are then able to talk to people working within the agricultural sector, so there's a proper understanding of the pressures that caller might be facing.



For some people, taking that first step to make the call takes real courage.

Where appropriate, the call can lead to 9 fully funded counselling sessions provided by YANA, and that can be set up within a matter of days.”

Scan the QR code
or visit:
[www.DofN.org/
PrayerDiary](http://www.DofN.org/PrayerDiary)
to read full article.



YANA

Mental Health Training

In 2024, a group of clergy and laity were invited to take part in a mental health first aid training course, provided by YANA.

In the same way that workplaces have physical first aiders, YANA believes that having mental health first aiders can play a pivotal role in helping to promote positive mental health and also to prevent people from experiencing worsening mental health.

Rev'd Joshua Whitnall, Assistant Curate of the Harling and Guiltcross group of churches in the southern part of Breckland took part in the accredited course.

Rev'd Joshua explains more about the training:

“The MHFA training offered an invaluable time to stop and think about the challenges mental ill health can cause. It explored specific, diagnosed, conditions – but also the effects mental health can have in people's lives more generally. I gained a



greater understanding of how to support people suffering from mental ill health, and most importantly a wide bank of invaluable signposting to offer anyone who is in need of further support and help.”

Any donations to the Bishop's Lent Appeal 2025 go directly to YANA for supporting the helpline. More information is available on our website here: www.DofN.org/lent

Scan the QR code or visit: www.DofN.org/PrayerDiary to read full article.



Sunday 13 – Palm Sunday

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and
love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory. Amen.

**Monday 14
Sheringham**

Clergy: Christian Heycocks, Iain
Grant, Christina Rees. LLMs: Julie
Rubidge, Angela Stewart.
Diocese of Matlosane (Southern
Africa)

**Tuesday 15
Trunch Group**

Gimingham, Knapton, Mundesley,
Paston, Trunch with Bradfield
and Swafield. Clergy: Sally Myers,
Jenny Lodge. LLMs: Peter Clough,
Andrea Lee.
Diocese of Mauritius (Indian Ocean)

**Wednesday 16
Deanery of St Benet at
Waxham & Tunstead**

Rural Dean: David Chamberlin. Lay
Chair: Sonia Coupe.
The Diocese of Mbaise (Nigeria)

**Thursday 17 –
Maundy Thursday
Coastal Group of Parishes**

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead
with Lessingham and Eccles,
Ridlington, Sea Palling with
Waxham, Walcott, Witton.
Clergy: Coryn Stanforth.
LLMs: Pam Millsted, John Prince.
Happisburgh Primary.
All in the benefice who are
answering God's call and discerning
how to serve him in ministry.
Diocese of Mbale (Uganda)

**Friday 18 – Good Friday
North Walsham,
Edingthorpe, Worstead and
Westwick**

Clergy: David Warner.
Worstead Primary.
For the benefice as we prepare to
welcome a curate, for the fruits of
working together.
Diocese of North Mbale (Uganda)

**Saturday 19
Smallburgh**

Dilham, Honing, Smallburgh.
Clergy: Andrew Bevan.
LLM: Betty Lacey.
Parish Support Team: Human
Resources – Claire Stone,
Gemma Waldie.
Diocese of Mbamili (Nigeria)

Sunday 20 – Easter Day

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of
death and hell:
fill your Church with faith
and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Monday 21

Stalham

Ingham, Stalham, Sutton. Clergy:
Andrew Bevan. LLMs: Mary
Shepherd, Jeanette Boardman,
Martyn Egerton. Sutton Infant.
Diocese of Mbeere (Kenya)

Tuesday 22

The United Benefice of King's Beck

Felmingham, Skeyton, Colby,
Banningham, Tuttington, Suffield,
Sloley and Swanton Abbot. Clergy:
David Chamberlin, Cheryl Ramballi.
Diocese of Mbhashe (Southern
Africa)

Wednesday 23

United Benefice of St Benedict

Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf,
Beeston St Lawrence, Horning,
Irstead, Neatishead. Clergy: Ben
Bradshaw. LLM: Pauline Simpson.
Neatishead Primary.

For the relaunched St Benet's
community and for those following
a Benedictine rule of life.
Diocese of Meath and Kildare
(Ireland)

Thursday 24

Waterside Group

Catfield, Hickling, Ludham, Potter
Heigham. Clergy: Gary Noyes.
LLM: Judith Gardiner. Catfield
Primary, Hickling Infant.

For God's direction in this benefice
as we seek to engage spiritually
with holiday makers.

Diocese of Medak (South India)

Friday 25

Wroxham with Hoveton Saint John with Hoveton Saint Peter, Belaugh and Tunstead with Sco' Ruston

Clergy: Liz Jump.

Diocese of Central Melanesia
(Melanesia)

Saturday 26

Deanery of Thetford and Rockland

Rural Dean: Matthew Jackson.

Lay Chair: Peter Lotarius.

Bishops Graham (Norwich),
Jane (Lynn) and Ian (Thetford)

Diocese of Melbourne (Australia)

Sunday 27 April – Second Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked,
no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice
and peace, to the praise of God
the Father. Amen.

Monday 28 Attleborough with Besthorpe

Clergy: Matthew Jackson,
Andrew Slater. LLMs: Brenda Greig,
Jane Minchin.
Diocese of Meridional (Brasil)

Tuesday 29 East with West Harling, Bridgham with Roudham, Larling, Brettenham and Rushford

Clergy: Simon Richardson-Best,
Josh Whitnall.
Meeting of Bishop's Staff.
Diocese of Meru (Kenya)

Wednesday 30 Great Ellingham (Shellrock)

Great Ellingham, Little Ellingham,
Rockland All Saints, Rockland St
Peter, Shropham w Snetterton.
Clergy: Tori Venmore-Rowland,
Sue Strutt. LLM: Carol Bennett.
Diocese of México (Mexico)

Thursday 1 Guiltcross Group

Blo Norton, Garboldisham,
Kenninghall, Riddlesworth.
Clergy: Josh Whitnall.
Garboldisham Primary.
Thetford and Rockland deanery
pilgrimage.
Visit of young adults from our link
Diocese of Luleå.
Diocese of Del Norte de México
(Mexico)

Friday 2 Hethersett

Great Melton, Hethersett, Little
Melton. Clergy: Lynn Chapman.
LLM: Mollie Herron. Hethersett
Primary.

That we may continue to be
inspired to find ways to 'Make Jesus
Known' in our communities.
Diocese of Michigan (USA)

Saturday 3 High Oak, Hingham, Scoulton w Wood Rising

Clergy: Tori Venmore-Rowland.
LLM: Dale Southall. Morley Primary.
Diocese of Eastern Michigan (USA)

Sunday 4 – Third Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with
boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your
risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Monday 5 Quidenham Group

Banham, Eccles, New Buckenham,
Old Buckenham, Quidenham,
Wilby. Clergy: Sarah Walsh.
Visit of rural deans from our link
Diocese of Luleå.
Diocese of Northern Michigan (USA)

Tuesday 6 Thetford (Team Ministry)

Cloverfield Community Church,
Croxtan, Kilverstone, Thetford,
Wretham w Illington. Clergy: Peter
Herbert, Matt Houghton, Jonathan
Richardson, Tony Heywood.
LLM: Jean Rolph. Bishop's Primary
(Thetford).
For our 3-2-1 enquirers' course
starting next week.
Diocese of Western Michigan (USA)

Wednesday 7 Wymondham w Silfield and Spooner Row

Clergy: Andrew Hammond
Missionary District of Micronesia

Thursday 8 Deanery of Blofield

Rural Dean: Martin Greenland.
Lay Chair: Nicholas Cowen,
David Pilch.
Loddon deanery pilgrimage.
Diocese of Milwaukee (USA)

Friday 9 Acle and Bure to Yare

Acle, Beighton w Moulton,
Freethorpe, Halvergate w Tunstall,
Limpenhoe, Southwood and
Cantley, Reedham, Wickhampton.
Clergy: Martin Greenland.
LLM: Nicholas Cowen. Acle Primary.
Diocese of Minna (Nigeria)

Saturday 10 Blofield

Blofield, Burlingham Saint Andrew
w Saint Peter, Hemblington.
The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy. Church
Leaders of member churches of
Norfolk and Waveney Churches
Together: Helen Hollands
(Methodist) David Mayne (Baptist),
Howard Russell (Salvation Army)
Diocese of Minnesota (USA)

The Wright family and farming in the Brecks



The Wright family have been farming on the Brecks near Brettenham for 55 years. Mrs Wright is a churchwarden in the parish. Her son Alistair looks after the national sugar beet crop and is also a crop protection scientist.

Their farming contract is for 12 thousand tonnes of sugarbeet which will be refined into 1.2 million tonnes of table sugar.

Alistair says: “Growing any crop here on the Brecks is challenging, we’re probably on some of the very lightest, sandiest soils in the country, its effectively a desert some years. Every time we put a crop in the ground, we’re rolling the dice, we don’t know what we’re going

to deliver.”

He explained that climate change is bringing more risks; “We’re seeing prolonged droughts, they are starting earlier in the season, which puts more pressure on the farmer. We don’t know whether we’ll be able to meet our contracts, and that’s the way farming is these days. You’re not taking things to market to sell, contracts are done months in advance with big corporations and they expect results.”

Scan the QR code
or visit:
[www.DofN.org/](http://www.DofN.org/PrayerDiary)
PrayerDiary
to read full article.



Sunday 11 May – Fourth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your
Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be
gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Monday 12 Broadside

Ranworth with Panxworth,
South Walsham, Upton & Fishley,
Woodbastwick. The Churchwardens
and PCC during the vacancy. LLM:
Margaret Mallett. Fairhaven Primary
(South Walsham). Residential
Bishop's Staff meeting.
Diocese of Mishamikoweesh
(Canada)

Tuesday 13 Great and Little Plumstead, Rackheath with Salhouse and Witton

Clergy: Darleen Platten.
LLM: Linda Stone. Salhouse Primary.
The Missionary District (Brasil)

Wednesday 14 Lingwood

Burlingham, Hassingham,
Lingwood, Strumpshaw. Clergy:
Jane Morris. LLM: Lorna Clark.
Give thanks for the benefice
coming together and working well
during the recent vacancy, and for
our continued ongoing ministry in
our various roles.
Diocese of Mississippi (USA)

Thursday 15 Yare Valley Churches

Brundall, Braydeston and Postwick.
Clergy: David Hanson.
LLM: Keith Gerrard.
Diocese of Missouri (USA)

Friday 16 Deanery of Breckland

Rural Dean: Stephen Thorp.
Lay Chair: Jackie Cook.
Diocese of West Missouri (USA)

Saturday 17 Ashill

Ashill, Carbrooke, Ovington, Saham
Toney. Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
LLM: Jean Rockett-Woods.
Ashill Primary, Parker's Primary
(Saham Toney), St Peter & St Paul
Carbrooke Primary.
Diocese of Mityana (Uganda)

Sunday 18 May – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare
your love for the world
and the wonder of your risen life:
give us compassion and courage
to risk ourselves
for those we serve,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Monday 19 Hilborough Group

Cockley Cley, Foul登, Gooderstone, Great Cressingham, Hilborough. Clergy: Michael Chesher, Linda Lubbe. Gooderstone Primary. Meeting of Rural Deans. Diocese of Mombasa (Kenya)

Tuesday 20 Mundford

Cranwich, Ickburgh, Langford, Mundford. Clergy: Michael Chesher, Linda Lubbe. Mundford Primary. Bishops Graham (Norwich), Jane (Lynn) and Ian (Thetford). Diocese of Monmouth (Wales)

Wednesday 21 Nar Valley

Castleacre, Narborough with Narford, Newton-by-Castleacre, Pentney, Southacre, Westacre.

Clergy: Angela Hammett, Richard Howells. LLM: Chris Hammett. Castle Acre Primary, Narborough Primary.

May God strengthen his gift of new life to us.

Diocese of Montana (USA)

Thursday 22 Necton

Holme Hale, Necton, North Pickenham, South Pickenham.

Clergy: Stephen Thorp.

LLMs: Jackie Cook, Carole Hicks, Susan March. Necton Primary.

Diocese of Montreal (Canada)

Friday 23 Oxborough Group

Bodney, Didlington, Little Cressingham, Oxborough. Clergy: Michael Chesher, Linda Lubbe. Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith (Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn). Diocese of Moosonee (Canada)

Saturday 24 Swaffham and Sporle

Sporle with Great and Little Palgrave, Swaffham.

Clergy: Nigel Tuffnell as he begins a new ministry.

LLMs Julia Richardson, Andy Mash.

Sporle Primary, Swaffham Junior, Swaffham Infant.

Faith, farming and the Royal Norfolk Show



The food, farming and countryside charity which runs the Royal Norfolk Show has a new chaplain.

The Revd Dr Tim Weatherstone, rector of Barnham Broom and the Upper Yare Benefice, rural dean of the Dereham in Mitford Deanery and the Bishop of Norwich's adviser for rural affairs, said he was very pleased to be the new chaplain to the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association (RNAA).

Mark Nicholas, RNAA managing director, said: 'We are delighted to welcome Tim as chaplain to the Association. We have a close relationship with the diocese reflecting our mutual interest in and support to rural communities.'

The presence of a chaplain at events such as the Royal Norfolk Show has a powerful impact and I'm looking forward to hearing his rhyming graces, as is the custom'.

This summer Tim will co-ordinate the ecumenical team of chaplains at the Royal Norfolk Show on June 25 and 26. The chaplains support those running the show as well as the 80,000-plus visitors and exhibitors.

Scan the QR code
or visit:
[www.DofN.org/
PrayerDiary](http://www.DofN.org/PrayerDiary)
to read full article.



Sunday 25 May – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your
call to your disciples: help your
Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of
your love, to the glory of God the
Father. Amen.

Monday 26 The Fountain of Life

Clergy: Paul Wilkinson.
For new ventures in Ashill,
Swaffham and the surrounding
areas especially for work with
Children, Youth and Families.
For the National Pilgrimage at
Walsingham.
Diocese of Port Moresby (Papua
New Guinea)

Tuesday 27 Threxton

The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
Diocese of Morobo (South Sudan)

Wednesday 28 Watton

Clergy: Dave Cossey. LLM:
Elaine Rodgers, Weiwei Cossey.
Diocese of Morogoro (Tanzania)

Thursday 29 – Ascension Day Wayland Group

Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham,
Griston, Merton, Stow Bedon,
Sturston, Thompson, Tottington.

Clergy: Vanessa Layfield.
Caston Primary.
Diocese of Mount Kenya Central
(Kenya)

Friday 30 Deanery of Burnham and Walsingham

Rural Dean: Clive Wylie.
Lay Chair: Anne Prentis.
Diocese of Mount Kenya South
(Kenya)

Saturday 31 Barney, Hindringham, Thursford, Great Snoring, Little Snoring, Kettlestone and Pensthorpe

Clergy: Robin Stapleford.
Hindringham Primary.
For the new Way-Marker benefice
as we look at ways of welcoming
pilgrims and affirming the pilgrim
popular culture.
Diocese of Mount Kenya West
(Kenya)

Sunday 1 Sunday after Ascension

Risen, ascended Lord,
as we rejoice at your triumph,
fill your Church on earth with
power and compassion, that all
who are estranged by sin may find
forgiveness and know your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.



Please pray for the following benefices in vacancy at the time of writing the Spring Prayer Diary. Pray that the Lord will send ministers of the Gospel to serve in these places.

Archdeaconry of Norwich

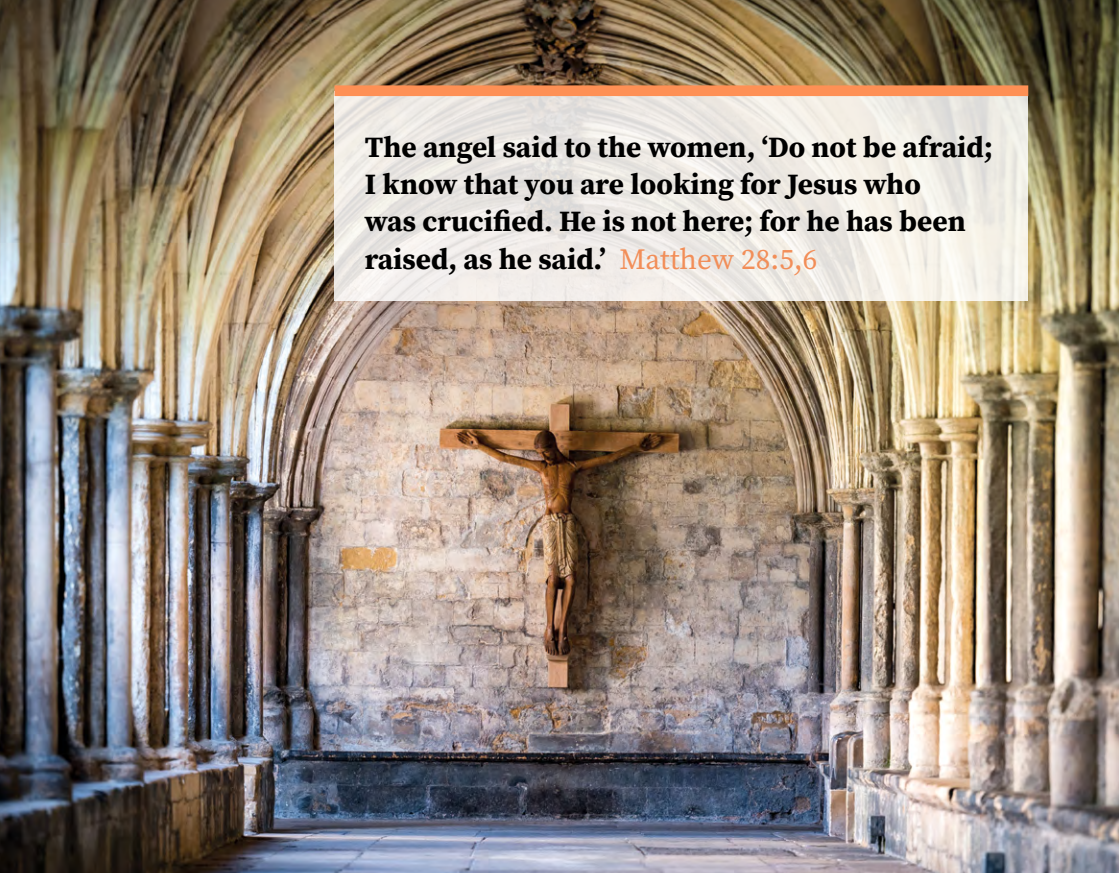
- Sprowston and North Norwich
- Christ Church, New Catton
- St Mary's and St Paul's Hellesdon
- St Anne's, St Elizabeth's and St Mary's Earlham
- St David's, Thorpe End
- St Stephen's Norwich
- Upcoming – St Helen's, Norwich

Archdeaconry of Norfolk

- Hempnall
- Ranworth and Woodbastwick
- Diss Team Ministry
- Diss Team Ministry - Team Vicar
- Brooke
- Kessingland
- Blofield
- Stalham and Smallburgh

Archdeaconry of Lynn

- Gayton, Grimston, Massingham and District
- Hunstanton and Saxon Shore
- Coxford and Toftrees
- Mattishall and Tudd Valley
- Glaven Valley
- Woottons
- Launditch and Upper Nar
- Middlewinch
- Reepham and Wensum Valley
- Gaywood – Associate Priest



The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.’ *Matthew 28:5,6*

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