

Calendar of Intercessions

April 2025

Parishes (where there is an incumbent and / or other clergy, they are named): please pray for the communities and for any lay ministers you know in each church – the aim is always to pray more widely than just those named. Each month will feature parts of a paired deanery. **April = Doncaster & West Doncaster**

Renewed, Released & Rejuvenated themes will be more prominent in this revised calendar along with everyday discipleship through *Lights for Christ*.

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Date	Parishes, people & events	Other prayer themes
1	Doncaster Deanery: Co-Area Deans Richard Heard & Andrew Howard, Lay Chair Kevin Stothard	Give thanks for major new Strategic Investment Board funding (2025 to 2031) to support ministry and fresh mission across the diocese
2	For Stephen Edmonds, Associate Archdeacon in these twin deaneries: that he would know what support to offer to Oversight Ministers, Focal Ministers & congregations	For Ukraine: for peace but also justice. We are all probably reeling from how badly they have been treated by some so-called allies. Praying for an end to Russia's barbaric bombardment of civilian targets
3	For Denise Teal, Chaplain among deaf people & for others who assist with signing at major events	This month's theme: vocations . For lay leaders in a wide variety of ministries to support the growth of mission & ministry in our churches
4	Arise Rotherham Celebration: for continued church unity & wisdom for future prayer & mission across the town & borough	We pray for fruitful partnership with one of our link dioceses: a large part of Argentina . Today for: San Salvador, Belgrano, Buenos Aires (Argentina) Hernán Dei Castelli, Agustín Marsal and Peter Clarke
5	Malcolm Chamberlain preparing to move to become Bishop of Wakefield & for the process to appoint a successor as Archdeacon of Sheffield & Rotherham	Argentina link diocese: The Good Shepherd, Villa Devoto, Buenos Aires (Argentina) Andy Lenton
6	Javaid Iqbal, Archdeacon of Doncaster, working across a large geographical area	Argentina link diocese: St Peter's, Flores, Buenos Aires (Argentina) Adrian Torres
7	For the diocesan finance and property departments in their important supportive roles	Praying for places in Argentina affected recently by serious flooding, including Bahía Blanca, which has a church in our link diocese
8	Lights for Christ half-day quiet day for Wath & Tankersley Chapter. Pray for Chrissy Moorey leading this	For Annual Parish Church Meetings taking place over coming weeks & for those who will become churchwardens, treasurers and PCC secretaries

9	St John the Baptist, Edlington with St Jude, Hexthorpe: Richard Hume but also the forthcoming vacancy	For church food banks, debt advice & other responses to the cost of living crisis
10	St Peter & St Paul Barnby Dun	All ordinands in training & those going through the selection process
11	St Leonard & St Mary Armthorpe: pray for the process of appointing a new Oversight Minister. Andrew Payne as Lay Minister	Renewed. Part of our praying is for 2.5% of the population to become disciples & regular worshippers in our churches. Pray also for individuals you know to find faith
12	Hope Pilgrimage stage 1: for a new large group of 14 pilgrims walking from Edale to Hope today	Released. For each person in our churches to be released into their calling as a baptised follower of Jesus – at home, in work, through their relationships
13	Palm Sunday. 'As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it' (Luke 19:41). Pray with similar compassion for your community	Rejuvenated. For all those seeking to grow the church through taking a group of people to plant a church or graft new life into an existing congregation
14	Hickleton Chapter Chrism Mass in Goldthorpe this afternoon	Chrism Eucharist at Sheffield Cathedral this evening
15	St Oswald Kirk Sandall & Good Shepherd Edenthorpe: Tom Brown	Canon Popham Memorial CE Primary & Nursery School: Jackie Skelton & Sharon Patton
16	Final session of the Rotherham Deanery Lent Course 'Talking Jesus'. Pray that those who took part will be more confident to share their faith in Jesus	Josie Bryant Centenary Project Worker in Edenthorpe, working with a group of children & young people that is growing in numbers & faith
17	Maundy Thursday. Jesus said, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer' (Luke 22:15). Pray that this sense of anticipation & comfort might mark your church's celebration tonight	This month's theme: vocations. For people to hear God's call to ordained ministry. More specifically, for a call to serve here, whether they are already in Sheffield Diocese or coming from outside
18	Good Friday. 'The sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two' (Luke 23:45). Reflect on these signs of a world-changing event	For all those churches who hold an act of public witness today, including the ecumenical town centre march of witness in Rotherham
19	Silverwood Prayer Walk: from Wickersley to Bramley to Ravenfield to Thrybergh, praying for these communities & their churches	On this weekend, when many focus on the Holy Land, pray for peace and for the good of all people in this region
20	Easter Day. 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!' Celebrate once again risen life for Jesus and us	For churches holding outdoor or dawn services, for the baptisms at Sheffield Cathedral, for those who come to church at (Christmas and) Easter

21	St John the Baptist, Wadworth with St Katherine, Loversall & St John the Evangelist Balby. Derek Pamment	For Derek Pamment in his role as Police Chaplain, working in many places right across South Yorkshire
22	St Peter's Warmsworth: for the wardens & congregation in a time of vacancy	For local government, parish councils & other bodies that make a difference in our lives at a local level
23	St George's Day: celebrated on 28 April this year in church but this is still the day our communities will mark! Give thanks for what is good in our nation, pray for that which needs to change	For King Charles III and the royal family, particularly those who have continuing health concerns
24	For Alex Shilkoff & Steph Mason overseeing & managing our strategic programmes, including links to the national church	This month's theme: vocations . For a real growth in Focal Ministers as key lay leaders in churches across all of our deaneries
25	Mark the Evangelist. 'Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus' (Acts 15:39). Pray for the church there, including the large ex-pat British community	For the Vocations Advisor, Dan Christian, and assistant, Jane Truman, as they help lay & ordained candidates. Also for the Ministry Experience Scheme, looking to have a new intake in the autumn
26	Hospital chaplains across South Yorkshire & chaplaincy volunteers	For church coffee mornings & Natter Groups & the people who find these an invaluable meeting place
27	St Mary Doncaster: Andy Thomas	For Centenary Project Worker, Becky Forrest; working with children and youth at St Mary's and beyond
28	For our Generosity & Giving team: Libby Culmer, Luke Bunting, Paul Sheridan, Claire Stinson, Janet Daye & Caroline Langston, as they support churches	For all those caught up in modern-day slavery / human trafficking. For those who care for their needs & campaign for lasting solutions to this exploitation
29	Bishop's Council meets today	For those preparing for marriage
30	Doncaster the Resurrection (Wheatley Park & Wheatley Hills & Intake): Adam Priestley, Philip McKenning, Tony Heppel	For Centenary Project Worker, Tracey Leigh; her role includes working with church young people but also wider community and continuing her previous links in the local school

May 2025

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1	Philip & James, Apostles. That we might treasure & proclaim with fresh energy the faith they learnt at Jesus' side	Ecclesfield Deanery: Area Dean Pip Salmon & Lay Chair (John Marsden)
2	For Associate Archdeacon Transition Enabler, Mike Gilbert, supporting & coaching church leaders in Ecclesfield & Hallam deaneries	This month's theme: discipleship . Pray for open hearts to receive the light of Christ, the foundation of any and all service
3	Christ Church, Hillsborough & Wadsley Bridge: Jim Crossley, Daniel McGinnis	Parson Cross CE Primary School: Julie Wright
4	St Thomas at Philadelphia: Mike Rutter, Zak Venable. Heather Waller Church Army evangelist	Bondo Diocese, our partners in Kenya, celebrate their 25th anniversary today. Give thanks for the growth of their churches & cathedral. Pray for Bishop David & Bishop Emily
5	For Bishop Pete: facing additional pressures while awaiting a new episcopal colleague	Bondo Diocese: for construction of the new Cathedral of St Michael & All Angels, which is under way
6	Net Zero Open Day: that this will help churches to find practical ways forward	Bondo Diocese: for mission to the islands on Lake Victoria with the new mission boat launched by the diocese in Sep 2024
7	St Mary Walkley: Matthew Rhodes, Beth Keith	St Mary's Walkley CE Primary School: Joy Burgess
8	80th Anniversary of VE Day: for community & church events commemorating this	The bereaved, recent or otherwise, that they will find help in their grief
9	St John the Evangelist Ranmoor: Matthew Rhodes; Alison Wragg, Peter Das, Beth Keith	Continue to pray for Ukraine (check the latest news) in what is likely to be a crucial period of time
10	Cursillo weekend (9-11 May): for those running the event & those coming to make their Cursillo that it will be a transformative experience	This month's theme: discipleship . Pray that we would be purposeful in walking in the light of Christ, living out our faith in everyday life

11	For Assistant Bishops Tim Ellis, Richard Blackburn, Stephen Race & Rob Munro	Nurseries and toddler groups, including any church-run groups you know
12	For the RMM team (Resourcing Ministry & Mission), bringing together Parish Support Team & St Peter's College. Toby Hole leading this team	For those who work in the criminal justice system: solicitors, barristers, magistrates, judges & juries
13	St Mark Broomhill: Beth Keith, Shan Rush, Matthew Rhodes	For those who work in the Fire and Rescue Service
14	Matthias, Apostle. Give thanks for someone whose ministry has blessed you. Like Matthias they might not be well-known but they served Jesus faithfully & skilfully	Renewed. Pray for people to join the diocesan Prayer Community, on Facebook or by requesting the weekly prayermail. It was named 2025 but we're continuing on!
15	Bill Goodman, Director for Ongoing Ministerial Development, including his role in facilitating study leave	Released. That Mission Area Support will provide appropriate practical help to all parishes that need it
16	For Anesia Cook in her role as Racial Justice Officer & Rachel Edmonds working alongside her	Rejuvenated. Pray that more Global Majority Heritage Christians will find doors opening to ministry.
17	Parish Safeguarding Officer Day: to be an encouragement to those who take on this important role	As exams approach, we pray for all in our universities & schools – students, lecturers, support staff & chaplaincy teams
18	St Saviour Mortomley High Green: Rick Stordy; David Whitehead, Pete Swards	Praying for places where we know there is on-going conflict but which do not feature strongly in our news. Today: the civil war in Sudan
19	St Nicholas Bradfield: for all those involved in the appointment process for a new minister	Haiti: for all those caught up in the violence & anarchy there
20	Diocesan Advisory Committee meets. Pray especially for Simon Chesters-Thompson (DAC Secretary) & Jane King (administrator)	Syria: trying to find a new way ahead after the end of the Assad regime but with significant tensions (try to find current news to aid your prayers)
21	St John the Baptist, Chapelton: Rick Stordy; David Whitehead, Pete Swards	All those who work in the hundreds of care homes across our diocese
22	Meetings today of Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee, Finance & Property Committee	Victims / survivors of abuse, including those who have suffered within church settings
23	St Mary the Virgin, Ecclesfield: Tim Gill	For the work of the RNLI and coastguard
24	St Thomas Crookes (LEP): Tom Finnemore; Nick Lattimer, Luke Graham	This month's theme: discipleship. Pray for boldness for every Christian to reflect the light of Christ, to be a witness in words as well as deeds

25	Christ Church Stannington: Nick Lattimer, Tom Finnemore, Alison Cook	For the United Nations & General Secretary, António Guterres
26	St Mark Grenoside; Tim Gill, Claire Williams	Spring Bank Holiday week: for those on holidays & for safety in travel
27	Katie Bell, Diocesan Secretary, on maternity leave. For LJ Buxton covering this demanding role	For teachers & others who work in our schools: for the pressures they face & for a genuine break this week
28	Communications & learning team, led by LJ Buxton: Ben Fearn, Graham Sandersfield, Jason Smedley, Kellianne Montgomery & Julia Fall. For creativity as they support churches & events; for wisdom to know how to handle sensitive subjects	Thy Kingdom Come: tenth anniversary. Give thanks for how these 10 days of prayer have grown – from UK & Anglican to global & ecumenical. From tomorrow, we will follow Archbishop Stephen's Novena themes, available as a free pdf download: https://www.thykingdomcome.global/sites/default/files/2025-03/TKC%20Novena%202025%20DIGITAL.pdf
29	Ascension Day. 'After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight' (Acts 1:9). Worship Jesus, our risen, ascended Lord	Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name ... <i>God is intimate and holy.</i> If you can, read the reflection in the Novena & use this to guide your prayers
30	We hope to hold a round the world 24/7 prayer event with link dioceses: details nearer the time	Our Father. <i>We belong to each other.</i> Pray for brothers & sisters around the world praying Thy Kingdom Come
31	Possible prayer & cycling event in Rotherham Borough as part of TKC, to follow on from Arise Rotherham	Your kingdom come. <i>God has a purpose for our lives & for the world.</i> Pray to fall in step with God's purposes, personally but also for cities & nations

June 2025

Parishes (where there is an incumbent and / or other clergy, they are named): please pray for the communities and for any lay ministers you know in each church. Each month will feature parts of a paired deanery. **June = Snaith & Hatfield and Adwick**

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1	Snaith & Hatfield Deanery: Area Dean Tim Mitchell & Lay Chair Shaun Clarkson	Your will be done. <i>Prayer is not about trying to change God's mind – but the other way round!</i> Pray to move from 'we know best' to receiving God's grace
2	Thy Kingdom Come Assembly Bangers: an event at the Cathedral to reach out using Christian songs that people remember fondly from school	On earth, as it is in heaven. <i>Earth is supposed to be like heaven.</i> May Heaven break in ... to our lives, the lives of the five we pray for, in our communities
3	For Hannah Hupfield, Associate Archdeacon here since November, as she continues to deepen links with churches & their leaders	Give us today our daily bread. <i>This is what enough looks like – and why it matters.</i> For those who have no bread today, for those who have too much, for courage to face the radical challenge of the gospel
4	All Saints Woodlands: Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner	And forgive us our sins. <i>We all get lost sometimes.</i> For those who can see their life is going in the wrong direction but feel powerless to respond
5	St Laurence, Adwick-le-Street with St Michael & All Angels, Skelbrooke; Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner	As we forgive those who sin against us. <i>We give from the overflow of what we have received.</i> Save us from hardness of heart, make us merciful in all our relationships
6	We hope to have at least one Thy Kingdom Come prayer pilgrimage within the diocese this year, possibly today or tomorrow	Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. <i>God is always there for us.</i> Lord, lead us on the path eternal, draw us back there when we stray
7	Bishop Sophie as she is welcomed publicly as Bishop of Coventry. Give thanks for her ministry here & pray for God's hand on her future	For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours. <i>God invites us to join in.</i> Pray the Lord's Prayer & add your 'Amen' thoughtfully, acknowledging that you are aligning yourself with God's purposes
8	Pentecost. Today's Novena prayer: Oh come Holy Spirit, Speak and pray in me. Use me for the building of God's Kingdom in the world. Amen	Thy Kingdom Come Choral Evensong, as the Cathedral partners other churches engaged in choral ministry & mission (our two Minsters, St John's Ranmoor, etc.)

9	All Saints Owston & St Michael Skellow: Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner	For those who work in mental health and for those who seek their help
10	Hannah Sandoval, Lights for Christ enabler, as she returns from maternity this month & her overlap with Chrissy Moorey, who has been covering	Ambulance workers, paramedics and those who work in Accident & Emergency
11	Barnabas, Apostle. 'For a whole year Barnabas and Saul met with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26). Pray: that our churches might intentionally equip believers to live well as Jesus' disciples	This month's theme: evangelism . Pray for our Diocesan Community of Evangelists, our Lay Parish Evangelists, and Church Army evangelists, that each will be effective in sharing the good news of Jesus
12	St David Airmyn; St Mary the Virgin Hook; St James Rawcliffe; Philip Ball	Hook CE Primary School: Caroline Ainley
13	St Laurence Snaith; Holy Trinity Cowick; St John the Baptist Heck & St Paul Hensall; Eleanor Robertshaw, Michael Towle, Chris Hutchinson	Cowick CE Primary School: Katherine Rawes Pollington-Balne CE Primary School: Katherine Rawes
14	Hope Pilgrimage stage 2 (John Hibberd): pray for the group tackling the toughest stage, from Hope to Higgarr Tor via Win Hill	Gathering of intercultural Anglican churches in Attercliffe & Ecclesall twin deaneries to celebrate & learn from each other
15	Trinity Sunday. Thank God for the rich image of Trinity in how we understand God	Fathers' Day. A day of thanksgiving for some, a difficult day for others. Praying for positive role models & help for those who struggle
16	Archdeacons' visitations take place this month: 16 Doncaster Minster, 18 Rotherham Minster, 23 Swinton & 26 Cathedral	Released: Church Operations & Buildings Team: Libby Culmer, Jo Edwards & Chris Ellis supporting churches in governance & building issues
17	St John the Evangelist, Goole: Hannah Patton, Ben Grist, Carol Rashid	Centenary Project Worker, Emma Johnson, involved in parent & toddler, Kids Church & other community links
18	St Wilfrith Moorends	Net Zero Group: for wisdom & tenacity in helping us to address urgent issues on climate and creation care
19	Corpus Christi. Reflect on Jesus' words offering his body (bread & blood (wine) for you	Grants Committee meets today: for good use of resources & to support our local churches in their mission
20	St Peter Askern: Stella McHugh	Hope Weekend (20-22) Centenary Project groups of young people will again be looking to bring hope in word & deed to their local communities
21	New churchwardens' conference: that they will be encouraged & equipped for their important responsibilities	This month's theme: evangelism . Pray for the Lord 'to add daily' new people to our churches. That will we not shy away from numerical growth

22	All Saints Adlingfleet; St Bartholomew Eastoft; St Margaret Swinefleet; St Mary Magdalene Whitgift:	Eastoft CE Primary School: Janine Bassingdale
23	Heads of Department meet	Focus on creation care this week: For the safeguarding of habitat, species & biodiversity
24	Bishop's Council meets	For wildlife close to home, in our gardens, farms & countryside
25	Faith in the North. Archbishop of York speaking at various events around the diocese on the Lord's Prayer	Protection for critical areas of our planet: rainforests, coral reefs & wetlands
26	Our partnership with the church district of Hattingen-Witten . Today we pray for: the parish of Nierenhof: Dirk Scheuermann	For sustainable use of natural resources including water. For responsible approaches in farming & fishing
27	Hattingen-Witten. Today we pray for: the parish of Ruedinghausen: Carsten Griese	For genuine commitment to reducing carbon emissions rather than using the tough economic outlook as an excuse
28	Hope Pilgrimage stage 2 (Claire): the second group on this challenging but beautiful stage	For improvement in water quality in our rivers & around our coasts. For water companies to be made to fulfil their duties for this
29	St Peter & St Paul. 'They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead' (Acts 14:9). Pray for Christians facing persecution today	Rejuvenated: for the increasing number of resourcing churches, enabling growth by giving away people & resources. For John Marsh leading this strand of ministry
30	Ben Mays & Gemma Armstrong offering support in all aspects of Human Resources	This month's theme: evangelism . Pray for churches running Alpha, Christianity Explored and other courses for those enquiring about faith