

Spring 2026

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Norwich

Prayer Diary

INCLUDES
Prayer requests
from clergy
across the Diocese
of Norwich



“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25 v 35,40

Photo: Year 6 pupils from
Stibbard All Saints CEVA Primary



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

Volunteers

At the early Holy Communion service in Norwich Cathedral, prayer requests from the previous day make up some of the intercessions. Recently these words of thankfulness were left:

“Dear God, please bless our benefice and the volunteers within it who so valiantly kept things going during our vacancy. I value their contributions, freely given.”

This spring, as we proclaim and live out the glorious Easter news of the risen Christ, our Prayer Diary focuses on volunteers.

Volunteers are the hands and feet of Jesus in Norfolk.

Thank you to everyone who offers practical or financial help, who prays, plans, cooks or cleans. Our inspirational volunteers include churchwardens, junior church leaders, lunch club co-ordinators, and many clergy too.

Thanks to those who faithfully unlock the physical doors to our multitude of glorious churches welcoming neighbours and strangers, and to all who unlock spiritual doors to faith by talking, listening and teaching.

When we meet to worship we call it a service. Service is not just the name of an event; service is at the heart of what we do for our neighbours and the wider community. At a church on Iona we were sent out with: “The worship has ended, now the service begins.”

Jesus tells us that when we give to others we are giving to him. “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:35,40)

+ *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 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 1 – Second Sunday of Lent

Come Holy Spirit, to all baptised in your name,
that we may turn to good whatever lies ahead
Give us passion, give us fire;
make us transform the world from what it is,
to what you have created it to be.
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 2 Deanery of Lothingland

Rural Dean: Helen Jary.
Lay Chair: Jane Tighe.
Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith (Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn).
Diocese of Toamasina (Indian Ocean)

Tuesday 3 Carlton Colville

Carlton Colville, Mutford
Clergy: Andrea Woods
LLM: Mark Ellis
For continued building of community relationships, a deepening of discipleship and growth in numbers. Giving thanks for those who serve as churchwardens.
Diocese of Tohoku (Nippon Sei Ko Kai)

Wednesday 4 Hemsby and Lound

Clergy: David Bailey.
Vergers and sacristans and those who prepare churches for worship.
Diocese of Tokyo (Nippon Sei Ko Kai)

Thursday 5 Hopton, Corton and Gunton

Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.
LLM: Jackie Makower.
Corton Primary, Hopton Primary.
Members of Parochial Church Councils and treasurers and secretaries.
Diocese of Toliara (Indian Ocean)

Friday 6 Kessingland

Gisleham, Kessingland, Rushmere.
Clergy: Natalie Rees.
Kessingland Primary.
For God to show us where and how to lovingly serve our communities.
Diocese of Tonj (South Sudan)

Saturday 7 Kirkley with Lowestoft St John

Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy.
People who clean and polish churches and who arrange and water flowers.
Diocese of Torit (South Sudan)

Sunday 8 – Third Sunday of Lent

Give us grace and courage to hope, and to risk disappointment. Teach us to pray expectantly, and when our prayers seem to fail, bring us to pray again and again; for you are our God, who acts, and will act again. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

Monday 9 Lowestoft Christ Church

Clergy: Jon Carter.

LLM: Peter Williams.

For God to grow our monthly prayer meetings to forty regularly attending. For organists, pianists and music groups.

Diocese of Toronto (Canada)

Tuesday 10 Lowestoft St Andrew

Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. LLM: Eileen McMurtry.

Diocese of Trichy-Tanjore (South India)

Wednesday 11 Lowestoft St Margaret

Clergy: Simon Stokes.

LLMs: Gerda Buckley, Sarah Spall.

For our community café and our work with Food In School Holidays (FISH) and that the emergency work to the church building is completed.

Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago (West Indies)

Thursday 12 Oulton Broad Team Ministry

Oulton, Oulton Broad.

Clergy: Helen Jary, Andy Bunter, Jamie Wyllie.

LLMs: Rob Newby, Deborah Anne Allsop, Jill Hunting, Fiona Usher, Harold Waterman.

For the Riding Lights production of a new Lent passion play 'Night Falls' at St Mark's on 25 March.

Diocese of Truro (England)

Friday 13 Pakefield

Clergy: Sharon Lord.

LLMs: Loretta Freeman, Trudie Jackson.

For our dedicated team of volunteers who run the Friday Lent Cafés.

Music makers, choirs, cantors and singers.

Diocese of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe (Ireland)

Saturday 14 Benefice of Somerleyton

Ashby, Blundeston, Fritton, Herringfleet, Somerleyton.

Clergy: Andrew Avery.

Blundeston Primary.

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

Diocese of Twik East (South Sudan)

Remarkable 56-year service of churchwarden and treasurer

When Anthonie Stilgoe and his wife moved to Burnham Market they joined their parish church. A few years later it needed a new churchwarden and treasurer.

“There was no-one else to do it and they were both jobs that someone had to do, so I thought it was my duty to offer my services,” said Anthonie, a tenant farmer for the Holkham estate.

That was 55 years ago.

This spring Anthonie, now 90, retires from his roles as churchwarden and treasurer of All Saints Sutton with Ulph.

Vicar the Revd Canon Malcolm Rogers said: “When I was a small child in 1970 my parents bought a cottage just opposite All Saints - and I knew Anthonie then as the church warden, and as father of one of my friends. In 2025 I became vicar of the benefice and Anthonie is still church warden and treasurer.



“He says that he is simply doing his duty, but he does that with faith in Christ, and with immense faithfulness, care and graciousness - in his love for the church, building and people. He, together with his wife 'Lyn, are two of the treasury of blessings God has given us.”

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



Sunday 15 – Fourth Sunday of Lent

God of unchangeable power, when you fashioned the world the morning stars sang together and the host of heaven shouted for joy; open our eyes to the wonders of creation and teach us to see all things for good, to the honour of your glorious name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday 16 Deanery of Lynn

Rural Dean: Karlene Kerr.
Residential meeting of Bishop's Staff.
Diocese of Udi (Nigeria)

Tuesday 17 Gayton, Grimston, Massingham and District Team Ministry

Ashwicken with Leziate, Bawsey and Mintlyn, Congham, East Walton, Gayton, Gayton Thorpe, Great Massingham, Grimston, Harpley, Little Massingham, Roydon.
Clergy: Josh Whitnall, Sue Martin.
LLM: Joy Smith. Ashwicken Primary, Gayton Primary, Great Massingham Primary, Harpley Primary.
Diocese of Northern Uganda (Uganda)

Wednesday 18 Gaywood

Clergy: Kyla Sorensen, Fiona Munn as she prepares to be licensed on 29 March. LLM: Daphne Sampson. For our new pioneer post, estates ministry, and flourishing together. Holy Communion Assistants in church and in homes.
Diocese of Ughelli (Nigeria)

Thursday 19 King's Lynn Saint Margaret with Saint Nicholas – King's Lynn Group

Clergy: Mark Dimond, Fiona Munn, Jon Price. LLMs: Vicki Price, Andrew Ward. People who operate audio visual systems.
Diocese of Ukwa (Nigeria)

Friday 20 Middlewinch

East Winch with West Bilney, Middleton, North Runcton, West Winch and Setchey. Churchwardens and PCC during the vacancy. Middleton Primary.
Diocese of Umuahia (Nigeria)

Saturday 21 South and West Lynn - King's Lynn Group

Clergy: Adrian Ling, Benjamin Almond. St Michael's (King's Lynn), Whitefriars Primary (King's Lynn). Meeting of Diocesan Synod. Te Pihopatanga o Te Upoko o Te Ika (Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia)

Sunday 22 – Fifth Sunday of Lent

Jesus, receive our love and worship.
 Show us how to give you what we have,
 for nothing is too big or too small for us to offer, or for you to use;
 for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
 one God for ever. Amen.

Monday 23 St John - King's Lynn Group

Clergy: Karlene Kerr, Julie Swinton.
 LLMs: Joyce Pitcher, David Osborne.
 Those who care for churchyards.
 Diocese of Uruguay (South America)

Tuesday 24 The Church in the Woottons

Clergy: Peter Farquhar.
 LLM: Margaret Ojelade.
 Diocese of Utah (USA)

Wednesday 25 Deanery of Norwich East

Rural Dean: Richard Stanton
 Lay Chair: Catherine Waddams.
 Diocese of Uyo (Nigeria)
 Archbishop Sarah to be enthroned in Canterbury Cathedral today.

Thursday 26 Colegate & Tombland Norwich

Clergy: Alaric Lewis, Annie Blyth, Melissa Snell.
 LLMs: Helen Grogutt, Kevin Mitchelson.
 People who bake cakes, make coffee and prepare refreshments.
 Diocese of Valparaiso (Chile)

Friday 27 Heartsease (Norwich)

Clergy: Julian Bryant.
 LLM: David Lechmere.
 The Open Academy.
 For the Holy Spirit to move, through our growing community at St Francis Church, into our local community in words, works and wonders.
 Diocese of Vanuatu (Melanesia)

Saturday 28 Lakenham Group (Norwich) Lakenham St Mark)

Clergy: Bruce-Julian Batstone.
 LLM: Paulette Yallop.
 Trustees of church charities.
 Diocese of Vellore (South India)



Come to the table

Christians are used to breaking bread together on a Sunday morning – but at All Saints Church, North Wootton, they share toast, crumpets, croissants, fruit, yogurt, cheese, eggs, muffins and coffee and tea.

Breakfast Church in North Wootton, near King's Lynn, begins with a buffet breakfast, followed by a bible story, told informally with visual props, and a craft activity.

It is run by volunteers Carol Holbrook, Janet Keir and Licensed Lay Minister Margaret Ojelade, who said:

“It’s for people of all ages who would like to experience church in a very relaxed and informal

way. I was inspired by Soul Food Edinburgh and their vision dealing with the marginalised and wanted one big table which we would all gather around and where anyone who came in would hopefully immediately feel part of a family, sharing a meal together and chatting.

“We don’t ask for donations towards the food because I want it to be our gift.

“People like the happy atmosphere, the companionship, and the food of course!”

Breakfast Church is fortnightly from 9-10am, before the 10.30am Holy Communion service.

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or visit:
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to read full article.



Sunday 29 – Palm Sunday Collect of the Day

Jesus, when you rode into Jerusalem the people waved palms with shouts of acclamation. Grant that when the shouting dies we may still walk beside you even to a cross; for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Monday 30 Lakenham Group

Clergy: Matthew Luscombe.

LLM: Gus Woodcock.

That we hear God's call as we find ways to serve our community.

For the renovations at St Paul's Tuckswood helping us serve, for our links with Tuckswood Academy and Edith Cavell School, Brownies and Rainbows. For ways of inviting younger people into church life.

All attending the Chrism Eucharist.

Diocese of Venezuela (Episcopal Church, USA)

Tuesday 31 Norwich Cathedral

Clergy: Andrew Braddock, Peter Doll, Aidan Platten, Liz Leaver.

For the Cathedral's pastoral ministry and Liz Leaver the new Canon Pastor.

Diocese of Vermont (USA).

Wednesday 1 St Andrew, Norwich

Clergy: Martin Young

For equipping and empowering to gather people to Christ.

All who lead house groups, bible studies and prayer gatherings.

Diocese of Victoria Nyanza (Tanzania)

Thursday 2 – Maundy Thursday St Giles, Norwich

Clergy: Alaric Lewis, Annie Blyth, Melissa Snell. LLM: Helen Grogutt.
Diocese of Virgin Islands (Episcopal Church, USA)

Infinite, intimate God;
this night you kneel before your friends and wash our feet.
Bound together in your love,
trembling, we drink your cup and watch. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

Friday 3 – Good Friday St Helen (Norwich)

Clergy: Julia Chamberlin.

Diocese of Virginia (USA)

Lord Jesus Christ,
crucified for us, we kneel at the foot of your cross to watch with you.
Help us to see the cost of our forgiveness so that we may be made new through your love; for the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Saturday 4 – Holy Saturday St Peter Mancroft (Norwich)

Clergy: Edward Carter, Fiona Haworth. LLMs: Gill Persicke, Catherine Waddams.

For the new debt advice charity '61.1' which we host and support.
All who are being confirmed at the Vigil service at Norwich Cathedral.
Diocese of Southern Virginia (USA)

Sunday 5 – Easter Sunday

Glorious Lord of Life, we praise you,
that by the mighty resurrection of
your Son,
you have delivered us from sin
and death and made your whole
creation new;
grant that we who celebrate
with joy
Christ's rising from the dead,
may be raised from the death of sin
to the life of righteousness;
for he lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever. Amen.

Monday 6 **St Stephen, Norwich**

Clergy: Heike Prentice.
LLMs: Dave Humphreys, Princess
Olufunke Abidemi Olugboji.
Fabric officers and those who look
after church buildings.
Diocese of Southwestern Virginia
(USA)

Tuesday 7 **Thorpe End**

Clergy: Ian Fifield.
LLM: Jenefer Barnard.
For guidance and creativity as
we seek ways to better serve our
parish.
Diocese of West Virginia (USA)

Wednesday 8 **Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich**

Clergy: Patrick Jordan.
Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk), Keith
(Norwich) and Catherine (Lynn).
Diocese of Wad Medani (Sudan)

Thursday 9 **Thorpe St Andrew, Norwich**

Thorpe Episcopi.
Clergy: James Stewart.
LLM: Linda Stone.
For completion of the churchyard
wall after several years of
fundraising and for the beginning
of the wedding season.
Diocese of Waiapu (Aotearoa, New
Zealand and Polynesia)

Friday 10 **Timberhill, Norwich**

Clergy: Richard Stanton.
Parish Safeguarding Officers.
Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki
(Aotearoa, New Zealand and
Polynesia)

Saturday 11 **Trowse, Norwich**

Clergy: Rosemary Braby.
LLM: Chris Sanham.
Te Pihopatanga o Te Waipounamu
(Aotearoa, New Zealand and
Polynesia)



**He is not here:
he has risen**

Matthew 28.6

Where sacred meets secular: balancing work and self supporting ministry

Written by Revd Michael Newey, Assistant Curate, Dereham and District Team Ministry and Group Chief Executive, Broadland Housing.

“It’s never too late to think about what God might want for our lives. We should always be ready to step out of our comfort zone if that’s where God leads us.

I was ordained a Deacon last June—a milestone on a journey that began nearly 45 years ago. Back then, I wondered if God was calling me to ministry, but at the time concluded my path lay elsewhere. I subsequently married Catherine; qualified as a chartered surveyor; and moved to Norfolk in 1997 to work in social housing – I still work full-time, with no plans to retire just yet. Catherine and I now have two adult children, Sarah and Tom.

During Covid, I felt God gently nudging me towards ordained ministry again. I became an Authorised Worship Assistant in



North Elmham, taking a more active role in leading services – a learning experience for both me and our church family.

God continued to nudge me and I restarted my journey through the discernment process, finally being supported for ordination training in June 2024.

My life now involves three main callings: being there for my family, working a full-time secular job, and serving as a Deacon in the Dereham District. Rather than competing with one another, these roles support each other and each one’s shown me a bit more about what it really means to live with purpose.

Scan the QR code
or visit:
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to read full article.



Sunday 12 – Second Sunday after Easter

O God, our beginning and our end:
accept our doubts,
heal our desire for certainty and,
by your Spirit's gentle touch,
make us a people forgiven and
forgiving;
through Jesus Christ, the Giver of
Peace. Amen.

Monday 13 Deanery of Norwich North

Rural Dean: Tim Yau.
Lay Chair: Nicola Burr.
Bellringers and those who teach
ringing.
Diocese of Wandí (South Sudan)

Tuesday 14 Drayton

Clergy: Marc Palmer.
Drayton Junior.
For our continued ministry with
the local schools, Drayton Infant
and Drayton Junior Cof E school.
Diocese of Wangaratta (Australia)

Wednesday 15 Hellesdon

Clergy: Sue Mann.
LLM: Milee Brambleby.
Everyone involved in fundraising.
Diocese of Wanglei (South Sudan)

Thursday 16 Horsford, Felthorpe and Hevingham

Clergy: Margaret McPhee.
LLM: Richard McPhee.
Horsford Primary.
For our volunteers who help with
welcome, refreshments, preparing
church buildings for services, flower
arranging, communications, and all
who lead and serve in our services.
Diocese of Wanyjok (South Sudan)

Friday 17 Horsham, Spixworth & Crosthwaite

Clergy: Rosemary Maskell.
St Faiths Primary (Horsham).
Chaplaincy to Norwich Airport.
For spiritual growth as we seek to
deepen our faith, and to reach out
to others.
Diocese of Warri (Nigeria)

Saturday 18 Mile Cross, Norwich

Clergy: Martin Hartley.
LLM: Lee Marsden.
Sidespeople and welcomers at
church services.
Diocese of Washington (USA)

Play to your strengths

Sparham is a Norfolk village with a relatively small population – a few hundred people – but one which has been blessed with a group of local residents who care deeply about their church.

The dedicated PCC for St Mary the Virgin do all they can to maximise engagement and fundraising potential; organising several events each year which routinely prove very popular.

PCC Members Judith Pryke and Fiona Sayer, alongside PCC Secretary Tracey Hughes, play a pivotal role in arranging fetes, art exhibitions, quizzes and much more – all with the goal of supporting the church's present and future.

“We always play to our strengths,” explains Judith. “Whether it's cooking, flower arranging or cleaning, everyone from the village who is willing and able to help can pitch in.”

Fiona credits Judith as being



integral to the process, due to her renowned organisational skills: “Every church needs that person who sparks these things into life. Judith's the one who organises everything and everyone – she's always sending out an email in the village when we need volunteers.”

Tracey adds that the team's priority is always to create a lasting positive memory for all those who visit the church or one of its events. “We don't try to do too much each year, we just make sure that everything we do is done well.”

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Sunday 19 – Third Sunday of Easter

Lord of the gathering feast,
you walk with us on the
shadowed road:
burn our hearts with Scripture's
open flame;
unveil our darkened eyes as bread
is torn and shared,
and from the broken fragments
bless a people for yourself;
through Jesus Christ, the host of
the world. Amen.

Monday 20 Old Catton

Clergy: David Hagan-Palmer.
LLM: Jo Mash.
Old Catton Junior.
Diocese of Wau (South Sudan)

Tuesday 21 Sprowston and North Norwich Team Ministry

New Catton, New Catton St Luke,
St Mary Magdalene, Sprowston.
Clergy: Carol Pritchard, Graham
Kirk-Spriggs, Tim Yau.
Lay Worker: Carrie Sant.
LLMs: Andrew Hudson, Stephanie
Grand, Margaret Gray.
Diocese of Wellington (Aotearoa,
New Zealand and Polynesia)

Wednesday 22 Taverham with Ringland

Clergy: Paul Seabrook, Stella Green,
Val Hooker, Gill Osborne,
Phil Charlesworth. LLMs: Ben Fiaz,
Frances Sanderson-Bates.
Taverham Junior.
Diocese of Wernyol (South Sudan)

Thursday 23 Deanery of Norwich South

Rural Dean: Graham Wilkins
Lay Chair: Sandra Isaac,
Roger Wood.
School Governors and those who
volunteer in our schools.
Diocese of Wiawso (West Africa)

Friday 24 Bowthorpe, Norwich

Clergy: Mark Elvin.
Cloverhill Infant & Nursery
(Bowthorpe), St Michael's Junior
(Bowthorpe).
Leaders of youth groups and
uniformed organisations.
Diocese of Willochra (Australia)

Saturday 25 Costessey

Clergy: James Pinto.
LLMs: Margaret Proudfoot, David
Thompson.

For us as we look to be a family
on mission, delighting together in
Jesus Christ.

Diocese of Winchester (England)

Sunday 26 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

O God, whose Son is the good shepherd, send us out as shepherds to seek the lost, to heal the injured and to nurture all with grace and compassion; through Jesus, who calls each by name. Amen.

Monday 27 Cringleford

Colney, Cringleford. Clergy: Graham Wilkins, Charlotte Eagles, John Wigfield.
LLMs: Shirley Wood, Tim Harle.
Cringleford Primary.
Meeting of Bishop's Staff.
Diocese of Windward Islands (West Indies)

Tuesday 28 Crossroads, Earlham

Clergy: Sam Lees, Ben Rogers.
For our continued ministry with local schools.
Bishops Graham (Norwich), Jane (Lynn), Ian (Thetford).
Diocese of Wondurba (South Sudan)

Wednesday 29 Eaton Christ Church, Norwich

Clergy: Patrick Richmond.
LLMs: John Harrison, Alistair Bolt.
For our growth in discipleship, service, invitation and welcome.
Diocese of Worcester (England)

Thursday 30 Eaton St Andrew, Norwich

Clergy: James Cook.
For growth in our work with young people.
Crucifers, acolytes and servers.
Diocese of Wulu (South Sudan)

Friday 1 Heigham Holy Trinity, Norwich

Clergy: Richard James, Alastair Gledhill.
LLMs: Jonathan Mason, Elizabeth Scott, Nigel Parfitt.
For our new Growing Younger Leaders course, for a new generation of gospel workers to be raised up from among them.
Diocese of Wusasa (Nigeria)

Saturday 2 Swardeston

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

Intergenerational volunteering – Stibbard

All Saints, Stibbard recently marked its 700th anniversary with a joyous community event which drew in attendees of all ages.

While the regular congregation today is smaller in number than back in 1325 when the first Rector of Stibbard was installed, the spirit of the dedicated volunteers continues.

Tireless PCC members including Susan Moore and Marian Dugdale, alongside AWA Colin Ferris and flower arranger Karen Rogers, form part of the team who ensure All Saints is a vibrant place to be.

Facebook adverts requesting support with routine maintenance jobs, a perpetual bring-and-buy sale to raise vital funds, visits to and from the local primary school to engage the next generation with church life, all contribute to a forward-looking approach that keeps the church central to village life.

Evidence of the relationship built with the local schoolchildren can be found in the Year 6 pupils who have twice



volunteered to clean the church!

“Many hands make light work,” Susan says, adding that the church is open 365 days a year to ensure access for all at those moments – happy or sad – “whenever people need God to be there”.

Volunteers include... a sole bellringer who tolls whenever called upon, several keen amateur gardeners who spruce up the churchyard and enthused local schoolchildren armed with dusters and brooms. By welcoming in and harnessing the skills of nearby residents, Stibbard is a shining example of volunteering at its best.

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Sunday 3 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
give us grace to love one another,
to search for truth and to walk in
the ways of justice and peace,
so that we may abide in the
Father's love always. Amen.

Monday 4 The Mitre

St Alban Lakenham, St Barnabas
Heigham w St Bartholomew,
St Thomas Heigham.
Clergy: Tom Eagles, Joanna Payne,
Adam Poole, Lucy Stone.
LLMs: Roxanne Rouse, Diana Timms.
Diocese of Yambio (South Sudan)

Tuesday 5 Deanery of Redenhall

Rural Dean: Chris Hutton.
Lay Chair: Jennie Vere.
Licensed Lay Ministers and
Authorised Worship Assistants
Diocese of Yangon (Myanmar)

Wednesday 6 Dickleburgh and the Pulhams

Dickleburgh, Pulham Market,
Pulham St Mary, Rushall, Starston,
Thelveton. Clergy: Carl Melville.
LLM: Gale Hodgkinson.
Dickleburgh Primary,
Pulham Primary.
Meeting of Rural Deans.
Diocese of Yei (South Sudan)

Thursday 7 Earsham Group, Ditchingham

Alburgh, Broome, Denton,
Ditchingham, Earsham, Hedenham.
Clergy: Chris Hutton.
LLMs: Christine Edwards, Philip
Edwards, Christopher Whipps.
Alburgh-w-Denton Primary,
Ditchingham Primary,
Earsham Primary.
Service to mark the 150th
Anniversary of Mothers' Union.
Diocese of Yeri (South Sudan)

Friday 8 Redenhall with Scole

Billingford, Brockdish, Needham,
Redenhall with Harleston and
Wortwell, Scole, Thorpe Abbotts.
The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
LLMs: Lynda Mansfield, John Taylor,
Jamie Worthington.
Harleston Sancroft, Scole Primary.
Diocese of Yewa (Nigeria)

Saturday 9 Diss

Clergy: Elizabeth Burren,
Peter Burren.
Diss Junior Academy,
Diocese of Yirol (South Sudan)

Sunday 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
whose gift to us is the Spirit of truth:
come, make your home with us,
so that, keeping your
commandments,
we may dwell with you
and the Father. Amen.

Monday 11 Diss villages

Bressingham, Burston, Fersfield,
Gissing, North Lopham, Roydon,
Shelfanger, South Lopham,
Tivetshall, Winfarthing.
Churchwardens and PCC during
the vacancy. LLM: Susan Drake.
All Saints Primary (Winfarthing),
St Andrew's Primary (Lopham).
Diocese of Yirrol (Nippon Sei Ko Kai)

Tuesday 12 Deanery of Repps, Cromer

Clergy: Will Warren.
LLMs: Susan Wells, David Masters.
For our building project, as we seek
to re-order the parish church so it
can better serve multi-use mission
and ministry.
Diocese of Yola (Nigeria)

Wednesday 13 Poppyland

Antingham, Northrepps,
Overstrand, Sidestrand, Southrepps,
Thorpe Market, Trimmingham.
Clergy: Sian Reading. LLMs: Tim
Bennett, Janet Payne, John Scott.
Overstrand The Belfry Primary.
Diocese of York (England)

Thursday 14 – Ascension Day Quintet

Aylmerton, Beeston Regis,
Gresham, Runton.
Clergy: Jeremy Sykes.
LLM: Pamela Thompson.
Archdeacons Steven (Norfolk),
Keith (Norwich), Catherine (Lynn).
Diocese of New York (USA)

Friday 15 Roughton

Felbrigg, Metton, Roughton.
(Under the care of neighbouring
benefices Gunton w Hanworth,
Bessingham, Sustead.
The Churchwardens and PCC
during the vacancy.
St Mary's Primary (Roughton).
Diocese of Western New York (USA)

Saturday 16 Sheringham

Clergy: Christian Heycocks,
Iain Grant, Christina Rees.
LLMs: Julie Rubidge, Angela Stewart.
For an ever expanding ministry of
welcome and inclusion.
Diocese of Ysabel (Melanesia)

Shannon – Gorleston Volunteering with a sense of place

Despite having spent her entire life in or nearby Gorleston, it was not until September 2024 that Shannon Bartram first stepped foot in the town's St Mary Magdalene church.

Initially crossing the threshold to access the local food bank, it took several months before she felt able to attend a service.

Despite deeply rooted uncertainties about whether the church was the place for her, it was the warmth of welcome provided by the team at St Mary Magdalene which convinced Shannon to set these misgivings aside.

She has never looked back. "I felt relief, I felt free, and I felt like I was at peace," she explains, reflecting on her decision to attend a Sunday service. So significant was the experience that she remembers the exact date: 6 April 2025.

Fast forward 12 months and Shannon, who was baptised in



the North Sea by the Bishop of Thetford last October, is now an integral member of the congregation and a passionate volunteer for the wide range of community groups run by the church.

Shannon's volunteering has now become her ministry; and she is supporting activities such as the food bank and weekly Open House community sessions, and has even trained as a barista so all visitors receive not only a warm welcome but also a delicious hot drink!

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



Sunday 17 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ ascended to glory at your side. Bring us together in Christ, so that all may be drawn into your bountiful dwelling where with Christ and the Spirit, you live united in love and joy. Amen.

Monday 18 Trunch Group

Gimingham, Knapton, Mundesley, Paston, Trunch with Bradfield and Swafeld.

Clergy: Sally Myers.

LLMs: Peter Clough, Andrea Lee.

For our expanding ministry team and vision for the future.

Meeting of Bishop's Staff.

Diocese of Yukon (Canada)

Tuesday 19 Deanery of St Benet at Waxham & Tunstead

Rural Dean: David Warner.

Lay Chair: Heather McEwen.

Bishops Graham (Norwich),

Jane (Lynn), Ian (Thetford).

Diocese of Zaki-Biam (Nigeria)

Wednesday 20 Coastal Group of Parishes

Bacton, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Lessingham and Eccles, Hickling, Ridlington, Sea Palling with Waxham, Walcott, Witton.

Clergy: Coryn Stanforth.

LLMs: Pam Millsted, Jeanette Boardman, John Prince.

Happisburgh Primary, Hickling Infant.

For growth in faith, discipleship and numbers.

Missionary Diocese of Zambezia (Mocambique e Angola)

Thursday 21 North Walsham, Edingthorpe, Worstead and Westwick

Edingthorpe, North Walsham, Westwick, Worstead.

Clergy: David Warner, Dan Krawczyk. Worstead Primary.

For continued working together, mutual support and for all volunteers.

Diocese of Central Zambia (Central Africa)

Friday 22 Smallburgh

Dilham, Honing, Smallburgh.

Clergy: Darleen Plattin, Andrew Bevan. LLM: Betty Lacey.

Diocese of Eastern Zambia (Central Africa)

Saturday 23 Stalham

Ingham, Stalham, Sutton.

Clergy: Darleen Plattin, Andrew Bevan.

LLMs: Mary Shepherd, Martyn Egerton. Sutton Infant.

Church sitters and key holders.

Diocese of Northern Zambia (Central Africa)

Sunday 24 – Pentecost

God of wind and flame,
send your life-giving Spirit upon
your people: give fire to our words,
strength to our witness
and boldness to our proclamation
of your wondrous work in Christ;
who, with you and the Spirit, lives
and reigns now and for ever. Amen.

Monday 25 **The United Benefice of** **King's Beck**

Felmingham, Skeyton, Colby,
Banningham, Tuttington, Suffield,
Sloley and Swanton Abbot.
Following the retirement of the Revd
David Chamberlin at the end of April,
please pray for the Churchwardens
and Ministry Team as they serve the
Benefice in the vacancy, and for the
process of appointing a new Rector
for King's Beck.
Diocese of Zanzibar (Tanzania)

Tuesday 26 **United Benefice of St** **Benedict**

Ashmanhaugh, Barton Turf,
Beeston St Lawrence, Horning,
Irstead, Neatishead.
Clergy: Ben Bradshaw.
LLM: Pauline Simpson.
Neatishead Primary.
For our 'Church in the Sun'
outreach event to young people.
Diocese of Zaria (Nigeria)

Wednesday 27 **Waterside Group**

Catfield, Ludham, Potter Heigham.
Clergy: Gary Noyes.
LLMs: Rosalind Bingham,
Judith Gardiner. Catfield Primary.
For our Benefice as we continue to
develop ways of bringing the love
of Christ to our part of the Norfolk
Broads - especially giving thanks
for our local teams of volunteers!
Diocese of Central Zimbabwe
(Central Africa)

Thursday 28 **Wroxham with Hoveton** **Saint John with Hoveton** **Saint Peter, Belaugh and** **Tunstead with Sco' Ruston**

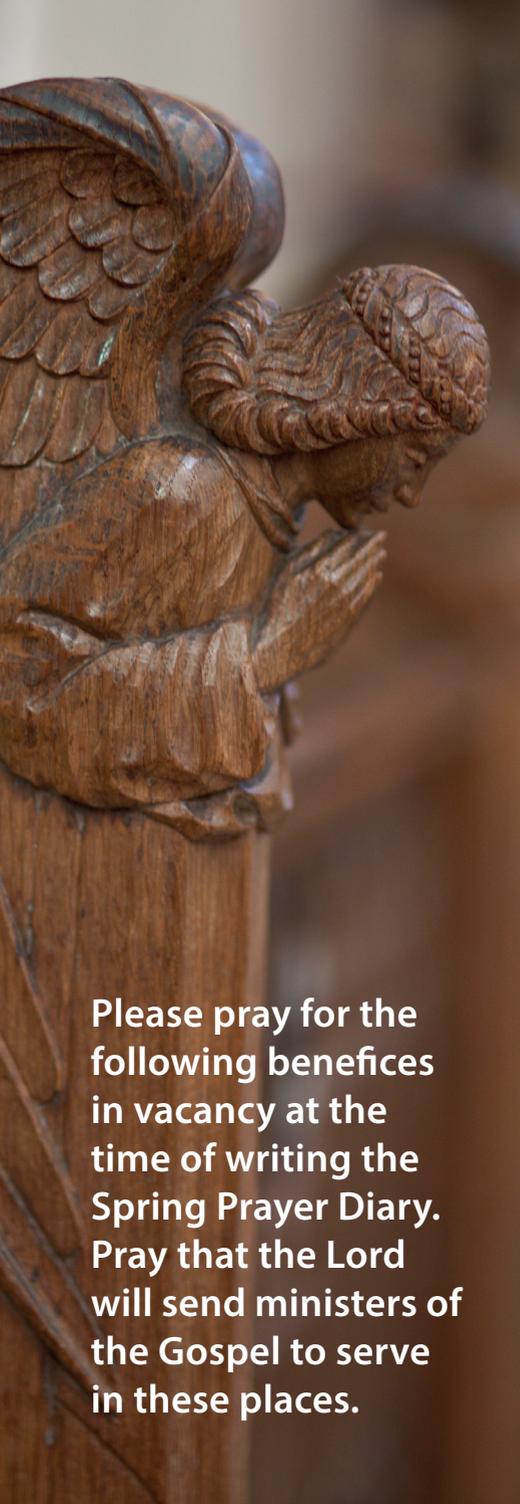
Clergy: Liz Jump.
Tower keepers and clock winders.
Diocese of Ziwa Rukwa (Tanzania)

Friday 29 **Deanery of Thetford and** **Rockland**

Rural Dean: Matthew Jackson.
Lay Chair: Peter Lotarius.
Diocese of Zonkwa (Nigeria)

Saturday 30 **Attleborough with** **Besthorpe**

Clergy: Matthew Jackson,
Andrew Slater.
LLMs: Brenda Greig, Jane Minchin.
For generous giving and wise
stewardship.
Diocese of Zululand (Southern Africa)



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

Archdeaconry of Norfolk

- Gunton, Corton and Hopton
- Belton and Burgh Castle
- Kirkley
- East Harling (East w West Harling, Bridgham with Roudham, Larling, Brettenham and Rushford)
- Lowestoft St Andrew

Archdeaconry of Lynn

- Hunstanton & Saxon Shore
- Middlewinch
- Launditch & The Upper Nar
- Walsingham and Hempton
- Holkham with Warham, Wells next the Sea and Wighton
- Dereham & District (Team Vicar)
- Cromer (Associate Minister)

A prayer by St Teresa of Avila
(1515–1582)

Christ has no body but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours,
yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world,
yours are the feet with which he
walks to do good,
yours are the hands,
with which he blesses all the world.
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
no hands, no feet on earth but yours,
yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

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If you have any questions, please email
hello@dioceseofnorwich.org or phone **01603 880853**

Editorial Team: Rowan Mantell, Elizabeth Humphries,
David Styles, The Revd Canon Sally Theakston