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**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

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* **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

## 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:**

***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.

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:**

***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.

**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

**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](http://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.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 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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