

NOTES:

Where parochial links are known to exist the names of overseas workers are placed immediately after the appropriate parish. Further information concerning overseas dioceses, including the names of bishops, is contained in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, available on their website www.anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer.aspx

ABBREVIATIONS:

A Assistant Clergy; AAD Assistant Area Dean; AC Associate Priest/Minister; AD Area Dean; AM Assistant Minister; AR Associate Rector; AV Associate Vicar; AYO Area Youth Officer, BMO Bishop's Mission Order; BP Bishop; CA Church Army; CIC Curate in Charge; CHP Chaplain; EVN Evangelist; HT Head Teacher; LLM Licensed Lay Minister; MCD Minister of Conventional District; MIC Minister in Charge; PEV Provincial Episcopal Visitor; PIC Priest in Charge; PP Public Preacher; R Rector; RD Rural Dean; Rdes Rector designate; RDR Reader; PTO Permission to Officiate; RES Residuary Canon; Sr Sister, TM Team Ministry; TR Team Rector; TV Team Vicar; V Vicar; Vdes Vicar designate; WDN Warden.



Follow our daily prayers on Twitter @chelmsdio #chelmsdio_cop and on our website www.chelmsford.anglican.org/wepray.

The contribution of Mrs Jenny Robinson to compiling the prayers in WEPRAY is gratefully acknowledged.

CONTACT:

To contact us about the distribution of or items for WEPRAY, please email wepray@chelmsford.anglican.org. To have WEPRAY delivered to your inbox, sign up to our e-bulletin at www.chelmsford.anglican.org/media/e-bulletins.



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford



The Diocesan Office, 53 New Street, Chelmsford, CM1 1AT
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WEPRAY

DEC 21 - FEB 22

Praying for each other in Essex & East London



Chelmsford Diocese Prayer Diary

#chelmsdioprayers

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December

“Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at his disposition, and listening to His voice in the depths of our hearts”.
Mother Teresa

Wed 1 World Aids Day

Calendar of Saints: Charles de Foucauld, Hermit, 1916

Pray for: The Deanery of Dunmow & Stansted

Area Dean: Helen Pelly. Lay Chair: Belle Beszant.

Chaplain: Janet Nicholls (Agricultural).

Pray for: The Diocese of Ifo East

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Thu 2

Pray for: The South Rodings: Abbess Roding (St Edmund), Beauchamp Roding (St Botolph), White Roding (St Martin), Leaden Roding (St Michael)
Clergy: Robert Stone (PIC), Tim Goodbody (AC), Gary Fleming (A).

Felsted (Holy Cross) and Little Dunmow (St Mary the Virgin)

Clergy: Colin Taylor (V). Reader: Joanna Pratt.

Felsted School: Nigel Little (CHP)

Pray for: The Diocese of Ifo (The Church of Nigeria

[Anglican Communion])

Fri 3

Calendar of Saints: Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552

Pray for: Broxton w Chickney (St Mary Vn) and Tilty (St Mary Vn) and Great Easton (St John & St Giles) and Little Easton
Clergy: Susan Hurley (PIC), Josephine Wood (A).

Great Easton School: Claire Jackman (HT).

Great Bardfield (St Mary Vn) and Little Bardfield (St Katharine)

Clergy: Alex Shannon (PIC), Josephine Wood (A).

Pray for: The Diocese of Igbomina

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

The View

Keep up to the date the latest news, resources and events from across our diocese by signing up to our weekly newsletter – The View.



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Tue 22 **Pray for:** Nazeing (All Saints w St Giles) Clergy: Vacancy (PIC).

Roydon (St Peter) Clergy: Richard Attew (PIC).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Mount Kenya Central
(The Anglican Church of Kenya)*

Wed 23 **Calendar of Saints: Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155**

Pray for: Church Langley Clergy: Vacancy (V).

Licensed Lay Minister: Lis Scott.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Mount Kenya South (The Anglican Church of Kenya)*

Thu 24 **Pray for:** The retired Clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Harlow.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Mount Kenya West (The Anglican Church of Kenya)*

Fri 25 **Pray for: The Deanery of Havering**

Area Dean: Ken Wylie. Lay Chair: Lynne Bennett. Assistant Area Dean: Amanda Keighley. Chaplain: Lara Dose (Romford Town Centre).

Pray for: *The Diocese of East Kerala (The [United] Church of South India)*

Sat 26 **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

In prayer there is something about simply being present and paying attention. But also something about desire. Desire is a big word in the Christian tradition – crucially desire as something rooted not in our emotions but in the intention of the heart. I stand before God in good times and in bad; in fine weather and on a dark stormy night. I stand before God even when I have no words, when I am distracted, when God seems far away or absent all together.

Pray for: *The Diocese of South Kerala (The [United] Church of South India)*

Sun 27 **THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT**

Please pray for the success of the Bishop's Appeal this year; that people may be moved to give generously.

Pray for: *The Anglican Church of Kenya*

Mon 28 **Pray for:** Cranham (All Saints) Clergy: Marion Williams (R). Penny Brooks (A).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kericho (The Anglican Church of Kenya)*

Sat 4 **Calendar of Saints: John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher of the Faith, c.749
Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637**

A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall

“Be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46.10) is endlessly quoted out of context as if it were an invitation to ease and gentleness.

In fact the psalm speaks of something quite different: it is an invitation to be still in the context of awe and battle and uproar, more like the silence just before the big dipper begins its descent.

Silence in the Bible and Christian tradition is like flowers blooming in a dry garden (to paraphrase Teresa of Avila), or the barren valley of Psalm 84 where we find a spring of water. It is a silence like Jacob's night-time fight at Peniel in Genesis 32. It is the strange, anticipatory silence of heaven in Revelation 8. And it is the silence of Jesus' early morning vigils, his desert journey and above all of Gethsemane and the cross.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Igbomina
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sun 5 **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Pray for all who work in radio or television, the work of Premier Radio, and all stations relating to the Diocese.

Pray for: *the Anglican Church of Burundi.*

Mon 6 **Calendar of Saints: Nicolas, Bishop of Myra, c.326**

Pray for: Great Dunmow (St Mary Vn) w Barnston (St Andrew) Clergy: Thomas Warmington (PIC), Elsie Bouffler (A).

St Mary's Primary School: Clare Griffiths (HT).

Great Canfield (St Mary Vn) w High Roding (All Saints) and Aythorpe Roding (St Mary Vn) Clergy: Robert Stone (PIC), Tim Goodbody (AC), Gary Fleming (A).

ALSO: High Easter (St Mary Vn) and Good Easter (St Andrew) w Margaret Roding (St Margaret of Antioch) Clergy: Robert Stone (PIC), Tim Goodbody (AC), Gary Fleming (A).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ihiala
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Tue 7 Calendar of Saints: Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397

Pray for: Stebbing (St Mary Vn) & Lindsell (St Mary Vn) w Great Saling (St James) and Little (Bardfield) Saling (St Peter & St Paul)

Clergy: Susan Hurley (PIC), Ian Elliott (AC), Helen Pelly (AC), Josephine Wood (A). Licensed Lay Minister: Kate Green, Paul Green, Nigel Warren.
Reader: Catherine Elliott

Takeley (Holy Trinity) w Little Canfield (All Saints)

Clergy: Colin Fairweather (PIC). Licensed Lay Minister: Hugh Mascetti.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ijebu*

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Wed 8**Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ember Day**

Stansted Mountfitchet (St John) w Birchanger (St Mary Vn) & Farnham (St Mary Vn) Clergy: Colin Fairweather (PIC), Helen Flack (A).

St Mary's School, Stansted: Matthew Curzon (HT).

The Retired clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Dunmow and Stansted.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ijebu - North*

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Thu 9 The Deanery of Harwich

Pray for: Area Dean: Vacancy. Lay Chair: John Baker.
Terry Walker (CHP, St Helena Hospice).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ijebu South West*

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Fri 10 Ember Day

Pray for: Dedham (St Mary Virgin) and Ardleigh (St Mary the Virgin)
Clergy: Vacancy (PIC).

Dedham School: David Larner (HT). St Mary's School,
Ardleigh: Donna Parker (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ijesha North East*

(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Thu 17 Calendar of Saints: Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr, 1977

Pray for: Latton (St Mary) Clergy: Lynn Hurry (V), Malcolm Green (AC),
Beth Joss-Pothen. Licensed Lay Minister: Piers Northam.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Katanga*

(Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo)

Fri 18 Pray for: Hatfield Broad Oak (St Mary Vn) w Bush End (St John the

Evangelist) Clergy: Dawn Jewson (PIC), David Herrick (AC),
Rebecca Challis (A).

St Mary's CE Primary School: Sonia Strickland (Executive HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Katsina (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sat 19 A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall

Mother Teresa of Calcutta lived for most of her adult life with darkness and absence as her near-constant experience in prayer, but she found a way of using even this as a springboard for her work. I'd simply observe that most of us will spend some part of our journey in the desert, and that we are very likely to learn something more about who we really are and to learn how to love God not for anything we might gain from God but for God's own sake. That's better put by John of the Cross - that we learn to love the God of consolations rather than the consolations of God.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kebbi (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sun 20 THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Fairtrade Fortnight starts tomorrow until 6 March. Pray for fairness and justice in our trading system globally, for fair prices for producers and a wide perspective for consumers in the impact of their choices. Give thanks for the Fairtrade Movement, and local initiatives in our diocese which highlight fair-trade products and raise debate about economic justice for all.

Pray for: *The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East*

Mon 21 Fairtrade Fortnight begins

Pray for: Hatfield Heath (Holy Trinity) w Sheering (St Mary Vn)
Clergy: Dawn Jewson (PIC), David Herrick (AC), Rebecca Challis (A).

Sheering CE Primary School: Lorna Brittain (HT).

Staple Tye (St James) Clergy: Christian Okeke (PIC).

St James' CE Primary School: Belynda Fellowes (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kentucky (The Episcopal Church)*

Sat 12 A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall

There is an umbilical connection between worship and prayer and how we live our lives. Worship and prayer are the primary means by which our lives are shaped by the love of God. Worship teaches us how to live.

Maybe that was easier when we lived in more settled, coherent communities, where work was important but not overwhelming, and patterns of Christian worship shaped the week and the year both at home and in church. But a renewal in prayer today is the only real foundation for the renewal of the church in mission and service.

Pray for: The Diocese of Karnataka North (The[United] Church of South India)

Sun 13 THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Racial Justice Sunday: Today is an opportunity to reflect on the importance of racial justice, to give thanks for human diversity, and pray for an end to misunderstanding, racism and injustice.

Pray for: the Nippon Sei Ko Kai

Mon 14 Calendar of Saints: Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869 and 885 Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269

Pray for: Harlow Town Centre (St Paul w St Mary), Little Parndon TM
Clergy: Martin Harris (AD, TR), Jokey Poynz (TV), Nathan Joss-Pothen (A) Ann Keeble (A). Reader: Peter Smith.

Pray for: The Diocese of Karnataka South (The[United] Church of South India)

Tue 15 Calendar of Saints: Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045 Thomas Bray, Priest, Founder of SPCK and SPG , 1730

Pray for: Great Parndon (St Mary) Clergy: Richard Attew (PIC).

Pray for: The Diocese of Kasai (Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo)

Wed 16 Pray for: Tye Green (St Stephen) w Netteswell (St Andrew) Clergy: Darren McIndoe (PIC), Christian Okeke (AC), Sophie Weller (A). Licensed Lay Minister: Karen Swanton.

William Martin CE Infant & Nursery School: Claire Kearney (HoS) and Gina Bailey (Exec. HT).

William Martin CE Junior School: Claire Kearney (HoS) and Gina Bailey (Exec. HT).

Pray for: The Diocese of Katakwa (The Anglican Church of Kenya)

Sat 11 Ember Day**A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

John Wesley used to refer to the Eucharist as a 'converting ordinance' – he saw it as the key evangelistic service, and even timed his meetings and sermons so that new Christians could go to the Eucharist at the Anglican parish church at least at Christmas and Easter.

In many churches today it would be hard to see how on earth the Eucharist could be a converting ordinance, perhaps above all because over the last 100 years we have gradually transformed it into a meal for insiders, rather than a sacrament of God's kingdom for the world.

It may not be the Eucharist that is a barrier to evangelisation, but the way in which we celebrate it.

Pray for: The Diocese of Ijesha North (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Sun 12 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Pray for the Church of England Guild of Vergers and give thanks for the work and devotion of the men and women who carry out this important task.

Pray for: The Anglican Church of Canada

Mon 13 Calendar of Saints: Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304 Samuel Johnson, Moralists, 1784

Pray for: Harwich Peninsula Team Ministry: Dovercourt (All Saints) & Parkeston (St Paul), Harwich (St Nicholas), Ramsey (St Michael) w Little Oakley (St Mary Vn) Clergy: Margaret Shaw (TR), Claire Scargill (AC). Licensed Lay Minister: John Shaw, Sioux Thorpe. Reader: John Wallace.

All Saints School, Dovercourt: Samantha Moseley (HT).

Two Village School, Ramsey/Little Oakley: Natasha Bennett (HT).

Pray for: The Diocese of Ijumu (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Tue 14 Calendar of Saints: John of the Cross, Poet, Teacher of the Faith, 1591

Pray for: Great Oakley (All Saints) w Wix (St Mary) & Wrabness (All Saints), Tendring (St Edmund), and Beaumont-cum-Moze (St Leonard)
Clergy: Vacancy (V), Laura Garnham (AC), Kirsty Emerson (A).

All Saints School, Great Oakley: Aaron Battersby (HT).

Lawford (St Mary) w Little Bentley (St Mary Vn) and The Bromleys (St George, St Mary Vn) Clergy: Vacancy (V), Sally Morris (AC).

Lawford School: Abbie Fairbairn (HT).

St George's School, Great Bromley: Rebecca Keitch (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikara
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Wed 15 Pray for: Mistley w Manningtree (St Mary and St Michael) w Bradfield (St Lawrence) Clergy: Dominic Turner (R), John Brien (AC).

Mistley Norman School: Mark Carter-Tufnell (HT).

The Retired Clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Harwich.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikeduru
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Thu 16 The Deanery of Saffron Walden

Pray for: Area Dean: Jeremy Trew. Lay Chair: Graham Cook.
Assistant Area Dean: Margaret Davis.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikka (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Fri 17 Calendar of Saints: O Sapientia

Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save the Children', 1928

Pray for: Icknield Way Villages: Great Chishill (St Swithun), Little Chishill (St Nicholas), Chrishall (Holy Trinity), Elmdon (St Nicholas), Strehall (St Mary Vn), Heydon (Holy Trinity), Duddenhoe End (The Hamlet Church)
Clergy: Anand Sodadasi (R). Licensed Lay Minister: Shaila Sodadasi.

Chrishall School: Tracey Bratley (Executive HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikwere
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sun 6 THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

ACCESSION OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II, 1952

Thank God for our Diocesan links with other parts of the world.
Pray for understanding and love between all people of faith.

Pray for: *The Church of Ireland*

Mon 7 Pray for: The retired Clergy, Readers, and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Epping Forest and Ongar.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Karachi (The (United) Church of Pakistan)*

Tue 8 Pray for: The Deanery of Harlow

Area Dean: Martin Harris. Lay Chair: Jane Potter.
Chaplains: Christian Okeke and Gillian Newman
(Princess Alexandra Hospital NHS Trust).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Karamoja (The Church of the Province of Uganda)*

Wed 9 Pray for: Great Hallingbury (St Giles) & Little Hallingbury (St Mary Vn) Clergy: David Herrick (PIC), Dawn Jewson (AC), Rebecca Challis (A).
Licensed Lay Minister: Caroline Harding.

Little Hallingbury CE Primary School: Sonia Strickland (Executive HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of North Karamoja
(The Church of the Province of Uganda)*

Thu 10 Calendar of Saints: Scholastica, sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola, c.543

Pray for: Harlow (St Mary & St Hugh w St John the Baptist)
Clergy: Sarah Swift (V).

Harlow Churchgate CE Primary School: Jonathan Tye (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Karimnaga (The [United] Church of South India)*

Fri 11 Pray for: Harlow (St Mary Magdalene) Clergy: James Rodley (V), Garry Neave (AC).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Karnataka Central
(The [United] Church of South India)*

Tue 1 **Calendar of Saints: Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c.525**

Pray for: Fyfield (St Nicholas), Moreton (St Mary Vn), Bobbingworth (St Germain) & Willingale (St Christopher) w Shellow and Berners Roding
Clergy: Christine Hawkins (PIC).

Dr Walker's CE Primary School: Llewellen Lawson (HT).

Moreton CE Primary School: Nikki Batt (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kansas (The Episcopal Church)*

Wed 2 **Pray for:** High Laver (All Saints) w Magdalen Laver (St Mary Magdalene) w Little Laver (St Mary Vn) and Matching (St Mary Vn) w Matching Green (St Edmund) Clergy: Christine Hawkins (PIC).

Matching Green CE Primary School: Amy Wareham (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Western Kansas (The Episcopal Church)*

Thu 3 **Calendar of Saints: Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark & Sweden, 865**

Pray for: High Ongar (St Mary) w Norton Mandeville (All Saints)
Clergy: Stuart Gibbs (PIC).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kanyakumari (The [United] Church of South India)*

Fri 4 **Calendar of Saints: Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order, 1189**

Pray for: North Weald (St Andrew) Clergy: Lee Batson (PIC).

St Andrew's CE Primary School: Katie Henson (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kapoeta (The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan)*

Sat 5 **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

The Christian tradition tells us that the journey to God is through (not in spite of) the rough stuff of our human being. Sin does not make us incapable of God or make us forfeit his love.

After all the entire narrative shape of the Old Testament tells us that clearly enough. No. We are just broken people on a journey of healing; broken communities in need of grace. Jacob going on his way limping and yet made whole.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kapsabet (The Anglican Church of Kenya)*

Sat 18 **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

Everyone who prays experiences distraction in prayer. Libraries of books have been written about distraction. The best advice is not to be too concerned - to recognise it for what it is and move on. Try not to listen too much to the noise it makes. But also, do not be discouraged.

Henri Nouwen, a writer who has helped many on the journey of faith, used to set aside an hour for silence every day. When people asked him about this practice, he said very honestly that he often fell asleep, thought about dinner, or simply daydreamed. Just being there was enough.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikwo (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sun 19 **THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Please pray for the members of the Guild of Servants of the Sanctuary, and the Company of Servers, and all people who serve Christ at the altar.

Pray for: *The Church of the Province of Central Africa*

Mon 20 **Pray for:** Saffron Walden and Villages Team Ministry: Saffron Walden, Wendons Ambo (St Mary Vn), Littlebury (Holy Trinity), Ashdon (All Saints), Hadstock (St Botolph), Debden (St Mary Vn), Wimbish w Thunderley (All Saints), Great Chesterford (All Saints) and Little Chesterford (St Mary Vn) Clergy: Jeremy Trew (AD, TR), Caroline Curren (TV), Alex Jeewan (TV), John Saxon (TV). Licensed Lay Minister: Marisa Baltrock, Tracey Nicholls.

St Mary's School, Saffron Walden: Mr Chris Jarman (HT).

Debden School: Matthew Hawley (HT).

Great Chesterford Primary Academy: Sarah Mitchell (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ikwuano (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Tue 21 **Pray for:** Thaxted (St John and St Laurence); The Sampfords (St Mary Virgin, St Michael) and Radwinter (St Mary Virgin) with Hempstead (St Andrew) Clergy: Vacancy (R), Susannah Lacon (A).

Licensed Lay Minister: Charles Scott. Reader: Adrian Wright.

Radwinter School: Emily Bartram (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ilaje (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Wed 22 **Pray for:** Clavering (St Mary & St Clement) and Langley (St John Ebn) w Arkesden (St Mary Vn) and Wicken Bonhunt (St Margaret); Manuden (St Mary Vn) and Berden (St Nicholas). Clergy: Margaret Davies (AAD, V), Henham (St Mary Vn) and Elsenham (St Mary Vn) w Ugley (St Peter). Clergy: Vacancy (V).

Elsenham School: Linda Todd (HT).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ile-Oluji
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Thu 23 **Pray for:** Newport (St Mary Vn) w Widdington (St Mary Vn), Quendon (St Simon & St Jude) w Rickling (All Saints) Clergy: Vacancy (V). Licensed Lay Minister: Andrea Harrison.

Rickling School: Hannah Wheatcroft (HT).

The Retired Clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Saffron Walden.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ilesa
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Fri 24 **Christmas Eve**

Pray for: The Deanery of St Osyth

Area Dean: Laurie Bond. Lay Chair: Wendy King
Ten Penny Villages: Alresford (St Andrew) and Frating w Thorrington (St Mary), Elmstead (St Anne and St Laurence).
Clergy: Andrew Fordyce (R), Pauline Hart (AC), Tim Solosy (A).

Brightlingsea (All Saints w St James). Clergy: Caroline Beckett (V).
Licensed Lay Minister: Catherine Graham.

Clacton (St James). Clergy: Justin Hutcherson (V), Mark Oliver (AC), Louise Oliver (A).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Ilesa South West
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sat 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY - NATIVITY OF OUR LORD**

**"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."
(John 1:14)**

Pray for: *the Peace of Jerusalem and the People of Bethlehem and for
The Diocese of North East India (The [United] Church of North India)*

Thu 27 **Pray for:** Loughton (St Michael & All Angels)
Clergy: Lydia Pettit (V); Mark Pettit (AC), Elizabeth Price (AC).

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kajo-Keji
(The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan)*

Fri 28 **Calendar of Saints: Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Philosopher,
Teacher of the Faith, 1274**

Pray for: Blackmore (St Laurence) w Stondon Massey (St Peter and St Paul)
Clergy: Sam Brazier-Gibbs (V). Licensed Lay Minister: Gail Hughes.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kamango
(Province de L'Eglise Anglicane Du Congo)*

Sat 29 **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

The link in the Christian tradition between silence and pastoral ministry is clear enough. John Wesley spent a minimum of an hour in silence each day, and Martin Luther says "I am so busy at the moment that I have to spend an extra hour each day in prayer."

Most intriguingly perhaps Dietrich Bonhoeffer insisted that each day at the underground seminary at Finkenwald began with an hour of corporate silence. Bible and tradition suggest that silence is part of practicing Christianity, fundamental to sustaining ministry and the place where discipleship begins to go deeper.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kampala (The Church of the Province of Uganda)*

Sun 30 **PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE (CANDLEMAS)
[THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY]**

**Let the flame of your love never be quenched in our hearts, O Lord.
Waking or sleeping, living or dying, let us delight in your presence.
Let the flame of your love brighten our souls and illumine our path,
and let the majesty of your glory be our joy, our life and our strength
now and for ever. Amen (Johann Arndt, 1555-1621)**

Pray for: *the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean*

Mon 31 **Calendar of Saints: John Bosco, Priest,
Founder of the Salesian Teaching Order, 1888**

Pray for: Chipping Ongar (St Martin) w Shelley (St Peter); Greensted juxta Ongar (St Andrew); Stanford Rivers (St Margaret) Clergy: Noelle Taylor (R), Neil Taylor (AC), Jane Quinton (A). Licensed Lay Minister: Shirley Dudeney.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Kano (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Sat 22 Calendar of Saints: Vincent of Saragossa, Deacon, Martyr, 304**A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

Some words from Gregory the Great: It is vital that Christian leaders when occupied with exterior matters should not lessen their solicitude for the inner life, and by the same token, when occupied with their inner life should not relax their watch on exterior concerns.

Otherwise, by being engrossed in the pressing duties that assail a leader, they will experience an interior collapse; or by being preoccupied with the things that concern the inner life, they will end up neglecting their external duties to their neighbours.

Pray for: The Diocese of Kaduna (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Sun 23 THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Please pray for the Spiritual Direction Co-ordinating Group and all who minister as Spiritual Directors.

Pray for: Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

Mon 24 Calendar of Saints: Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, Teacher of the Faith, 1274

Pray for: Loughton (St Mary Vn) Clergy: Malcolm Macdonald (V), Steve Opie (A). Readers: Pat Laker, Brenda Miller.

Pray for: The Diocese of Kafanchan (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Tue 25 THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

Pray for: The Theydon Parishes: Theydon Bois (St Mary Vn), Theydon Garnon (All Saints), Stapleford Tawney St Mary the Virgin w Theydon Mount St Michael Clergy: John Fry (V), Carol Newnham (AC).

Pray for: The Diocese of Kagera (The Anglican Church of Tanzania)

Wed 26 Calendar of Saints: Timothy and Titus, Companions of Paul

Pray for: Waltham Abbey TM: Waltham Abbey (Holy Cross & Ninefields St Lawrence), High Beach (Holy Innocents), Upshire (St Thomas) Clergy: Peter Smith (TR), Jane Yeadon (TV), Jane Begley (AC), Trevor Scott (AC), Joyce Smith, (AC).

High Beech School: Sarah Roffey (HT).

Hillhouse School: Jo Willcox (HT).

Pray for: The Diocese of Kajiado (The Anglican Church of Kenya)

Sun 26 THE FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (OR ST STEPHEN, DEACON, FIRST MARTYR)

Pray for the staff of the Cathedral, the events to be held there and for all those who will visit during 2022. Give thanks, too, for all who generously give of their time as volunteers.

Pray for: Christians in other denominations and the work of the ecumenical movement: His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome; His All Holiness Archbishop Bartholomew of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch; The Revd Prof. Dr Ioan Sauca, Interim General Secretary of the World Council of Churches; Bishop Ivan Abrahams, General Secretary, World Methodist Council; and The Revd Chris Ferguson, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

Pray for: The Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America

Mon 27 ST JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST

Pray for: Clacton (St Paul). Clergy: David Lower (PIC).

Frinton (St Mary Magdalene). Clergy: Don Smith (R), Laurie Bond (AC). Licensed Lay Minister: Malcolm Bryden, Maggie Wilson.

Pray for: The Diocese of Northern Indiana (The Episcopal Church)

Tue 28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS

Pray for: Great Clacton (St John the Baptist) Clergy: Mark Mulryne (V), Ti Chase (A). Great Clacton C of E Junior School: Karen Jones (HT).

Holland-on-Sea (St Bartholomew) Clergy: Vacancy (PIC), David Lower (AC), Susan Wiggins (AC).

Pray for: The Diocese of Indianapolis (The Episcopal Church)

Wed 29 Calendar of Saints: Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1170

Pray for: Kirby-Le-Soken (St Michael), Great Holland (All Saints) Clergy: Mark Holdaway (R)

St Osyth (St Peter & St Paul) w Great Bentley (St Mary Vn) Sharon Miles (V). Reader: Wendy King.

Pray for: The Diocese of Iowa (The Episcopal Church)

Thu 30 **Pray for:** Thorpe-le-Soken (St Michael) Clergy: Vacancy (V).
 Thorpe-le-Soken Rolph School: Karen Jones (Executive HT).
 Walton-le-Soken (All Saints) Clergy: Peter Edwards (R).
Pray for: *The Diocese of Iran*
(The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East)

Fri 31 **Calendar of Saints: John Wyclif, Reformer, 1384**
Pray for: Weeley (St Andrew) w Little Clacton (St James)
 Clergy: Vacancy (PIC). St Andrew's School: Diane Fawcett (HT).
 The Retired Clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and
 work in the Deanery of St Osyth.
Pray for: *The Diocese of Irele-Eseodo*
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Tue 18 **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 18-25 January**
Calendar of Saints: Amy Carmichael, Founder of the
Dohnavur Fellowship, Spiritual Writer, 1951
Pray for: Buckhurst Hill (St John, St Stephen, St Elisabeth)
 Clergy: Ian Farley (TR), Tania Payne (A). Reader: Steve Bacon.
 St John's School: Jonathan Furness (HT).
Pray for: *The Diocese of Jos (The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])*

Wed 19 **Calendar of Saints: Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095**
Pray for: Vale of Roding Team Ministry: Chigwell (St Mary) Chigwell (St
 Winifred), Chigwell Row (All Saints), Lambourne (St Mary & All Saints) w
 Abridge (Holy Trinity) and Stapleford Abbots (St Mary Vn)
 Clergy: Charlie Kosla (TR), Ann Kosla (AC), Lorraine Smart (AC),
 Paula Preston (TV). Licensed Lay Minister: Sandie Forshaw.
 Chigwell School: Gary Scott (CHP).
Pray for: *The Diocese of Juba*
(The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan)

Thu 20 **Calendar of Saints: Richard Rolle, Spiritual Writer, 1349**
Pray for: Epping District TM: Epping (St John), Epping Upland (All Saints),
 Coopersale (St Alban) Clergy: Lee Batson (TR), Olivia Maxfield-Coote (TV),
 Jessica Bostock (A), Jaimee Summers (A). Licensed Lay Minister: Diana
 Lowry, Steven Snooks. Reader: Robert Taylor.
 St John's Comprehensive School: Mike Yerosimou (HoS).
 Epping Upland School: Sarah Hurwood (HT).
 Coopersale & Theydon Garnon School: Dale Bateman (HT).
Pray for: *The Diocese of Kabba*
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Fri 21 **Calendar of Saints: Agnes, Child Martyr at Rome, 304**
Pray for: Loughton (St John the Baptist, St Nicholas, Trinity Church)
 Clergy: Christopher Davies (R), Barbara Read (AC), Sam Maginnis (A),
 Sam Rossiter-Peters (A).
The Diocese of Kadugli & Nuba Mountains
(Province of the Episcopal Church of Sudan)

Fri 14 **Pray for:** Barking (St Patrick) Clergy: Christopher Bolster (V).
Licensed Lay Minister: Matthew Harding.
Thames View (Christ Church) Clergy: Unesu Chindabata (V).
Barking Riverside Clergy: Urbain Matsalou-Yombe (A)
The Retired Clergy, Readers and Lay Ministers who live and work in the Deanery of Barking.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Jerusalem*
(The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East)

Sat 15 **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**

“Normal” is never “normal”. Just a particular moment in time, itself always changing. The poet and writer Benjamin Zephaniah was recently asked about “getting back to normal”. He simply replied “but ‘normal’ is what got us here” - the pandemic, lockdown, and their on-going legacies today. So the present isn’t really “normal” because “normal” is always changing.

That shouldn’t be surprising as that’s written into Christian faith - always changing, evolving, adapting in response to Jesus’ invitation to turn our lives around, and to keep on turning. As the great 19th century Christian leader and teacher, John Henry Newman wrote: “To live is to change, and to be perfect is to have changed often.”

Pray for: *The Diocese of San Joaquin (The Episcopal Church)*

Sun 16 **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**

In the coming Week of Prayer for Christian Unity all Christians must remember the words of Jesus:

“A new command I give you: “Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”
(John 13:34-35).

Pray for: *The Church of England*

Mon 17 **Calendar of Saints: Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356**
Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932

Pray for: The Deanery of Epping Forest and Ongar Area Dean: Lee Batson.
Lay Chair: Martyn Lockwood. Assistant Area Deans: Malcolm Macdonald, Peter Smith. CHP: Ann Kosla (St Clare Hospice)

Pray for: *The Diocese of Johannesburg (The Anglican Church of Southern Africa)*

Sat 1 **THE NAMING AND CIRCUMCISION OF JESUS**

A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall

Christianity is more or less unique among the world faiths in that it has never created its own “time”. Certainly churches have calendars with feasts and seasons, but have always simply used the local secular calendar. Even dating things BC and AD came along quite late – it only became popular towards the end of the first millennium.

But Christians have never questioned or replaced the names of the months – many of which refer to pagan gods. That’s important. God sent his Son into the world to save the world and the world is the arena of God’s action and the mission field into which God sends us.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Isi mbano*
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Sun 2 **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (OR EPIPHANY)**

Pray for the Proctors and Laity of our Diocese who are members of the General Synod, that they may be filled with the wisdom and love of the Holy Spirit.

Pray for: *the Province de L’Eglise Anglicane Du Congo*

Mon 3 Please pray for our Bishops: Guli Francis Dehqani, John Perumbalath Roger Morris and Lynne Cullens (Bishop Elect); for the Assistant Bishops and PEVs – Norman Banks and Rod Thomas; and for their families.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Isiala-Ngwa*
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

Tue 4 **Pray for: BARKING EPISCOPAL AREA**

Please pray for our Bishop of Barking Elect: Lynne Cullens, our Archdeacons: Elwin Cockett (West Ham), Vanessa Herrick (Harlow) and Chris Burke (Barking); and all the members of the Barking Area Team.

Pray for: *The Diocese of Isiala-Ngwa South*
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])

- Wed 5** **Pray for: The Deanery of Barking and Dagenham**
 Area Dean: Martin Court. Lay Chair: Andrew Weston.
 Assistant Area Deans: Unesu Chindabata and Kathryn Miller.
 Chaplain: Tania Payne (North East London Foundation NHS Trust),
 Rachel Allen (North East London Foundation NHS Trust),
 Stephen Chandler (East London NHS Foundation Trust).
Pray for: The Diocese of Isikwuato
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])
- Thu 6** **THE EPIPHANY**
Pray for: Barking (St Erkenwald) Clergy: Young Lee (PIC).
 Becontree South TM (St Alban, St Martin, St John the Divine)
 Clergy: Faye Bailey (TR), Liz Brown (AC), Raymond Descombes (AC).
 Becontree St Cedd Clergy: Unesu Chindabata (PIC), Ruth Dowley (AC).
Pray for: The Diocese of Northern Izon
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])
- Fri 7** **Pray for:** Becontree (St Elisabeth) Clergy: Christopher Bolster (V),
 Martin Court (AD, AC).
 Becontree (St Thomas) Clergy: Gemma Stock (V).
 Licensed Lay Minister: Pennie Ley.
Pray for: The Diocese of Western Izon
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])
- Sat 8** **A reflection from the Dean of Chelmsford, Nicholas Henshall**
 "Worship teaches us how to live". That is not why we worship.
 We worship to give glory and praise to God, plain and simple. But a
 fundamental outcome of our worship together, one of its basic claims,
 is that it touches us and changes us.
 Day by day, and week by week, our worshipping times together are
 waymarks on a journey - a journey of faith, taking us from death to life;
 a journey in which we meet Christ and are changed by that encounter.
Pray for: The Diocese of Jabalpur (The [United] Church of North India)

- Sun 9** **THE BAPTISM OF CHRIST (1ST SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY)**
 Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and
 revealed him as your beloved Son; grant that we who are baptised into
 his name may give up our lives to your service, and be found worthy of
 our calling.
Pray for: the Iglesia Anglicana de Chile
- Mon 10** **Calendar of Saints: William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645**
Pray for: Becontree (St Mary, Hartley Brook Church) Clergy: Kathryn Miller (V),
 Tim Broadbent (A), Cecilia Morkeh-Yamson Pelligrin (A). Reader: Cliff McLeod.
 Chadwell Heath (St Chad) Clergy: Martin Court (AD, V);
 Christine Harding (AC).
The Diocese of Jaffna (The [United] Church of South India)
- Tue 11** **Calendar of Saints: Mary Slessor, Missionary in West Africa, 1915**
Pray for: Dagenham (St Peter and St Paul) Clergy: Joel Edwards (V).
 Reader: Kathy Playle.
 William Ford Junior School: David Huntingford (HT).
 Dagenham Park CE School: Chris Ash (HT).
Pray for: The Diocese of Jalingo
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])
- Wed 12** **Calendar of Saints: Aelrad of Hexham, Bishop of Rievaulx, 1167**
Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar, 689
 Becontree (St George) Clergy: Simon Berry (PIC).
 Marks Gate (St Mark) Clergy: Alexandra Guest (PIC), Roger Clarke (AC).
Pray for: The Diocese of Jamaica & The Cayman Islands
(The Church in the Province of the West Indies)
- Thu 13** **Calendar of Saints: Hilary, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 367**
Kentigern (Mungo), Missionary bishop, 603
George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (Quakers)
Pray for: Barking (St Margaret) Clergy: Vacancy (V); Elwon John (AC).
 St Margaret's School: Sophie Newman (HOS) and Amir Lemouchi (Exec HT).
 George Carey Primary School: Christopher Harrison (HT).
Pray for: The Diocese of Jebba
(The Church of Nigeria [Anglican Communion])