

Winter 2025

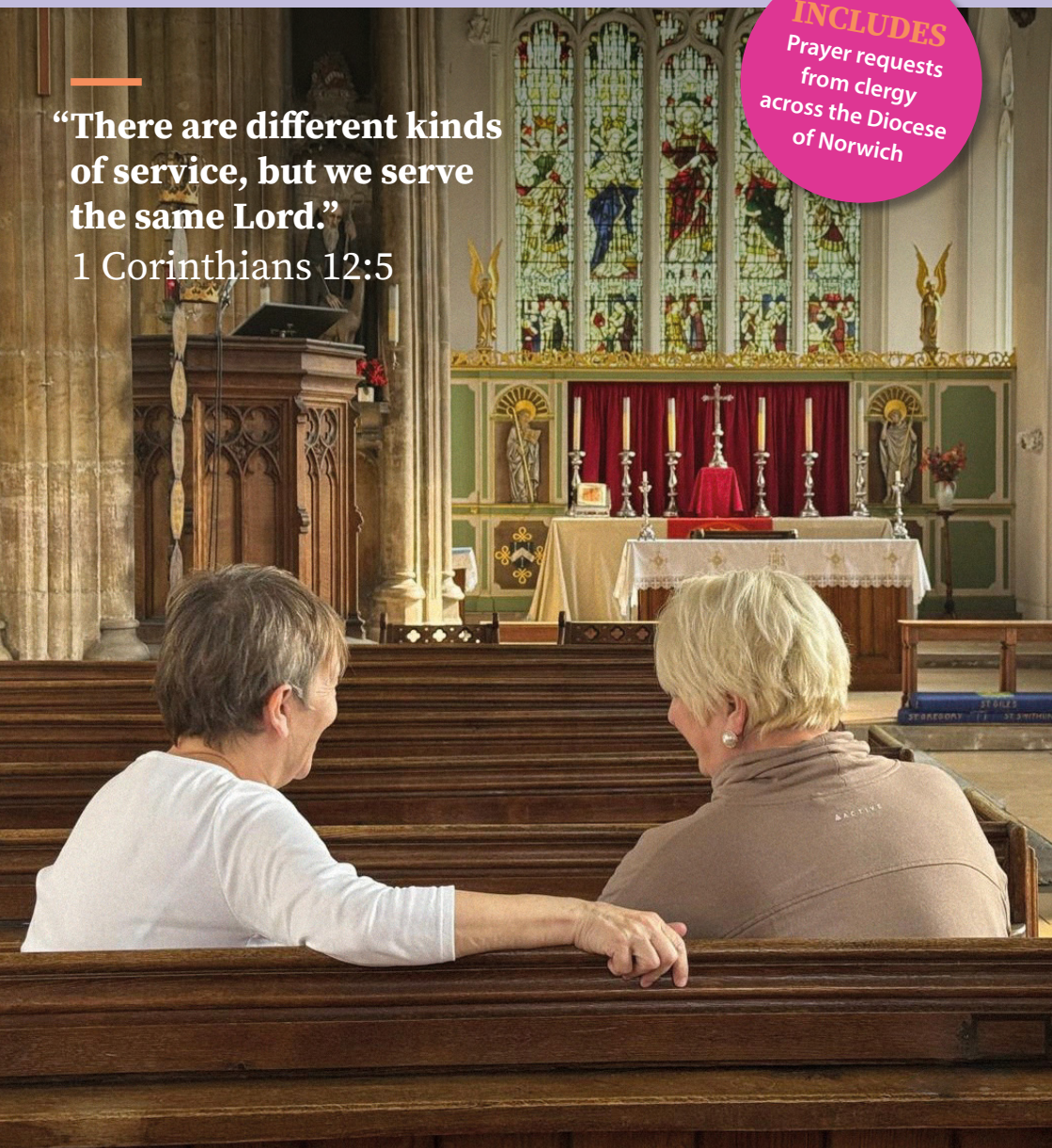
 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

Prayer Diary

—
“There are different kinds
of service, but we serve
the same Lord.”

1 Corinthians 12:5

INCLUDES
Prayer requests
from clergy
across the Diocese
of Norwich





Foreword from
**The Bishop of Lynn,
 the Rt Revd Dr Jane Steen**

Chaplaincy

In this winter season, we're praying particularly for all our chaplains: hospital, prison, school, theatre, airport, and all the myriad of local chaplaincies to uniformed organisations or to particular groups such as those who are deaf or blind.

What is chaplaincy? When Charles I asked to see his chaplain, the poet John Milton (not a supporter of monarchy) is reputed to have remarked, 'Ah - what a thing of naught is a chaplain!'

In my time in chaplaincy, I found that very helpful. Chaplains are never there to draw attention to themselves. They are channels through which God's grace reaches out to those in need and they, who may often be without faith, reach for God. If chaplains are ordained, they are,

like all priests, to be messengers, sentinels and stewards who bring holy comfort and counsel, who look out for others and who sustain one aspect of the church's public presence. Lay chaplains too draw attention to God, enabling a whole range of people who might not encounter church to have an inkling of God.

This season, please, do pray for our chaplains. They are so important. And, do ask God and search your own heart: might God be calling you to a chaplaincy role, lay or ordained? Chaplains are so often the front line of mission. Several generations have lost the habit of churchgoing so that church seems alien, a strange building and strange liturgy. Chaplains can reach people 'out there' in ways that parish churches cannot always do. It's a vital ministry and it might just be for you.

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 are from CAFOD, the Anglican Church of Canada, the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, the Venerable Bede, Louisa M Alcott, and Jennifer Hurd of Wales Synod Cymru.

Sunday 30 – Advent Sunday

God of all,
fill us with joy and expectation
in this Advent season,
and move us to share our hope
with others,
by being a good neighbour,
that we might be found ready,
when you come in glory. Amen.

Monday 1

Yare Valley Churches

Brundall, Braydeston and Postwick.

Clergy: David Hanson.

LLM: Keith Gerrard.

For our new Youth Group to
flourish and grow.

Diocese of Ruaha (Tanzania)

Tuesday 2

Deanery of Breckland

Rural Dean: Stephen Thorp.

Bishops Graham (Norwich),

Jane (Lynn) and Ian (Thetford).

Chaplains to schools including Ian

Jones (Wyndham College),

Corin Child (Norwich School),

Laura Purnell (Dereham and

District schools), Mark Pimlott

(Open Academy), Jack Branford

(Gresham's).

Diocese of Rumbek (South Sudan)

Wednesday 3

Ashill

Ashill, Carbrooke, Ovington,

Saham Toney. Clergy: Patrick

Morrow. LLM: Jean Rockett-Woods.

Ashill Primary, Parker's Primary
(Saham Toney), St Peter & St Paul
Carbrooke Primary.

That we work closely together
as a group.

Diocese of Rumonge (Burundi)

Thursday 4

Hilborough Group

Cockley Cley, Foulden,

Gooderstone, Great Cressingham,

Hilborough. Clergy: Michael

Chesher, Linda Lubbe.

Gooderstone Primary. Diocese of

Rupert's Land (Canada)

Friday 5

Mundford

Cranwich, Ickburgh, Langford,

Mundford. Clergy: Michael

Chesher, Linda Lubbe.

Mundford Primary.

Diocese of Rutana (Burundi)

Saturday 6

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.

For our Santa outreach event
happening today.

Diocese of Ruvuma (Anglican
Church of Tanzania)

Sunday 7 – Second Sunday of Advent

God of justice,
clear our lives of hatred and
despair and sow in us seeds of
joy and peace;
so that shoots of hope may spring
forth in us as we await the coming
of the Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit,
lives and reigns, one God,
now and for ever. Amen.

Monday 8 Necton

Holme Hale, Necton, North
Pickenham, South Pickenham.
Clergy: Stephen Thorp.
LLM: Carole Hicks, Susan March
Necton Primary.
Diocese of Ruwenzori (Uganda)

Tuesday 9 Oxborough Group

Bodney, Didlington, Little
Cressingham, Oxborough.
Clergy: Michael Chesher,
Linda Lubbe. Chaplains to Prisons:
George Taylor, Oladapo Sotonwa
Diocese of East Ruwenzori (Uganda)

Wednesday 10 Swaffham and Sporle

Sporle with Great and Little
Palgrave, Swaffham.
Clergy: Nigel Tuffnell.
LLM: Julia Richardson, Andy Mash.

Heartwood Primary & Nursery,
Sporle Primary, Swaffham Primary.
For our new Children's Choir and
Sunday School.
Diocese of South Rwenzori (Uganda)

Thursday 11 The Fountain of Life Network Church, Ashill

FOL Swaffham.
Clergy: Paul Wilkinson.
Lord, awaken us to reach the lost
with Your grace.

Chaplains to Scouting: including Liz
Dawes (County Scouts), Julie Boyd
(North East Norfolk), Paul Burr.
Diocese of Sabah (South East Asia)

Friday 12 Threxton

The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk),
Keith (Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn).
Diocese of Sabongidda-Ora (Nigeria)

Saturday 13 Watton

Clergy: Dave Cossey.
LLM: Elaine Rodgers, Weiwei Cossey.
Chaplains to Queen Elizabeth
Hospital: Ecumenical team of Lee
Gilbert, Sam Abramian, Jonathan
Mellor, Mark Bredin, Gordon Adam.
The Sacred Circle (Canada)

Facilitating faith

Making church accessible has always been integral to ministry for Revd Heather Wright.

Her working life – both as a manager in social services and as non-stipendiary clergy – has been dedicated to ensuring Deafblind people do not find themselves excluded from essential activities, including worship.

Taking accessibility far beyond printing service sheets in large fonts or braille, Heather would travel wherever needed to deliver services in British Sign Language, signed prayers palms via Deafblind Manual – whatever was required.

Countless hours of preparation for church has always formed part of Heather's busy workload.

“Metaphors and senses of time can become muddled when told in the different forms of signing. So there is a lot more preparation required than for services in the hearing church,” she explained.

“The collect for instance, you can't just read that out. You have to extract the meaning and then, through sign, reinterpret it in a

way that will make sense.”

Heather has served as Diocesan Chaplain to the Deafblind as well as Chaplain for Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind. Her pioneering work has even been recognised nationally with a British Empire Medal.

Heather is now retired with PTO and can regularly be found leading services in Sprowston.



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



Sunday 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

God of glory and compassion,
at your touch
the wilderness blossoms.
Grant perseverance and patience to
all who long for your Son's return,
so that we may announce in word
and deed the good news of the
kingdom. We ask this through
Christ whose day draws near.
Amen.

Monday 15 Wayland Group

Breckles, Caston, Great Hockham,
Griston, Merton, Stow Bedon,
Sturston, Thompson, Tottington.
Clergy: Vanessa Layfield,
Patrick Morrow. Caston Primary.
Meeting of Bishop's Staff.
Diocese of Saint Helena
(Southern Africa)

Tuesday 16 Deanery of Burnham and Walsingham

Lay Chair: Anne Prentis.
Chaplains to Almshouses and Care
Homes: Julia Chamberlin
(The Great Hospital),
Rhonwen Washford (Corton House),
Anna Chaplains.
Diocese of Saint Mark the
Evangelist (Southern Africa)

Wednesday 17 Coxford Group

East Raynham, East Rudham,
Helhoughton, Houghton next
Harpley, South Raynham,
Tatterford, Tattersett.
Clergy: Edward Gunn licensed on
1st December. Rudham Primary.
Diocese of Saldanha Bay
(Southern Africa)

Thursday 18 Creakes

North Creake, Sculthorpe, South
Creake, Syderstone.
Clergy: Clive Wylie.
Sculthorpe Primary.
For progress of worship, spiritual
life and financial development.
Diocese of Salisbury (England)

Friday 19 Fakenham

Clergy: Tracy Jessop.
LLM: Elaine Burbidge,
Amanda Sands.
For anyone struggling at this time
of year.
Diocese of El Salvador
(Central de America)

Saturday 20 Fulmodeston with Croxton

Clergy: Tracy Jessop.
For people spending their first
Christmas in a new home.
Diocese of Sambalpur (North India)

“It reminds me that God loves me”

Gaye Hailstone, an Anna Chaplain with Yare Valley Churches, tells us about the chaplaincy for older people.

“Even to your old age and grey hairs, I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you, I will sustain you and I will rescue you.” Isaiah 46:4

I felt called to this ministry after my mother, a regular church-goer all her life, had to move to a residential care home. She received no spiritual support and my initial reaction was: “Why wasn’t this happening when mum needed it?” followed by: “Might this be something I’m being called to do?”

Anna Chaplains and Anna Friends (who are also volunteers supporting older people) offer spiritual care in later life, ministering to older people, those on the dementia pathway, and those who look after them. We take worship into homes, run cafes and craft groups, and celebrate church festivals.



Sharing God’s love with people who can no longer make the journey to church and who often feel forgotten by God and the church, is humbling and rewarding. As the lady pictured with me said: “I love singing the old hymns I used to sing in Sunday School – it brings back lovely memories, and it reminds me that God loves me”

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PrayerDiary](http://www.DofN.org/PrayerDiary)
to read full article.



Sunday 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

God of all hope and joy,
open our hearts in welcome,
so that your Son Jesus Christ
at his coming may find in us
a dwelling prepared for him;
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.
Amen.

Monday 22 Hempton

The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
Chaplain to Norfolk Police:
Ian Byrne, Chaplain to Norfolk
Coroner's Service: Chris Copsey,
Chaplain to Diocesan House:
Stella Green
Diocese of Santiago (Chile)

Tuesday 23 Holkham

Holkham, Warham,
Wells-next-the-Sea, Wighton.
For the benefice as they seek
to appoint a new Rector for the
parishes.
Diocese of Santiago (Philippines)

Wednesday 24 The Burnhams

Burnham Market, Burnham Overy,
Burnham Sutton cum Ulph,
Burnham Thorpe.
Clergy: Malcolm Rogers.
Diocese of São Paulo (Brasil)

Thursday 25 Christmas Day

Lord Jesus Christ,
your birth at Bethlehem
draws us to kneel in wonder at
heaven touching earth:
accept our heartfelt praise
as we worship you,
our Saviour and our eternal God.
Amen.

Friday 26 The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham

Clergy: Ben Eadon. Chaplain to the
Mothers' Union: James Stewart.
The 2026 Pilgrimage Season and
for all our pilgrims.
Diocese of Sapele (Nigeria)

Saturday 27 Toftrees

The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy. Chaplain to
Priscilla Bacon Centre and
Norwich Community Hospitals:
Helen Garrard, Chaplain to Tapping
House: Jenny Rowley.
Dioceses of Saskatoon and
Saskatchewan (Canada)

Wishing you
JOY

peace and every blessing
this Christmas and throughout
the coming year

For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given...
Isaiah 9:6

Sunday 28 – First Sunday of Christmas

As we are glad, Creator God, when the dawn reveals the world to us, innocent and fresh, so may we discover the infant in the manger, and in delight be ready to start anew. Amen.

Monday 29

Upper Wensum Village Group

Brisley, Colkirk with Oxwick with Pattlesley, Gateley, Great Ryburgh with Little Ryburgh and Testerton, Horningtoft, Shereford with Dunton, Whissonsett.

Clergy: Robin Stapleford.

Brisley Primary, Colkirk Primary.

For building work challenges and an evolving ministry team.

Diocese of Sebei (Uganda)

Tuesday 30

Walsingham

East, North and West Barsham, Houghton, Little Walsingham.

The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.

Walsingham Primary.

The Society of St Margaret.

For Luke in his ministry as Bishop of Richborough.

Diocese of Sekondi (West Africa)

Wednesday 31

Way-Marker Benefice

Barney, Great Snoring, Hindringham, Kettlestone and Pensthorpe, Little Snoring, Thursford.

Clergy: Robin Stapleford.

Hindringham Primary.

For building work challenges and an evolving ministry team.

Diocese of Seoul (Korea)

Thursday 1

Deanery of Depwade

Rural Dean: Michael Windridge.

Lay Chair: John Ash. Bishops

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

Chaplains to the Royal British and veterans' organisations.

Diocese of Seychelles (Indian Ocean)

Friday 2

Brooke

Brooke, Kirstead, Mundham with Seething, Thwaite. The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. LLMs: John Ash, Liam Pilgrim. Brooke Primary.

Clergy: Susanna Gunner as she prepares to be licensed on 4 January as Associate Priest to the Brooke

Benefice and Hempnall Group.

Diocese of Sheffield (England)

Saturday 3

Hempnall Group of Parishes

Bedingham, Hempnall, Morningthorpe and Fritton, Shelton with Hardwick, Topcroft, Woodton. Clergy: Michael

Windridge. LLM: Liam Pilgrim.

Agricultural Chaplain: Tim Weatherstone.

Diocese of Shinyanga (Tanzania)

Sunday 4 – Second Sunday of Christmas

Eternal God giver of love and peace,
you call your children to live
together as one family;
give us grace to learn your ways
and to do your will,
that we may bring justice and
peace to all people,
in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Monday 5 Tas Valley

Newton Flotman, Saxlingham
Nethergate, Shotesham,
Swainsthorpe, Tasburgh, Tharston,
Clergy: Dawn Davidson, Austin
Uzoigwe, Rachel Hayden,
Linda Ricketts. LLMs Lesley Cox,
John Hooper.

For deepening of discipleship and
growth in numbers

Diocese of Upper Shire (Africa)

Tuesday 6 Mulbarton

Bracon Ash, Flordon, Hethel,
Mulbarton. Clergy: Adrian Miller.

A prayer for Epiphany
Jesus, as we travel far and fast,
lead our minds back to the wise
men following your star,
and forward to the day when all
will see your shining light. Amen.

Wednesday 7 The Long Stratton & Pilgrim Team Ministry

Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode,
Great Moulton with Little Moulton,
Stratton St Mary, Stratton St Michael

and St Peter, Tibenham, Wacton
Magna with Wacton Parva. Clergy:
Becki Bensusan, John Madinda.
Carleton Rode Primary, St Mary's
Junior (Long Stratton).
Diocese of Shyogwe (Rwanda)

Thursday 8 Upper Tas Valley

Fundenhall, All Saints.

Clergy: Dawn Davidson, Austin
Uzoigwe, Rachel Hayden, Linda
Ricketts. LLMs Lesley Cox, John
Hooper. Forncett St Peter Primary,
Hapton Primary, Tacolneston
Primary, Wreningham Primary.

For deepening of discipleship and
growth in numbers

Diocese of Sialkot (Pakistan)

Friday 9 Deanery of Dereham in Mitford

Rural Dean: Paul Cubitt.

Diocese of Sittwe (Myanmar)

Diocese of Singapore (SE Asia)

Saturday 10 Barnham Broom & Upper Yare

Barford, Barnham Broom w
Bickerston, Brandon Parva,
Carleton Forehoe, Cranworth
w Letton and Southburgh,
Garvestone, Hardingham,
Kimberley, Reymerston, Runhall
w Coston, Thuxton, Whinburgh w
Westfield, Wramplingham.

Clergy: Tim Weatherstone.

LLM: Mary Weatherstone.

Barnham Broom Primary.



You are loved and cared for: School Chaplaincy

The role of a secondary school chaplain could appear from the outside to be hectic and daunting, particularly in an era of social media and budgetary challenges.

This is not the perspective of Mark Pimlott, Open Academy's long-serving Chaplain, who keeps his ministry straightforward: no matter your role in the school community or the severity of a problem, he's available.

While confidential chats can take place in his office located at the heart of the modern Open Academy building in Norwich, the entire site is his pastoral domain – or further afield when he is drafted in as auxiliary minibus driver for school trips!

"I've had really important conversations in stairwells, in the car park; just by being in the right place at the right time. A lot of the students are at an age which can be a teetering point, where they could head in one of two directions.

My role, as I see it, is to help them realise they are better than they might think, smarter than they might think and, most importantly, that they are loved and cared for."

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or visit:
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PrayerDiary
to read full article.



Sunday 11 – First Sunday of Epiphany

Holy Spirit, as you drove Jesus into the wilderness, when John baptised him and the heavens opened, drive us to wrestle and reflect so that we may fulfil our baptism, and live your life of victory. Amen.

Monday 12 Dereham & District Team Ministry

Beetley w East Bilney, East Bradenham w West Bradenham, East Dereham, Hoe, Scarning, Shipdham, Swanton Morley.

Clergy: Paul Cubitt, Michael Newey, Laura Purnell. LLMs: Helen Jeckells, Evelyn Speed, Lydia Crick, Tom Cross, Martin Purnell. Dereham Infant & Nursery, Dereham Junior, Swanton Morley Primary, Thomas Bullock Primary (Shipdham).

For the school's ministry alongside North Breckland Youth for Christ and for the building project at St Nicholas Church.

Diocese of Sodor and Man (England)

Tuesday 13 Easton

Bawburgh, Colton, Easton, Marlingford.

Clergy: Laura Montgomery.

St Peter's Primary (Easton).

Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith (Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn).

Diocese of Sokoto (Nigeria)

Wednesday 14 Honingham

The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Air Training Corps Chaplains including, Ron Tuck, Roger Billings, Amanda Sands, Andrew Davey, Kevin Blogg, David Hagan-Palmer. Diocese of Central Solomons (Melanesia)

Thursday 15 Launditch & The Upper Nar Team Ministry

Beeston-next-Mileham, Bittering Parva, East Lexham, Great Dunham, Great and Little Fransham, Gressenhall, Litcham w Kempston, Little Dunham, Longham, Mileham, Rougham, Stanfield, Tittleshall w Godwick, Weasenham, Wellingham, Wendling, West Lexham. Clergy: Hilary De Lyon, Kevin Blogg.

For our Benefice in vacancy.

Meeting of Bishop's Staff.

Diocese of Soroti (Uganda)

Friday 16 Mattishall & Tudd Valley

East Tuddenham, Hockering, Mattishall, North Tuddenham, Welborne, Yaxham.

The Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. LLMs: Alan Cossey, Jacqueline Crisp, Mel Stevenson.

Hockering Primary, Yaxham Primary.

Diocese of Southwark (England)

Saturday 17 Deanery of Great Yarmouth

Rural Dean: David Wells. Lay Chair: Pam Spychal. Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham (England)



Landing the Gospel message

When the Revd Rosemary Maskell moved to Norfolk to become priest in charge of Horsham, Spixworth and Crostwick, her new parish came with an extra role. She is also chaplain to Norwich Airport.

For the past seven and half years she has spent time at the airport, getting to know people and helping staff and passengers through difficult times.

“My main role is to support all the staff, not just in the main terminal but across the whole site, including the tower, the radar room, the fire station and the workshop,” she said. “On occasion I meet travellers who need to chat or who have concerns, and it is good to be available for them too.



“Although I wear my hi-viz jacket, with ‘CHAPLAIN’ written on the back, I also wear my dog-collar. Most people are happy to chat, and some will even ask questions about faith, the Church and Christianity.

“Of course, it is a real privilege to be able to talk in this way, but it also important to be able to listen to anything comes up. Very often I am the only person of faith they come into contact with, so I think it is important that they feel they can talk about anything.”

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or visit:
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to read full article.



Sunday 18 – Second Sunday of Epiphany

Holy and eternal God,
your Son Jesus Christ has taught us
to learn from the simple trust
of children;
give us pure hearts
and steadfast faith to worship you
in spirit and in truth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

For Damon Rogers installed
today as Rector of Hethersett
and the Meltons.

Monday 19 Belton and Burgh Castle

The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
LLM: Mary Ives.
Moorlands Primary (Belton).
Chaplains in Higher Education:
Martin Young, (NUA), Ben Rogers
(UEA). Reformed Episcopal Church
of Spain

Tuesday 20 Bradwell

Clergy: Steve Deall.
LLM: Wendy Bircham.
Chaplain to the Army Cadet Force:
Liz Jump.
Homefield Primary (Bradwell).
Diocese of Spokane (USA)

Wednesday 21 Caister-On-Sea

Clergy: David Wells, Gaynor Sutton.
Diocese of Springfield (USA)

Thursday 22 Gorleston St Andrew

Gorleston St Andrew, Cliff Park
Community Church.
Clergy: Shaula Reilly,
Derek McClean.
LLM: Melvyn Reid.
Diocese of Port Sudan (Sudan)

Friday 23 Gorleston St Mary Magdalene

Clergy: Matthew Price, Karl Ross.
Peterhouse Primary (Gorleston).
Diocese of Sul Occidental (Brasil)

Saturday 24 Great Yarmouth Team Ministry

Great Yarmouth.
Clergy: Simon Ward, Jassica
Castillo-Burley, Liz Dawes,
Richard Washington. St Nicholas
Priory Primary (Great Yarmouth).
For Pathway Café & Foodbank and
for engagement with young people.
Diocese of Sunyani (West Africa)

Sunday 25 – Third Sunday of Epiphany

God of all mercy,
your Son brought good news to
the despairing,
freedom to the oppressed
and joy to the sad;
fill us with your Spirit,
that the people of our day may see
in us his likeness
and glorify your name. Amen.

Monday 26

The Flegg Parish Churches Team Ministry: Flegg North

Horsey, Martham, Repps cum
Bastwick, West Somerton and
Winterton on Sea. Clergy: Deborah
Walton, Jo Wood, Phil Rodd,
Hannah Morris. LLMs: Alison
McTaggart, Margaret Parish.

For our ministry in schools and
care homes and our newly trained
Authorised Pastoral Assistants.

Tuesday 27

The Flegg Parish Churches Team Ministry: Flegg South

Billockby, Clippesby, Fleggburgh,
Runham, Stokesby and Thurne.
Clergy: Phil Rodd, Deborah Walton,
Jo Wood, Hannah Morris. LLMs:
Alison McTaggart, Margaret Parish.
Fleggburgh Primary.

For our 'Open the Book' teams;
and daunting building projects
needing fresh impetus.

Diocese of Del Sureste (Mexico)

Wednesday 28

The Flegg Parish Churches Team Ministry: Flegg East

Filby, Mautby, Ormesby St Margaret,
Ormesby St Michael, Rollesby and
Thrigby. Clergy: Jo Wood, Phil Rodd,
Deborah Walton, Hannah Morris.

LLMs: Alison McTaggart,
Margaret Parish.

To continue our focus of building
community relationships.

Diocese of Swansea & Brecon (Wales)

Thursday 29

Deanery of Heacham and Rising

Rural Dean: Peter Cook.

Ecumenical Chaplaincy team at
NNUH, Adrian Woodbridge, Darren
Thornton, Penny Warner, Jo Parker,
Mark Taylor, Casey Sibanda, Katie
Lei. Diocese of Sydney (Australia)

Friday 30

Docking, The Birchams, Fring, Stanhoe & Sedgeford

Docking, Fring, Sedgeford, Stanhoe
with Barwick, The Birchams and
Bagthope. Clergy: Peter Cook,
Richard Collier. Docking Primary.
Diocese of Tabora (Tanzania)

Saturday 31

Heacham

Clergy: Veronica Wilson,
Simon Wilson. LLMs: Steve Cook,
Pip Lawrence, Penelope Sutton,
Lynda Swain.

Te Pihopatanga o Te Tai Tokerau
(Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia)

In the Extraordinary and the Ordinary: Hospital Chaplaincy

Revd Canon Darren Thornton has been in ministry in the Diocese of Norwich for over thirty years, and most of that time in various Chaplaincies.

During Covid, while Rector at St Giles on the Hill in Norwich, he responded to a call to return back to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital to work alongside the Chaplaincy team in providing support and End of Life Ministry to those suffering with Covid.

“A chaplain needs to be able to listen, care, empathise, understand, maintain confidentiality and seek to be available to those in need. It is a real honour and brings profound satisfaction to help people in difficult times, seeking to bring some Peace, Comfort and Hope! Much Hope!



Spiritual care doesn't have to be religious. It is about valuing and respecting who people are, whatever their religion, culture, background, gender or sexuality. Chaplains have no agenda or tick list. Instead, we are to simply be there, to support patients, relatives and staff alike through both the extraordinary and the ordinary.

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Sunday 1 – The Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

O Christ, the Bright and Morning Star, when the night of this world is past bring us with your saints to your promised light and to that life which opens into everlasting day. Amen.
(The Venerable Bede c. 673-735)

Monday 2 Dersingham, Anmer, Ingoldisthorpe & Sherborne

Clergy: Mark Capron, Karen Gower.
LLM: Neil Adams, Alan Crawshaw.
Dersingham Primary & Nursery,
Ingoldisthorpe Primary.
For our youth group, youth cafe,
pastoral and families ministries.
Pihopatanga o Te Tairawhiti
(Aotearoa, New Zealand and
Polynesia)

Tuesday 3 Hunstanton and Saxon Shore

Brancaster, Burnham Deepdale,
Holme-next-the-Sea, Hunstanton,
Hunstanton St Mary, Ringstead,
Thornham, Titchwell with Choseley.
Bishops Graham (Norwich),
Jane (Lynn) and Ian (Thetford).
Clergy: James Monro.
Diocese of Taita-Taveta (Kenya)

Wednesday 4 Sandringham Group of Churches

Castle Rising, Flitcham, Hillington,
Sandringham, Wolferton.
Clergy: Paul Williams,
Catherine Williams.
LLM: Sally Stanton.
Flitcham Primary, Sandringham &
West Newton Primary.
Diocese of Taiwan (Taiwan)

Thursday 5 Snettisham

Clergy: Dan Tansey, Peter Cook.
Diocese of Tamale (West Africa)

Friday 6 Deanery of Holt

Rural Dean: David Longe.
Diocese of Tanga (Tanzania)

Saturday 7 Briston and Briningham

Briningham, Brinton, Briston, Burgh
Parva, Hindolveston, Hunworth,
Melton Constable, Stody, Swanton
Novers, Thornage. Clergy: Trudie
Morris, Carolyn Sexton.
For our projects to counter
loneliness and build community
including a community choir,
heritage project, and community
hub and outreach centre.
Diocese of Central Tanganyika
(Tanzania)

Sunday 8 – Second Sunday before Lent

Pour into our hearts, O God, the love that casts out fear, the truth that sets us free and the grace that is sufficient for all our needs. Though you are unseen, do not be unknown.

Though you are hidden from our eyes let us rejoice in your beauty at the last. Amen

(Louisa M Alcott 1833-1888)

Monday 9 Glaven Valley

Blakeney, Cley-next-the-Sea, Glandford, Letheringsett with Bayfield, Wiveton.

Clergy: Jonathan Dowman.

Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith (Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn). LLM: Penelope Thewlis.

Blakeney Primary.

Diocese of South West Tanganyika (Tanzania)

Tuesday 10 Holt

Clergy: Howard Stoker.

For the isolated, lonely and bereaved and for those in financial need.

Diocese of Western Tanganyika (Tanzania)

Wednesday 11 Matlaske

Baconsthorpe, Barningham Winter, Edgefield, Hempstead, Matlaske, Plumstead, Saxthorpe with Corpusty.

Clergy: David Longe, Judy Rosser.

Diocese of Tarime (Tanzania)

Thursday 12 Stiffkey and Bale

Bale, Binham, Field Dalling, Gunthorpe, Langham Episcopi, Morston, Saxlingham, Sharrington, Stiffkey. Clergy: Ian Whittle.

LLM: Roger Bland.

Diocese of Tasmania (Australia)

Friday 13 Weybourne Group

Bodham, East with West Beckham, Kelling, Salthouse, Upper Sheringham, Weybourne.

Clergy: Ian Dyble, Patricia Wallson, Adrian Wolton. Kelling Primary.

Diocese of Taungoo (Myanmar)

Saturday 14 Deanery of Ingworth & Sparham

Rural Dean: Andrew Whitehead.

Lay Chair: Kandi Kammoun.

Diocese of Temotu (Melanesia)

A dual role: Bishop's Chaplain and the Royal British Legion

The Revd Canon Sally Theakston serves as Chaplain to the Bishop of Norwich and as Norfolk County Chaplain for the Royal British Legion.

As Bishop's Chaplain, Sally supports Bishop Graham in his ministry through prayer, pastoral care, research, and administration assisting him in preparing for services, meetings, and events. In September 2025, she accompanied him and other Norfolk pilgrims on a visit furthering the link between the Diocese of Norwich and the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea.

Sally made history in 1996 as the first female Church of England Chaplain to serve in the UK Armed Forces when she joined the Royal Navy. After moving to Norfolk in 2002 to become Rector of Gaywood, her military background naturally led to her involvement with the Royal British Legion.

Reflecting on her ministry, Canon Sally says: "Serving



as a Chaplain in two very different contexts offers many opportunities to come alongside people. As Bishop's Chaplain, I might be writing a bespoke prayer for the dedication of a new air ambulance or listening to a phone call from someone in distress. As RBL Chaplain, I could be dedicating a Branch Standard or visiting a veteran who is dying and wants to talk about concerns from the past. Chaplaincy has enabled me to bring together so many threads from my thirty-six years of ordained ministry."

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



Sunday 15 – Sunday next before Lent

O God our Creator,
like the collier digging underground
and the quarryman chiselling the face
of the slate, you are at work to discover
treasure in unexpected places. May
we produce something beautiful for
you, even from the darkness and the
coldness, that we may bring glory
to your name and for the sake of the
coming of your kingdom. Amen.

Monday 16 Aylsham & District Team Ministry

Aldborough, Aylsham, Badersfield,
Blickling, Brampton, Burgh-next-
Aylsham, Buxton with Oxnead,
Cawston, Haveringland, Heydon,
Itteringham, Lammas, Little
Barningham, Marsham, Oulton SS
Peter and Paul, Wickmere. Clergy:
Julie Boyd, Sally McCubbin, Andrew
Whitehead. LLMs: Kandi Kammoun,
Fiona Tibbitt. Aylsham St Michael's
Nursery & Infant, Cawston Primary.

For our Lenten journey together
as a team.

Diocese of Tennessee (USA)

Tuesday 17 Coltishall

Coltishall, Frettenham, Hainford,
Horstead, Stratton Strawless. Clergy:
Joanna Haywood. Hainford Primary.

For Frettenham church and
community as we seek to reopen the
church for worship.

Diocese of East Tennessee (USA)

Wednesday 18 Scarrowbeck – Ash Wednesday

Alby, Calthorpe, Erpingham, Ingworth,
Thwaite. Clergy: Heather Butcher. LLMs
Helen Burrell, Angela Parkes, Colin
Willis. Erpingham Primary.
Diocese of Terekeka (South Sudan)

Thursday 19 Reepham & Wensum Valley Team Ministry

Attlebridge with Alderford, Great with
Little Witchingham, Lyng, Reepham,
Salle, Swannington, Thurning, Weston
Longville w Morton-on-the-Hill, Wood
Dalling. Great Witchingham Primary.

Clergy: Nigel Kinsella to be parish
priest. LLM: Helena Crockford,

Jane McLarty. Lyng Primary.

Richard Turk, curate in charge of
parishes of Foulsham, Foxley, Lyng,
Elsing, Bawdeswell, Bylaugh, Sparham
and Themelthorpe.

Friday 20 The Heart of Norfolk Team Ministry

Billingford, Bintree, Guestwick, Guist,
North Elmham, Stibbard, Twyford,
Wood Norton, Worthing. Clergy: Sally
Kimmis, Richard Turk. LLM: Norman
Johnson. North Elmham Primary,
Stibbard Primary. Missionary Diocese
of Tete (Mocambique e Angola)

Saturday 21 Scottow

The Churchwardens and PCC during
the vacancy.

Territory of the People (Canada)

Sunday 22 First Sunday of Lent

Hear us, Jesus Christ, when we ask for help to recognise temptation, for honesty to face it, for strength to resist it and the humility to give God the glory. Amen.

Monday 23 Deanery of Loddon

Rural Dean: Rob Baker.
Lay Chair: Genny Godber.
Chaplain to Sheringham Little Theatre: Christian Heycocks.
Diocese of Texas (USA)

Tuesday 24 Bramerton Group Ministry (Rockland)

Bramerton, Carleton Saint Peter, Claxton, Kirby Bedon and Whitlingham, Rockland St Mary, Surlingham.
Clergy: Nick Garrard, Helen Garrard.
Liz Leaver as she is installed as Canon Pastor of Norwich Cathedral.
Diocese of Northwest Texas (USA)

Wednesday 25 Bramerton Group Ministry (Thurton)

Ashby, Bergh Apton, Framingham Pigot, Thurton, Yelverton.
Clergy: Chris Ellis.

Alpington & Bergh Apton Primary, Thurton Primary. Chaplain to Norwich International Airport: Rosemary Maskell.
Diocese of West Texas (USA)

Thursday 26 Chet Valley

Chedgrave, Hardley, Langley, Loddon, Sisland.
Clergy: Miriam Fife.
LLM: Belinda Barwick.
Chaplains at James Paget Hospital: Ecumenical team of Alan Palmer, Robert Soames, Peter Glanville, Marilyn Zipfel, Stephen Andrews, Peter Paine.
Diocese of Thika (Kenya)

Friday 27 Poringland

Framingham Earl, Howe, Poringland.
Clergy: Robert Parsonage, Rachel Foster, Kirsty Long.
Raise up people to serve and hearts to be convicted.
Diocese of Thoothukudi – Nazareth (South India)

Saturday 28 Venta Group

Arminghall, Caistor St Edmund, Stoke Holy Cross. Clergy: Rob Baker, Kirsty Long, Lyn Marsh.
Diocese of Tirunelveli (South India)



Please pray for the following benefices in vacancy at the time of writing the Winter 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

Archdeaconry of Norfolk

- Gunton, Corton and Hopton
- Redenhall w Scole
- Belton and Burgh Castle
- Kirkley
- Winfarthing and Upper Waveney
- Brooke
- Hempnall
- East Harling (East w West Harling, Bridgham with Roudham, Larling, Brettenham and Rushford)

Archdeaconry of Lynn

- Hunstanton & Saxon Shore
- Mattishall & Tudd Valley
- Middlewinch
- Launditch & The Upper Nar
- Walsingham, Houghton and Barsham
- Hempton
- Holkham with Warham, Wells next the Sea and Wighton
- Dereham & District (Team Vicar)
- The Fountain of Life (Associate Minister)
- Gaywood (Associate Priest)



The Bishops' Lent Appeal 2026

In 2026, the Bishop of Norwich's Lent Appeal will be raising money for bursaries for pupils at Martyrs School, an Anglican school in Papua New Guinea. There will be year on year funding until studies are completed.

In September 2025, the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher visited Papua New Guinea with a small group of people from the Diocese of Norwich. You can read more about their visit at: www.DofN.org/png-pilgrimage

More information on the Bishop's Lent Appeal will be available soon.

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