

Calendar of Intercessions

April 2026

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*.

The Anglican Cycle of Prayer is available here:

<https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/2025-prayer-group-resources>

| Date | Parishes, people & events | Other prayer themes |
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| 1 | Doncaster Deanery: Co-Area Deans Richard Heard & Andrew Howard, Lay Chair Kevin Stothard | Pray for peace in the Middle East, at a time when the whole region is in considerable turmoil & conflict |
| 2 | Maundy Thursday. 'He poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet' (John 13:5). Pray for the same humility to mark our churches & their leaders | For Stephen Edmonds, Associate Archdeacon in these twin deaneries: that he would know what support to offer to Oversight Ministers, Focal Ministers & congregations |
| 3 | Good Friday. 'Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit' (John 19:30). Give thanks that Jesus saw through the task of salvation | Rotherham Good Friday March of Witness & finale of Arise Rotherham 2026 |
| 4 | For Vigil services, either tonight or early in the morning | Remembering Jesus in the tomb, we pray for those we know who are experiencing the pain of bereavement |
| 5 | Easter Day. 'The other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed' (John 20:8). Let the fact of Jesus' resurrection fill you with fresh faith today | For those who only come to church at Easter & Christmas, that they might see something more that draws them to explore faith more deeply |
| 6 | 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 | For Annual Parish Church Meetings taking place over coming weeks & for those who will become churchwardens, treasurers and PCC secretaries |

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| 7 | Argentina link diocese: The Good Shepherd, Villa Devoto, Buenos Aires (Argentina) Andy Lenton | 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 |
| 8 | Argentina link diocese: St Peter's, Flores, Buenos Aires (Argentina) Adrian Torres | 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. This fits with our April focus on vocations. |
| 9 | St John the Baptist, Edlington with St Jude, Hexthorpe: Michael Dixon settling into ministry here | Rejuvenated. For our resourcing churches, large and small, as they seek to enable growth beyond their own congregations |
| 10 | St Peter & St Paul Barnby Dun: Andrew Payne in his work as interim lay minister | For Ukraine: we continue to pray for an end to the invasion & senseless destruction |
| 11 | St Leonard & St Mary Armthorpe: pray for the process of appointing a new Oversight Minister. Andrew Payne as Lay Minister | Peak Pilgrimage Stage 1, Ilam to Hartington: pray for this new group of pilgrims setting out |
| 12 | Director of Vocations, Dan Christian, and assistant, Jane Truman, as they help lay & ordained candidates; for additional helpers to grow their capacity in this work | Artificial Intelligence: we learnt of benefits & concerns in our March lecture. Pray for wisdom for those who work in this, for good regulation & proper consideration re the demand this puts on energy & water |
| 13 | St Oswald Kirk Sandall & Good Shepherd Edenthorpe: Tom Brown | Canon Popham CE Primary & Nursery School: Jackie Skelton & Sharon Patton |
| 14 | Diocesan Advisory Committee: for good clear ways forward for church repairs & development | Diocesan Conference planning team meets today: for clarity in planning |
| 15 | Centenary Project: meeting to review applications for new CP Ministers | Victims / survivors of abuse, including those who have suffered within church settings |
| 16 | Board of Faith & Justice meets | 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 |
| 17 | Javaid Iqbal, Archdeacon of Doncaster: praying that he will be refreshed as he takes a sabbatical soon | Ambulance workers, paramedics and those who work in Accident & Emergency |

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| 18 | For Alex Shilkoff & Steph Mason overseeing & managing our strategic programmes, including links to the national church | For those who work in the Fire and Rescue Service |
| 19 | For our Generosity & Giving team: Libby Culmer, Luke Bunting, Paul Sheridan, Claire Stinson, Janet Daye & Caroline Langston, as they support churches | This month's theme: vocations . For people to hear God's call to ordained ministry. Pray for those in discernment now, some hoping to start training in the autumn |
| 20 | Bishop's Council meets tonight | For those preparing for marriage |
| 21 | St John the Baptist, Wadworth with St Katherine, Loversall & St John the Evangelist Balby: Timothy Hupfield | For the work of the RNLI and coastguard |
| 22 | St Peter's Warmsworth: Timothy Hupfield, who is to be licensed in July in this mission area | For local government, parish councils & other bodies that make a difference in our lives at a local level |
| 23 | St George's Day : the media makes us aware of various sources of division & discontent in national life. Pray for positive ways forward | For King Charles III and the royal family in their many public duties |
| 24 | For the diocesan finance and property departments in their important supportive roles | For church coffee mornings & Natter Groups & the people who find these an invaluable meeting place |
| 25 | Mark the Evangelist . Give thanks for his, the earliest of the Gospels. Pray through a chapter today | Young Leaders Community Gathering: looking to support young people to make their voices heard in our churches |
| 26 | David Gerrard, Archdeacon of Sheffield & Rotherham: for wisdom, grace & anointing in his ministry | For the homeless & all who work with them, including the Archer Project & Shiloh in Rotherham |
| 27 | St Mary Doncaster: Andy Thomas | For Centenary Project Worker, Becky Forrest; working with children and youth at St Mary's and beyond |
| 28 | Learning evening for Lay Ministers on the theme 'Release us' | This month's theme: vocations . Praying for people to be drawn to Commissioned Lay Ministry, the role of Reader, Focal Ministry & Lay Parish Evangelist |
| 29 | St Vincent's Mission, Doncaster (Bishop's Mission Order): for Adam Priestley leading this | Ministry Experience Scheme: allowing young people to explore ministry & discern God's leading for their lives |

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| 30 | Doncaster the Resurrection (Wheatley Park & Wheatley Hills & Intake): 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 |
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May 2026

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. **May = Ecclesfield & Hallam**

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

| Date | Parishes, people & events | Other prayer themes |
|------|--|--|
| 1 | Philip & James, Apostles. Some Greeks came to Philip & said, 'Sir, we would like to see Jesus.' (John 12:21). Pray that you would be ready to introduce people to Jesus | 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 Lights for Christ materials to prove helpful in resourcing churches in this ministry |
| 3 | Christ Church, Hillsborough & Wadsley Bridge: Jim Crossley, Daniel McGinnis | Parson Cross CE Primary School: Julie Wright |
| 4 | St Thomas at Philadelphia: Mike Rutter; Heather Waller Church Army evangelist | Renewed. For John Hibberd, leading on the Renewed part of the strategy, particularly in prayer & pilgrimage |
| 5 | Katie Bell, Diocesan Secretary in her wide-ranging role | Released. That Mission Area Support will provide appropriate practical help to all parishes that need it |
| 6 | Bishop Leah: to know God's strength & guidance, to have some rest after Easter | Rejuvenated. For the church grafts bringing new life round the diocese, and for more of these. |
| 7 | St Mary Walkley: Matthew Rhodes, Beth Keith, Helen Roulston | St Mary's Walkley CE Primary School: Joy Burgess |
| 8 | Cursillo weekend (8-10 May): that it might bless those who come to explore growing in faith through this resource | For Faith in the North, seeking to strengthen mission here through drawing on our spiritual heritage & in supporting the growth of new Christian communities |
| 9 | Several events today focused on prayer & pilgrimage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bright Lights kids' day (organised by Centenary Project) • Hope Pilgrimage stage 1: for Mike Gilbert leading this group • Archbishop of York here for the day: pilgrimage & litter pick with Doncaster Youth Hub (am), pilgrimage to the Cathedral (pm) & pilgrimage to the Sheffield Youth Hub (early eve) | |

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| 10 | Communications & learning team: LJ Buxton: Ben Fearn, Graham Sandersfield, Jason Smedley, Kellianne Montgomery & Julia Fall | As exams approach, we pray for all in our universities & schools – students, lecturers, support staff & chaplaincy teams |
| 11 | Diocesan safeguarding audit 11-16 May: for good engagement with groups across the diocese, leading to even better safeguarding | This month's theme: discipleship . Pray for Joe Goodchild as he settles into his role working with Hannah Sandoval on Lights for Christ |
| 12 | For Assistant Bishops Tim Ellis, Richard Blackburn, Stephen Race & Rob Munro | Nurseries and toddler groups, including any church-run groups you know |
| 13 | St Mark Broomhill: Beth Keith, Shan Rush, Ian Wallis, Helen Roulston, Matthew Rhodes | Continue to pray for Ukraine, using current reliable sources of news |
| 14 | Ascension Day. Jesus said, 'Wait for the gift ... in a few days, you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit' *Acts 1:4-5). Ask Jesus to fill you afresh this Pentecost with the Holy Spirit | Thy Kingdom Come 2026, God with us. We hope to join in prayer with those from our link dioceses in Bondo & Argentina (probably today) |
| 15 | Matthias, Apostle. Give thanks for someone whose ministry has blessed you. Like Matthias they might not be well-known, but they served Jesus faithfully | 'They all joined together constantly in prayer' (Acts 1:14). Consider ways you can set aside time for extra prayer over the coming 10 days. Some material in coming days will be from the TKC Novena |
| 16 | St Thomas Crookes (LEP): Tom Finnemore; Nick Lattimer, Luke Graham, Albert Ong | 'Pray for five' people to have life-changing encounters with Jesus. If you don't yet do this, choose five people & begin to pray |
| 17 | St Saviour Mortomley High Green: Rick Stordy; David Whitehead, Pete Swards | 'I constantly remember you in my prayers' (2 Tim 1:3). Who will you pray for today? And continue to pray for in years to come? |
| 18 | Diocesan Conference planning team meets | Quiet Revival: pray that we would continue to see people being drawn to Jesus |
| 19 | St Nicholas Bradfield: Will Gowers, Sara Goodman | Elijah heard God speak, not in power but in a gentle whisper. Try to be still today & listen intently for God's word to you |
| 20 | St John the Baptist, Chapelton: Rick Stordy; David Whitehead, Pete Swards | We pray for the Spirit to anoint those in leadership, lay and ordained, with the gifts and graces they need |

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| 21 | Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee / Finance & Property Committee | <i>Let us pray that the Spirit of sovereignty would grant us true humility, and that we may serve with a servant's heart, as Christ served us. Amen</i> |
| 22 | For the RMM team (Resourcing Ministry & Mission), bringing together Parish Support Team & St Peter's College. Toby Hole leading this team | 'The Spirit told Philip, go ...' (Acts 8:26) To whom is God sending you with the good news of Jesus? If you say 'no-one', try listening again for God's quiet prompting |
| 23 | Spring Bank Holiday week: for those on holidays & for safety in travel | Possible Pilgrimage event for TKC (with Bishop Pete) |
| 24 | Pentecost. 'All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit & began to speak in other languages' (Acts 1:4). Pray that we may be open to be taken beyond what we know by God | From the TKC Novena: <i>Let us pray that, like that very first Pentecost, we may be transformed by the Holy Spirit, and enabled to become ambassadors for Christ, sharing the love of God with our Five. Amen.</i> |
| 25 | For Chris Ellis & Church Explorers Week (25-31 May), enabling people to engage with Christian faith through our buildings & heritage | For teachers & others who work in our schools: for the pressures they face & for a genuine break this week |
| 26 | St Mark Grenoside; Tim Gill, Claire Williams | 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 |
| 27 | St Mary the Virgin, Ecclesfield: Tim Gill | Bondo Diocese: for construction of the new Cathedral of St Michael & All Angels, which is under way |
| 28 | As we pray for Bondo Diocese, pray too for Kenya, which has seen extensive flooding this year | Bondo Diocese: for mission to the islands on Lake Victoria with the new mission boat launched by the diocese in Sep 2024 |
| 29 | St John the Evangelist Ranmoor: Matthew Rhodes; Alison Wragg, Helen Roulston, Beth Keith | Claire Eaton, Centenary Project Minister in Ranmoor |
| 30 | Christ Church Stannington: Nick Lattimer, Tom Finnemore, Alison Cook | Centenary Project Minister, Elissa Colwill, settling into her ministry in Stannington |
| 31 | Trinity Sunday. That we may be drawn into the loving community of Father, Son & Holy Spirit (3 in 1) | This month's theme: discipleship. For every church to provide resources for people to move from enquirer to follower to one who makes disciples |

June 2026

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 | Archdeacons' visitations: Doncaster (1 June), Rotherham (3 June), Snaith (8 June) & Sheffield (10 June) |
| 2 | Diocesan Advisory Committee. for Simon Chesters-Thompson (DAC Secretary) & Jane King (administrator) | For those who work in the criminal justice system: solicitors, barristers, magistrates, judges & juries |
| 3 | For Hannah Hupfield, Associate Archdeacon here since November, as she continues to deepen links with churches & their leaders | Board of Education meets |
| 4 | Corpus Christi. 'Whenever you eat this bread & drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes' (1 Cor 11:26). Look back, with thanks, but also pray for the hope to come, to which this sacrament always points us | Pray for Mothers' Union celebrations (150th anniversary) taking place through the year, here & nationally |
| 5 | St Laurence, Adwick-le-Street with St Michael & All Angels, Skelbrooke; Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner | This month's theme: evangelism. Pray for churches running Alpha, Christianity Explored and other courses for those enquiring about faith |
| 6 | Parish Safeguarding Officers' Day: an opportunity to recognise their work & also equip them further | Hope Pilgrimage Stage 2, Hope to Upper Burbage Bridge. For pilgrims on this more demanding stage |
| 7 | All Saints Woodlands: Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner | All those who work in the hundreds of care homes across our diocese |
| 8 | All Saints Owston & St Michael Skellow: Stephen Gardner, Jacquie Gardner | For those who work in mental health and for those who seek their help |
| 9 | Bishop's Council | Released. Church Operations & Buildings Team: Libby Culmer, Jo Edwards, Jacob Lea & Krisztina Buci supporting churches in governance & building issues |

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| 10 | New churchwardens' conference: that those newly appointed will feel better equipped for their role | Rejuvenated. Praying for churches looking to reach out by creating new congregations, perhaps creating a more diverse offering of worship |
| 11 | Barnabas, Apostle. 'Set apart for me Barnabas & Saul ...' (Acts 13:2). We forget that Barnabas was the senior partner at this point. Who are we mentoring? Are we ready for them to eclipse us in ministry? | World Cup: for any churches looking to create themed outreach events linked to the tournament over the coming month |
| 12 | St David Airmyn; St Mary the Virgin Hook; St James Rawcliffe; Philip Ball | Hook CE Primary School: Carla Yewman |
| 13 | Peak Pilgrimage Stage 2, Hartington to Monyash: for this to be spiritually refreshing to each participant | South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Oliver Coppard |
| 14 | Bishop Pete: for his ministry in the diocese, his work on the Orgreave Enquiry & his national role in the Lords | Theological colleges & training schemes. For all those leaving them to begin curacies next month |
| 15 | St Laurence Snaith; Holy Trinity Cowick; St John the Baptist Heck & St Paul Hensall; Michael Towle, Chris Hutchinson & a looking to appoint an oversight minister | Cowick CE Primary School: Katherine Rawes Pollington-Balne CE Primary School: Katherine Rawes |
| 16 | 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 |
| 17 | Grants Committee meets today | Those who are bereaved & those close to death |
| 18 | St Wilfrith Moorends | Final meeting of the Diocesan Conference planning group before the event itself |
| 19 | Hope Weekend (19-21): pray for our young people spearheading witness & practical mission over this weekend across the diocese | This month's theme: evangelism. Pray for our Diocesan Community of Evangelists, our Lay Parish Evangelists & Church Army evangelists |
| 20 | St Peter Askern: Stella McHugh | Aid Agencies |
| 21 | Fathers' Day. Pray for fathers you know, those who are struggling as well as those for whom this is a positive day | For the work of Church Army in our diocese and across the country |
| 22 | All Saints Adlingfleet; St Bartholomew Eastoft; St Margaret Swinefleet; St Mary Magdalene Whitgift: | Eastoft CE Primary School: Janine Bassingdale |

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| 23 | For Anesia Cook in her role as Racial Justice Officer & Rachel Edmonds working alongside her | This week we pray for the creation around us, beginning by confessing our misuse and plundering of it |
| 24 | For Denise Teal, Chaplain among deaf people & for others who assist with signing at major events | Creation: for renewed commitment to face the climate catastrophe & move towards net zero targets |
| 25 | Mike North in his role at advisor for children, youth & families work | Creation: for the protection of endangered species & biodiversity |
| 26 | Our partnership with the church district of Hattingen-Witten . Today we pray for: the parish of Nierenhof: Dirk Scheuermann | Creation: for proper regulation of the water industry here & overseas, tackling leakage & indiscriminate dumping of sewage into rivers & the sea |
| 27 | Hattingen-Witten. Today we pray for: the parish of Ruedinghausen: Carsten Griese | Creation: for sustainable use of all resources, including fishing |
| 28 | Prison Chaplains: Marion Ball, Joanne Byrne & Christopher Hobbs | Creation: for an end to the wanton destruction of rain forests, wetlands, coral reefs & other important habitats |
| 29 | St Peter & St Paul . 'Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ to God's elect ...' (1 Pet 1:1). Give thanks for the commitment of both these early leaders to pass on faithfully what Jesus taught | Creation: for those who work in farming, particularly as we approach the start of the harvesting season |
| 30 | Waterways Chaplain: Sally Davies | For the important contribution of retired clergy across the diocese |