

Prayer Diary October 2025

1 Wednesday

Remigius, bishop of Rheims, apostle of the Franks, 533 Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, social reformer, 1885

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Owo (Nigeria)
 Bp Stephen Ayodeji Akinwale Fagbemi
- Diocese of Botswana:
 Metlha Beleme, Bishop
- Alnwick Deanery:
 Area Dean: Alison Hardy

2 Thursday

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Oxford
 Bp Steven Croft
- Diocese of Botswana: Theo Naledi, retired Bishop
- Alnwick Deanery: Lay Chair: Hugh Williams
- The Mothers' Union
 Pray for Sandra Davison, Mothers' Union
 Secretary, giving thanks for her faithful
 friendship and administrative support.

3 Friday

George Bell, bishop of Chichester, ecumenist, peacemaker, 1958
Hewald the Black and Hewald the White, martyrs, 695 [CNS]

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Oyo (Nigeria)
 Bp Olugbenga Oduntan
- Diocese of Botswana:
 Cathedral of the Holy Cross, Gaborone:
 Revd Dr Mooketsi Mokgatlhe, Fr Jooste
 Motshwane and Fr Khalala Mokefane
- Alnwick Deanery:
 Deanery Secretary: Sheila Orgill
 Finance Officer: Joanna Chillingsworth

4 Saturday

Francis of Assisi, friar, deacon, founder of the Friars Minor, 1226

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Pacong (South Sudan)
 Bp Joseph Maker Atot
- Diocese of Botswana:
 St Barnabas' Church, Old Naledi (served by the Cathedral of the Holy Cross)
- Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice of Alnwick St Michael and St Paul

Vicar: Christian Mitchell Assistant Curate: Fran Bell Reader: Annette Playle and Sal Howard Reader (PTO): John Cooke MBE

This week ...

"The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!" (Luke 17.5)

Perhaps there's irony that in his reply Jesus then goes on to tell the apostles what they could do with mustard seed-sized faith; this week let's pray for those who are coming to faith, new to faith or struggle with their faith, and for all those who nurture them.

5 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

• Porvoo Communion:

Diocese of Liverpool
Diocese of Monmouth (Wales)
Diocese of Haderslev (Evangelical Lutheran
Church in Denmark)

- Anglican Communion:
 The Anglican Church of Tanzania
 Primate: Most Revd Maimbo Mndolwa
- Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of Francistown: Ven Isaac Mupfumi (Archdeacon - North), Fr Samuel Moraloki, Fr Lekono Malabola, Fr Bakang (Banks) Lesetedi and Fr Reuben Bogatsu

Alnwick Deanery:

St Michael's Parish Church, Alnwick

• Alnwick St Michael's C of E First School

6 Monday

William Tyndale, translator of the scriptures, martyr, 1536

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Panama (Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central de America) Bp Julio Murray Thompson

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of Francistown: St Patrick's Church and St Carantoc's Church

Alnwick Deanery:

Denwick Chapel

7 Tuesday

Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Pankshin (Nigeria)

Bp Olumuyiwa O Ajayi

Diocese of Botswana:

St Stephen's, Tonota, St Alban's, Moroka, All Saints' Matsiloje and St Paul's Tati Siding (all served by the Parish of Francistown)

Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice of Amble St Cuthbert

Priest in Charge: Rachael Dines Readers (PTO): Mari Mander and Sarah Mitchell

8 Wednesday

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Panrieng (South Sudan)

Bp David Kiir Mayath

• Diocese of Botswana:

Christ the King, Orapa, St John's, Makaleng and Sowa Town (served by the Parish of Francistown)

Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice of Chevington St John the Divine

Priest in Charge: Rachael Dines Reader (PTO): Cynthia Bishop

9 Thursday

Denys, bishop of Paris, and his companions, martyrs, c.250 Robert Grosseteste, bishop of Lincoln, philosopher, scientist, 1253

Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Panyana (South Sudan) Suffragan Bp: Seme Nigo Abinda

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Andrew, Selebi Phikwe: Ven Sefularo Mogopodi (Archdeacon -Central) and Fr Thabang Sikwane

• Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice: Embleton with Rennington and Rock

Vicar: Alison Hardy

Assistant Curates: Barrie Cooper and

Nathaniel Hayler

Reader: Deborah Elliott

Readers (PTO): Bill Devonshire and

Roger Styring

Praying for Unity

Pray for all those offering the ministry of Spiritual Direction

10 Friday

Paulinus, bishop of York, missionary, 644 [CNS *]

Thomas Traherne, poet, spiritual writer, 1674

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Paraguay (South America)
Bp Ronald John Irene

Diocese of Botswana:

St Peter's, Mmadinare and Church of the Good Shepherd, Bobonong (outstations of St Andrew's, Selebi Phikwe)

• Alnwick Deanery:

Church of St Peter the Fisherman, Craster

 * Canon Ric Whaite, Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry

11 Saturday

Ethelburga, abbess of Barking, 675 James the Deacon, companion of Paulinus, 7th cent. [CNS *]

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Paraná (Brazil)

Bp Magda Cristina Guedes Pereira

Diocese of Botswana:

St Augustine's Theological School: Canon Professor James Amanze

Alnwick Deanery:

St Mary's Church, Newton

 * Canon Simon White, Rector of Morpeth and Priest in Charge of Stannington

This week ...

'Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee ...' (Luke 17:11)

In between places are often contested and dangerous, not least in the Middle East, and yet this is often where people encountered Jesus; this week let's pray for all those who work and serve in the contested spaces, and the challenging and dangerous places for the sake of the gospel.

12 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Wilfred of Ripon, bishop, missionary, 709 [CNS *] Edwin, king of Northumbria, martyr, 633 [CNS **]

• Porvoo Communion:

Diocese of Truro
Diocese of Tönsberg (Church of Norway)
Diocese of Strängnäs (Church of Sweden)

Anglican Communion:

The Church of the Province of Uganda

Primate: Most Revd Stephen Kaziimba

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Augustine, Serowe: Fr Kealeboga Lekoba and Fr Ford Godiraone Gaogane

• Alnwick Deanery:

Holy Trinity Parish Church, Embleton

- Vincent Edwards C of E First School
- * Canon Ben Doolan, Master of St Thomas' Church, Newcastle
- ** Canon Brian Hurst

13 Monday

Edward the Confessor, king of England, 1066

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Pathein (Myanmar)
 Bp Andrew Aung Lin Htin
- Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St James the Great, Mahalapye, including St Ignatius of Loyola, Machaneng: Fr Boikhutso Gabaraane

Alnwick Deanery:
 All Saints' Parish Church, Rennington

14 Tuesday

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Patna (North India)
 Bp: Most Revd Francis Hansda

• Diocese of Botswana:

St Joseph, Shoshong: Fr Olebile James Galebotswe

Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St Philip & St James, Rock

15 Wednesday

Teresa of Avila, teacher of the faith, 1582

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Pelotas (Brazil)
 Bp Meriglei Borges Silva Simim

Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Mark, Lobatse: Fr Octavius Bolelang and Fr Godfrey Tsetsengwe

- Alnwick Deanery: Benefice: Felton
 - Vicar: Rich Townend

Felton C of E First School

16 Thursday

Nicholas Ridley, bishop of London and Hugh Latimer, bishop of Worcester, Reformation martyrs, 1555

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Pennsylvania (ECUSA)
 Bp Daniel G P Gutierrez
- Diocese of Botswana:

Parishes of St Mary Magdalene, Palapye and St Cyprian, Seleke: Fr George Moshapa

Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice of Acklington, Shilbottle and Warkworth

Vicar: Helen O'Sullivan Reader: Christine Stevenson Reader (PTO): Margaret Weaver

• Praying for Unity:

Pray for the 'new' churches and fellowships in our region.

Parishioners from the Benefice of Acklington, Shilbottle and Warkworth are going on pilgrimage to the Cathedral today. Pray for those attending this evening's Licensing of Chris Webb as Priest in Charge of St Cuthbert's, Blyth, by Bishop Helen-Ann.

17 Friday

Ignatius, bishop of Antioch, martyr, c.107

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (ECUSA)
 Bp Audrey C Scanlan

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Michael and All Angels, Broadhurst: Fr Moemedi Rabolo

• Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice: Lesbury with Alnmouth

Vicar: Alison Hardy

Assistant Curates: Barrie Cooper and

Nathanael Hayler

Reader (PTO): Roger Styring Reader Emeritus: Susanna Swales

18 LUKE THE EVANGELIST

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania
 (ECUSA) Bp: vacant

• Diocese of Botswana:

St Matthew's, Mochudi: Fr Joseph Supang

• Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Alnmouth

Today is the annual gathering of Readers for the Admission and Licensing of Readers with Bishop Helen-Ann and Bishop Mark.

This week ...

'Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart.' (Luke 18.1)

This is a parable for all of us at some time or other; this week let's pray that we take the message to heart, and let's pray for all who struggle to pray, that one day they will see God's justice.

19 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

• Porvoo Communion:

Diocese of Växjö (Church of Sweden) Diocese of Oxford

Anglican Communion:

The Episcopal Church

Presiding Bishop: Sean Rowe

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Paul, Molepolole:

Fr Lucky Lorekang, Fr Joseph Khombane, and Fr Motshereganyi Sefanyetsto

• Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels, Howick

• Praying for Unity:

Pray for all planning to take part in ecumenical pilgrimages in 2025

20 Monday

Acca of Hexham, bishop c.740 [CNS] Grace Darling, altruist, 1842 [CNS *]

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Perth (Australia)
 Abp Kay Goldsworthy

• Diocese of Botswana:

St Thomas', Letlhakeng (served by the Parish of St Paul, Molepolole)

Alnwick Deanery:

St Mary's Parish Church, Lesbury

• * Canon Lesley Towers

21 Tuesday

Tuda, bishop of Lindisfarne, 664 [CNS]

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Peru (South America)
 Bp Jorge Luis Aguilar

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parishes of St Andrew, Mmopane: Fr Moreri Leteemane and Fr Onkemetse Sam Mathabathe, and St James, Kopong and St Luke, Lentsweletau: Fr Kealeboga Lekoba

Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul, Longhoughton (including Boulmer)

• Longhoughton C of E First School

22 Wednesday

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Peshawar (Pakistan)
 Bp Humphrey Peters

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parishes of Holy Trinity, Mmankgodi: Fr Munyaradzi Mubata, St Matthew, Thamaga: Fr Solomon Diphoko, and St Mark, Moshupa: Fr Patrick Rampha

Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice: Longframlington with Brinkburn

Vicar: Rich Townend Reader: Samuel Palin

Reader Emeritus: Kate Watson

23 Thursday

Aelflaed, of Whitby, abbess, 714 [CNS]

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Peterborough
 Bp Debbie Sellin

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parishes of St Peter, Mogoditshane and St Martin, Metsimotlhabe: Canon Joe Tsuaneng (Archdeacon – South)

Alnwick Deanery:

Benefice: Upper Coquetdale

Rector: vacant

Reader (PTO): David Carey

Praying for Unity:

Pray for all planning to take part in ecumenical pilgrimages in 2026

24 Friday

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Central Philippines (Phillipines)

Bp James Boliget

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parishes of St John the Baptist, Gabane: Fr Martin Mosima, and St Patrick, Kumakwane: Fr Bonny Bashe

Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels, Alnham

25 Saturday

Crispin and Crispinian, martyrs at Rome, c.287

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of North Central Philippines
 Bp Nestor Dagas Poltic

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St Simon of Cyrene, Tiokweng: Fr Botshabelo Beleme, Revd Dr Nelson Mwaniki and Fr Chris Mensah

Alnwick Deanery:

Parish Church of St Michael and All Angels, Alwinton

This week ...

'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' (Luke 18.13)

This simple prayer from the tax collector in Jesus' parable reflects a profound need for God; this week let's pray that more and more people would recognise their need of God and would find a home in our churches where they can discover the mercy and peace of God.

26 LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

• Porvoo Communion:

Diocese of Carlisle
Diocese of Stavanger (Church of Norway)

Anglican Communion:

The Church in Wales

Abp Cherry Vann

• Diocese of Botswana:

Parish of St John the Baptist, Tsabong: Fr Andrew Seitshiro

Alnwick Deanery:

All Saints' Parish Church, Rothbury

27 Monday

Eata, bishop of Lindisfarne, 686 [CNS *]

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Northern Philippines

Bp Benny Lang-akan

• Diocese of Botswana:

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area: Khuis, Middlepits, Bogogobo and Kolonkwaneng

Alnwick Deanery

Christ Church, Hepple

* This stall is occupied by Cathedral Readers

28 SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

• Anglican Communion:

Diocese of Southern Philippines

Bp Ernie Moral

• Diocese of Botswana:

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area: Maralaleng, Omaweneno, Malashe and Khisa

Alnwick Deanery:

Church of St Mary the Virgin, Holystone

29 Wednesday

James Hannington, bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, martyr in Uganda, 1885

Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Phulbani (North India)
 Bp: Most Revd Bijay Nayak

Diocese of Botswana:

Villages with churches in the Tsabong area: Draaiheok, Makapong and Werda

• Alnwick Deanery:

St Andrew's Church, Thropton

Pray for those attending this evening's Licensing of Melanie Shillito Webb as Priest in Charge of the Derwent Vally Group by Bishop Helen-Ann.

30 Thursday

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Pittsburgh (ECUSA)
 Bp Ketlen Solak
- Diocese of Botswana:
 Church of the Epiphany, Maun:
 Fr Sefularo Mogopodi
- Alnwick Deanery:
 St James' Parish Church, Shilbottle

Praying for Unity

For all prayer, study and fellowship groups, some meeting in person and others online

31 Friday

Martin Luther, reformer, 1546 Bega, religious and visionary, 7th cent. [CNS] Reinfrid, restorer of the holy places, 1085 [CNS]

- Anglican Communion:
 Diocese of Polynesia (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia)

 Bp: Most Revd Sione Uluilakepa
- Diocese of Botswana:
 The strengthening of links between our dioceses
- Alnwick Deanery:
 Parish Church of St John the Divine,
 Acklington
- Acklington C of E First School

We shall conclude our prayers for Alnwick Deanery at the beginning of November.

About this Prayer Diary

We continue to include in the Prayer Diary all those commemorated in **Celebrating the Northern Saints**, [CNS] and to remember our lay, residentiary and honorary canons on the day of the saints and influential people who have given their canonry its designation and/or stall in the Cathedral.

Each week, there is normally a short stimulus to prayer, normally based on the Sunday Gospel, to guide our next steps in **Seeking**, **Sharing**, **Sending**. We are grateful to Bishop Mark for these reflections.

ON SUNDAYS, we follow a well-established pattern:

- First are intercessions for the Porvoo Communion (https://www.ireland.anglican.org/resources/493/porvoo-prayer-diary-2025). The Porvoo Declaration commits the churches which have signed it to "share a common life" and "to pray for and with one another."
- Second are intercessions from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, available at www.anglicancommunion.org. Prayers on Sundays are for a Province of the Communion.
- Thirdly, we pray for our Link Diocese of Botswana in the Province of Central Africa.
- Fourthly, we pray for our own Diocese of Newcastle, especially the Alnwick Deanery, its churches, people and organisations, including Church Schools.

ON WEEKDAYS, the pattern is similar on weekdays, but without the Porvoo Communion:

- Firstly, dioceses from the Anglican Cycle of Prayer
- Secondly, our Link Diocese of Botswana
- Thirdly, our own Diocese, and the people, parishes, churches and schools in Alnwick Deanery
- On the first Thursday, we pray for the work of the Mothers' Union in the Diocese. On subsequent Thursdays we pray for Christian Unity.

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

Botswana during January, April, July and October. Møre during March, June, September and November.

The **Deaneries** are incorporated in the Prayer Diary in such a way as to include the **Benefices** (with names of ordained and lay ministers) and also, for benefices with more than one church, the constituent **churches**, in order that every congregation – and the local community in which it is set can be remembered at least once during the year.

January	Morpeth (cont.) and Norham	July	Newcastle East
February	Bedlington	August	Newcastle West
March	Bellingham	September	Tynemouth
April	Corbridge	October	Alnwick
May	Hexham	November	Bamburgh & Glendale
June	Newcastle Central	December	Morpeth

I try to mark important days in the life of the Diocese (e.g. Diocesan Synods, Institutions and Licensings, ecumenical occasions) with a special note, but can only do so if I have the information early in the previous month. Please don't hesitate to send me information and prompts in good time.

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