

Calendar of Intercessions

October 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 twinned deanery. **October = Wath & Tankersley**

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	Deanery of Wath Area Dean John Armstrong, Lay Chair Michael McDonald	Bishops' deanery visit with a focus on mutual flourishing: Ecclesall deanery
2	Giving thanks for the ministry of Julie Upton as Associate Archdeacon Transition Enabler in Tankersley & Wath deaneries & the appointment of a successor later in the year	Praying for parishes this month: think beyond the church name & the listed clergy to congregation members and the wider community (and for schools beyond the name of the head teacher)
3	Diocesan Development Day: leading your church into growth, the next step: pray that this event, taking onsite and online	For keynote speaker Bishop Rhiannon King, Bishop Pete's Bible reflection & all those involved in offering workshops
4	Christ Church, Ardsley: for the appointment process of a new minister in Ardsley to work with Sarah Maughan & Jo Twigg	October theme: planting, grafting & new congregations. Give thanks for the places where an influx of new people has led to further growth
5	Holy Trinity, Wentworth: Marie Raffay	Wentworth CE Primary School: Gemma Platts
6	Online Q&A sessions for churches from the Net Zero team through the autumn, beginning today	Bishops' deanery visit: Attercliffe. Pray for the meetings with Deanery Chapter & Deanery Synod
7	All Saints, Darfield and St Michael and All Angels, Great Houghton: as they seek to appoint a new Oversight Minister to work alongside Sarah Maughan & Jo Twigg	All Saints CE Academy, Darfield: Catherine Green
8	St Helen, Thurnscoe: Sarah Maughan, Jo Twigg	Bishops' deanery visit: Adwick. Some visits have additional meetings. Pray for a fruitful day

9	Baby loss week. Pray for all those directly affected by this, especially any known to you personally	Renewed: for the prayer community to remain active & for fruitful partnership with Lights for Christ
10	Intercultural worship gathering taking place today to inspire & equip people to create worship that spans different cultures	Released: for mission area support, offered across a range of practical issues
11	Lay Parish Evangelists, supporting their churches in mission & evangelism	Rejuvenated: John Marsh supporting those who are starting new things, including start-up grants
12	St John the Baptist Penistone & St Saviour Thurlstone; St Aidan, Oxspring; St Anne Carlecotes; St James, Midhope: David Hopkin; Chris Herbert	St John the Baptist Penistone CE Primary School: Suzie Arnold
13	Diocesan Advisory Committee meets (and again 24 Nov)	Sian Brews, CPW at Penistone, running parent & toddler group, engaging with schools, hosting Messy Church & working on an all-age service
14	Network Gathering: to encourage & equip all those involved in ministry with children & young people	October theme: courage to begin new congregations, perhaps to reach a different group of people
15	St Andrew the Apostle, Bolton-upon-Dearne; St John the Evangelist & St Mary Magdalene, Goldthorpe & St Wilfrid, Hickleton: Carl Schaeffer; Allen Briscoe	Bishops' Deanery visit, aiming to help people of different theological views work with good mutual understanding: Ecclesfield
16	Christ Church, Brampton Bierlow: Charles Burton, John Parker	Brampton Ellis CE Primary School: Adam Minor
17	PCC treasurers & secretaries' conference. For a useful day to support people in these key roles	Ukraine: we persist in prayer for peace & an end to the brutal indiscriminate attacks on civilians
18	Luke the Evangelist: choose a chapter of Luke's Gospel & use its themes as a focus for prayer	Shine your light fortnight (to 1 Nov). School resources, 'Truth & Treat' bags, and other opportunities to share God's love with our communities
19	The development of the Young Leaders' Community & Rachel Baker as she facilitates this	Bishops' Deanery visit: Hallam. Pray for visits to Deanery Chapter, Synod & any other meetings organised today
20	All Saints, Wath-upon-Dearne: Charles Burton, John Parker	Wath CE Primary School: Paul Beevor

21	Diocesan Grants Committee meets: for supportive responses to each church applying	Centenary Project Worker, Rachel Parker working in Wath & Brampton Bierlow in schools, Messy Church, toddler groups & much else
22	Finance & Property Committee meets	Bishops' Deanery visit on mutual flourishing: West Doncaster
23	St Peter Hoyland & St Andrew Hoyland: pray for the churchwardens in the vacancy	October theme: churches preparing to engage in offering or receiving a graft
24	St Mary, Wombwell and St George, Jump: John Armstrong	Hemingfield, Ellis CE Primary School: Emily Edwards
25	Katie Bell, in senior leadership as Diocesan Secretary & CEO of the diocese	Centenary Project Worker, Steph Peake, working across two churches & the church school
26	Centenary Project Worker posts: meeting to review new applications to expand our work with youth, children & families	Argentina link diocese , Mendoza. For the Lord of the Vine church and Andrew Walker, the minister
27	The Orgreave Inquiry. For +Pete in his role in chairing this & outcomes that will address deeply held concerns	Argentina link diocese , Arias: for lay leaders of this church in a small town in the middle of the Pampas
28	Simon & Jude, Apostles: 'I felt compelled to write & urge you to contend for the faith' (Jude 1:3). Pray that the church may remain faithful to the gospel entrusted to us	Argentina link diocese , St Paul's Córdoba: for the lay leaders who have oversight from the Cathedral (500 miles away!)
29	For our safeguarding team, Sian Checkley, Rachel Tankard, Elina Penttila, Lyn Adamson & Deborah Corker-Vaughan, as they handle enquiries, offer training & support victims	The Gathering (24-7 prayer) in Belfast but also (free) online. https://www.24-7prayer.com/event/gathering26/
30	St Andrew, Kendray: Pete Jackson	Argentina link diocese , Los Cocos: another lay-led church in a small town in the Córdoba Hills
31	Assistant Bishops Richard Blackburn, Tim Ellis, Stephen Race & Rob Munro	Churches hosting Light Parties as a healthy alternative to Halloween

November 2026

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1	All Saints Day: give thanks that we are surrounded by 'such a great cloud of witnesses' (Heb 12:1). 11 churches in the Diocese celebrate a patronal festival	Rotherham Deanery: Co-Area Deans Phil Batchford & Lynn Broadhead, Lay Chair Peter Rainford
2	For Julie Bacon, Associate Archdeacon supporting churches & mentoring clergy as Transition Enabler in Laughton & Rotherham Deaneries	Bishops' Deanery visit with a focus on mutual flourishing: Snaith & Hatfield
3	For Stephanie Mason, Programme Management Officer, helping us to make strategic use of central funding. And for Alex Shilkoff, Strategic Programme Director	Praying for parishes this month: pray for engagement with the community through Remembrance and regular weekly events
4	David Gerrard in his role as Archdeacon, supporting churches in deaneries across Rotherham & Sheffield	For the replenishment of reservoirs over this winter, after nationwide drought conditions
5	Holy Trinity Thorpe Hesley LEP: Lynn Broadhead, Ali Middleton, Rebecca Hare & Steve Grasham (Church Army)	For peace in the Middle East, especially in Gaza, the West Bank, Iran & the Straits of Hormuz
6	Rotherham Minster & St Paul's Masbrough: Phil Batchford; Justine Smith, Louise Castle, Lizzie Ilsley	Louise Castle in her role as Bishop's Advisor in Healing & Wholeness
7	St Mary Rawmarsh with Parkgate & St Mary Greasbrough; Sami Ellmore & Ali Middleton in her pioneer role across the mission area	November theme: living sustainably. After a summer of extreme heat, pray for political resolve to address the climate emergency
8	Remembrance Sunday: pray for all those in our churches leading events in their community today	King Charles & the Royal Family: for all the engagements they fulfil, including those on this day
9	Board of Education meets	For the United Nations and its leader, António Guterres

10	For recruitment to key posts in on-going ministry development for clergy & curate training	For all those who serve in local government in our area
11	Armistice Day: pray for one country where they need peace to break out today	For those who serve in our Armed Forces, including chaplains
12	St Nicholas Ryecroft & Holy Trinity, Dalton. Wisdom to know what to do with Holy Trinity, which is now closed	Dalton Trinity Croft CE Infant & Junior School: Maria Allen and Amy Gurner
13	St John Kimberworth Park & St Thomas Kimberworth: Lynn Broadhead; Joseph Hare, Ali Middleton in her pioneer role, Steve Grasham (Church Army)	For refugees & asylum seekers & those who work with them, especially as they face increasing hostility in our society
14	Churchwardens Conference: an annual opportunity to encourage & equip people serving in this key role	Readers' preaching day on Mark's Gospel. For Amy Hole as she leads & for the preaching / worship leading role of Readers across the diocese
15	All Saints, Aston cum Aughton with Swallownest. Vicky Camber	Aston CE Primary School: Rebecca Webster
16	General Synod (16-18 Nov): particularly for all newly elected lay & clergy members. Pray for our Sheffield Diocese delegates	Faith in the North, supporting dioceses in spirituality / pilgrim places, planting new churches & growing younger
17	Javaid Iqbal, Archdeacon of Doncaster: that he will be able to make good use of his passions for evangelism, diversity, equality and wellbeing	For initiatives in the Church of England to strengthen ministry on estates & in areas of deprivation. For churches you know in such places locally
18	The Rivers Team (Brinsworth, Tinsley, Catcliffe, Treeton & Waverley): Phil Barringer, Debbie Coyne, Eddie Short, Toby Butler	Treeton CE Primary School: Emma Minhas
19	James Norris as he settles into his role as Bishop Pete's chaplain	Bishops' Deanery visit: Wath. Pray for good meetings with Deanery Chapter & Deanery Synod
20	Centenary Project: Sarah Beardsmore (Project Manager), Nicola Adams (Admin), and the central support team: Steph Darbyshire, Dave Ludbrook, Hannah Robinson & Hayley Thorne	Sarah Clayton, CPW with the Rivers Team, working with families from First Steps to Messy Church, School Assemblies and follow up for baptism families
21	Diocesan Synod: for all those presenting material & for good open discussion	Renewed: for our diocesan prayer goal to see 2.5% of the population as committed disciples

22	Christ the King: 'Your king comes to you, gentle & riding on a donkey' (Matt 21:5). Pray for people might reach out to Jesus & find salvation	Released: for Beth Burras, overseeing an increasing range of authorised lay ministries, with Rachael Williams as administrator
23	Bondo Diocese: for Bishop David, Bishop Emily and all the lay & ordained leaders in the diocese. For more news, see: http://bondoack.org	Rejuvenated: for John Marsh & Ali Middleton, bringing together pioneers & missionaries in a learning community
24	Bondo Diocese. for the continuing work to build a new Cathedral, including God's financial provision	Bishops' Deanery visit on mutual flourishing: Rotherham
25	Bondo Diocese. Give thanks for the summer visit, pray for the development of the link with Sheffield Diocese	Nepal: rebuilding of communities & individual lives after the devastating flooding
26	Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee meets	Victims of abuse & violence, and those who support them
27	St Peter and St Paul, Todwick and Holy Trinity Ulley: Vicky Camber	Living sustainably. With Black Friday & Cyber Monday, pray for people to resist consumerist frenzy
28	St John the Baptist, Wales; All Hallows, Harthill and St Peter, Thorpe Salvin: Gary Schofield	Community Centres: all they provide by way of a warm space, activities, and a place to socialise
29	Advent Sunday. Lord, our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ, for he is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. Amen	For small groups in our churches & all they offer to help people grow as disciples. For churches trying to start such groups for the first time
30	Andrew the Apostle. 'At once ... they followed him' (Matt 4:20). Pray for three people today you know to hear Jesus' voice & become his followers	Bishops' Deanery visit: Doncaster. Pray for a good final day in this series of deanery visits

December 2026

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1	West Doncaster Deanery: For a new Area Dean & Lay Chair Noreen Sweed	For those who work in retail, as the busy Christmas season approaches
2	For the appointment of a new Associate Archdeacon Transition enabler in Doncaster & West Doncaster deaneries	Praying for parishes this month: for the opportunities of Advent and Christmas, to deepen the faith of the faithful and to reach out with the good news of the Saviour's birth
3	For Mike Reeder, chaplain to Bishop Leah	Ukraine: check the latest news for the key issues on which to pray
4	Buildings Team supporting churches across the diocese: Jo Edwards, Chris Ellis, Jacob Lea & Krisztina Buci	AI: for appropriate regulation & safety protocols, given the concern of key people working in this industry
5	St Mary, Tickhill with St Winifred, Stainton: for lay leaders & Carol Lee, as the church works towards appointing a new Oversight Minister	December theme: making Jesus accessible. In a month when we engage more with visitors, that our welcome may be genuine & Jesus made known clearly
6	Advent 2. Jesus, Prince of Peace, calm my anxious heart today. Help me to rest in your presence, knowing you are near. Let your peace be my guide. Amen	Christingle events during December. Also, for the work of Children's Society & for Alison Cook (Diocesan Ambassador for this)
7	St John the Baptist, Edlington with St Jude, Hexthorpe: Michael Dixon	For improved access to mental health services for all who need them
8	Holy Trinity and St Oswald, Finningley with St Saviour, Auckley: Neil Redeyoff; Carol Lee	St Oswald's Finningley CE Academy: Sharon Patton & Hannah Lambert
9	Our link with Hattingen-Witten: prayers over the next 3 days for ... Parish of Wengern: Michael Waschhof and Juergen Krueger	Hannah Robinson, CPW at Holy Trinity & St Oswald's, running café church & also overseeing children's & youth hubs as part of the central team

10	Our link with Hattingen-Witten Parish of Stockum: Aletta Dahlhaus	Leading your Church into Growth: for churches exploring next steps
11	Our link with Hattingen-Witten Parish of Annen: Claus Humbert, Sabine Maiwald-Humbert & Uwe Stein	For the NHS during the winter season, when hospitals in particular face increased pressure
12	St Michael, Rossington: Neil Redeyoff, Carol Lee St Luke New Rossington: served by various other clergy	All Saints Rossington CE Academy: Stacey Parker-Browne St Michael Rossington CE Primary School: Matt Walker & Philippa Cousins
13	Advent 3. Lord of joy, wake our hearts to feel the nearness of your grace. Fill our spirits with a clear song of gladness, so that we may point others to the light of your coming kingdom. Amen	Making Jesus accessible: including practical changes to help those with physical or neuro-divergent needs
14	Bishop's Senior Staff Team residential (14-15 Dec). For fruitful discussions in the space afforded by being away together	For all those who will be preaching over Christmas – clergy, Readers, others
15	St Peter, Conisburgh: Martijn Mugge	Receiving the light of Christ: ask God what might help your faith to grow & develop during this Advent season
16	All Saints, Denaby Main: Tom Brown	Walking in the light of Christ: pray over your everyday pattern of life. Is there one thing where you might apply your faith better?
17	Doncaster Minster St George: Richard Frith	Reflecting the light of Christ: ask God to give you opportunity to share your hope in Christ with one person during the Christmas season
18	For the Archer Project and other places offering support to homeless people, especially over Christmas	For churches & leaders of other denominations near you, as they prepare for the Christmas season
19	St Francis of Assisi, West Bessacarr: Richard Heard, Liz Gibson	For teachers: to be refreshed by the Christmas break
20	Advent 4. God of love, your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us. He is a sign of your love. Help us walk in that love, as we wait and prepare for his coming. Amen	Making Jesus accessible. For Carol Services, that visitors might encounter Jesus through the readings & carols that bear witness to him
21	Bishop Pete & Bishop Leah: for their leadership in the diocese, opportunities to share good news over the Christmas season & some time for rest	For peace in the Middle East: Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, Syria, Yemen, Iran & the Gulf. Spend time praying through the latest news stories

22	Benefice of St Wilfrid Cantley with St Hugh of Lincoln New Cantley: Andrew Howard, Joel Gillin	Branton St Wilfrid's CE Primary School: Jo Turner
23	St James Doncaster: Richard Frith, Michael Parnell	Doncaster Urdu Congregation: praying that it may continue to grow & thrive
24	Christmas Eve: for those holding crib services and midnight services of Holy Communion – a warm welcome to visitors with a powerful celebration of this amazing night	For Christians in countries where they are persecuted for their faith. For them Christmas celebrations often look very different & can be dangerous times
25	Christmas Day: 'The Word became flesh & made his dwelling among us' (Jn 1:5). Pray that those who come to worship today will encounter Jesus	Think of the churches of other denominations in your parish: pray for their Christmas events & services
26	Stephen, the first martyr: Pray to be like Stephen, 'full of faith & of the Holy Spirit' (Acts 6:5)	Praying for groups represented in the nativity story. The innkeeper: those working in hospitality, entertainment & sport during the Christmas season
27	St John the Evangelist: it is said John preached a simple message 'love one another' (1 John 3:11) as he got older. Pray this for yourself & your church	The shepherds: those whose work doesn't easily offer them a break – farmers, emergency services, medical staff, shopworkers, etc.
28	The Holy Innocents: pray for all children suffering in war zones or due to violence, including Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, and many more places	The wise men: those who are seeking after spiritual truth, that they might be led to Jesus
29	Retired clergy, giving thanks for their valuable support in many parishes	Mary & Joseph: for new parents, some of whom will have a baby between Christmas & New Year
30	The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell	Pray for one or more areas of conflict in our world that 2027 might bring decisive moves towards peace
31	New Year's Eve: spend some time reflecting on the past year, for you & for your church. Give thanks for the good things, pray for on-going needs	Pray for those who might find Christmas & New Year difficult: the lonely, bereaved, prisoners & refugees