

# Calendar of Intercessions

## January 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. **January = Attercliffe and Ecclesall.** I am trialling a monthly prayer theme in 2025; each month will have a focus that features once each week.

*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	What are your hopes for 2025? Your concerns & struggles? Turn these into prayers & know that God hears you	Find a copy of the Diocesan Vision Prayer ( <a href="https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/2025-prayer-group-resources">https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/2025-prayer-group-resources</a> ). Pray it for yourself, your church, your Mission Area, and our diocese for the coming year
2	Attercliffe Deanery: co-Area Deans, Lucy Sablan & Sue Stewart & Lay Chair Sue Gentle	In praying for parishes this month, please also pray for the whole congregation and the community they serve
3	Sheffield Manor: for churchwardens & lay leaders in the vacancy, Andrew Wooding (Church Army)	For all who are returning to work this week after the Christmas break
4	For the Associate Archdeacon, Chris Stebbing, supporting clergy and encouraging churches in these deaneries	<b>Renewed.</b> That the life of our churches & diocese might be based on dependence on God, expressed through regular & fervent prayer
5	Bishop Sophie: as she continues to give herself fully to ministry here while preparing for her transition to a Diocesan Bishop role in Coventry	<b>Released.</b> For growth in faith & action as Jesus' disciples, particularly through Lights for Christ. Chrissy Moorey in her role as LfC enabler this year
6	<b>Epiphany.</b> 'When they saw the star, they were overjoyed' (Matt 2:10). Pray that many spiritual seekers will be guided to Jesus this year, from all nations	<b>Monthly theme: vision.</b> A new feature for the Calendar to bring a weekly focus in our prayers to some key issues. Ask God: what should my church focus on in 2025?
7	Bill Goodman in his role as Director of Ongoing Ministerial Development resourcing leaders. For his workshop this evening on preaching from the Old Testament prophets	<b>Rejuvenated.</b> For John Marsh, supporting churches who want to create new congregations or explore church planting / grafting
8	St John the Evangelist, Park; Luke Graham, curate in charge	Emmaus RC & CE Primary School: Helen Simmerson

9	For diocesan communications & learning team: LJ Buxton, Ben Fearn, Jason Smedley, Kellianne Montgomery, Graham Sandersfield & Julia Fall	Kirsty Dronfield, Centenary Project Worker in Park St John, reaching out to children & families in this community
10	St Alban Darnall & Church of Christ Attercliffe LEP; Lisa Quarmby	Centre of Mission: Kinder & Gina Kalsi
11	Christ Church, Heeley: Amy Hole	Laura Passo, Centenary Project Worker: for the after school club, toddler group, and Refresh Morning women's group
12	St Leonard's Community Church: Lucy Sablan, Britt Webb	Lynne Noble, Centenary Project Worker, looking to build new community links
13	Bishop's Staff: first strategy meeting of the New Year. Pray for wisdom across their wide agenda, including the process to find a new Bishop of Doncaster	<b>Monthly theme: vision.</b> What has my church learnt from Mission Action Planning? Can we re-visit this in 2025?
14	St Peter Greenhill: Ben Shires	For the Middle East. Use a reliable news website for updates. Pray for Israel, Palestine, Lebanon & Syria in particular, including the political leaders of each
15	St James the Great Norton: Ben Shires, Rachel Crossley (curate here & at St Chad Woodseats)	Norton Free CE Primary School: Hazel Bell
16	St Paul Norton Lees: Jon Hidden	St Chad Woodseats: Jon Hidden, Rachel Crossley (curate)
17	<b>Argentina link diocese:</b> pray for Bishop Brian & for all the travel involved in ministering across a very large geographical area	<b>Curates' Residential Weekend</b> with Bishop Sophie, Tim Fletcher & others (17-19 Jan). For a fruitful time as they consider what makes for healthy growing churches
18	<b>Argentina link diocese.</b> Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist, Buenos Aires: Marcelo Centurion and Mónica Tompkins	<b>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January):</b> we use the coming week to pray for unity and cooperation but also for each denomination to flourish
19	<b>Argentina link diocese:</b> Port Chaplaincy, Buenos Aires: Ariel Irrazabal. Their ministry to seafarers All Saints, Quilmes, Buenos Aires: Mónica Tompkins	Pray for any events taking place today to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
20	USA. Presidential inauguration day. Pray for a peaceful event & for the next 4 years there & globally	<b>Monthly theme: vision.</b> Pray about how vision is communicated in your church or mission area
21	Baptist Churches: YBA regional ministers Nike Adebajo, Graham Ensor & Alex Harris	Roman Catholic Churches: Bishop Ralph The Orthodox Church
22	St Philip's Sheffield (Bishop's Mission Order): Sarah Ducker	United Reformed Church: Jamie Kissack, Yorkshire Synod Moderator

23	Finance & Property Committee & Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee meet	Salvation Army: Jane Cowell, South Yorkshire Commander
24	St Peter & St Oswald Sheffield: for lay leaders in the vacancy	Methodist churches: Gill Newton as District Chair. For our unity covenant in Sheffield and any Local Ecumenical Projects
25	<b>Breathe Deep.</b> Pray that this will again bring great encouragement to the 11-18s who attend, along with their leaders. Theme: pilgrimage. Young people leading most of it	Pentecostal and non-denominational churches, including those meeting to worship in other languages
26	St Andrew Psalter Lane LEP: Naomi Cooke	Clifford All Saints CE Primary School: Andy Krabbendam
27	Church Buildings Team: Jo Edwards, Josh Hunter, & Chris Ellis, supporting churches to maintain & develop their buildings for missional use	<b>Monthly theme: vision.</b> Perhaps vision is not clear in your church. Pray about how & when to make space to discern it better. An away day this year maybe?
28	Holy Cross, Gleadless Valley: David Middleton	Pray for all who work in hospitals. Winter, with its viruses, tends to be when they are under the greatest pressure
29	St Catherine of Siena, Richmond Road: for the churchwardens & lay leaders in the vacancy	Praying for the process to appoint a new Archbishop of Canterbury. For a godly leader to lead us faithfully in following Jesus Christ.
30	St Mary, Handsworth: Keith Johnson	Board of Faith & Justice meeting today
31	Kirsty Duxbury (Diocesan Registrar), Sarah (Diocesan Chancellor) & Sarah Spear (Deputy Chancellor) & Tim Ellis (Registry Clerk) supporting us in legal matters	Those who work in the justice system at a time when it is under pressure: probation officers, solicitors, barristers, magistrates, judges and juries

## February 2025

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1	Adwick-le-Street Deanery: Area Dean Dave Berry, Lay Chair Ann Gray	In praying for parishes this month, pray for the communities they serve (you could check out local news for current stories)
2	<b>Presentation of Christ in the Temple.</b> 'Moved by the Spirit, he went ...' (Luke 2:27). Ask God to give you the same daily attentiveness to His voice that Simeon showed	Pray for those seeking baptism or thanksgiving or preparing for confirmation
3	For the Associate Archdeacon, Hannah Hupfield, as she settles into this role & builds relationships with the churches & their leaders	<b>Monthly theme: strategic funding.</b> Pray for our diocesan bid for significant additional national funding through SMMIB. A response is likely this month
4	Bishop's Council meets tonight; for wisdom & listening to God's Spirit	Our universities (Hallam & Sheffield) & the work of the chaplaincy team. For any evangelistic missions taking place this term through Christian Union groups. Also for funding challenges in higher education
5	St Lawrence Hatfield: Chris Bishop; Gill Salter, Chris Wroot	Travis St Lawrence CE Primary School: Philippa Cousins
6	Bishop Pete in his diocesan & national leadership responsibilities. For continued anointing in his preaching, teaching & pastoring	Rachel Ridler: Youth, Children's & Families' worker at St Lawrence, Hatfield. For her work with Messy Church, schools, and new ventures
7	St Nicholas Thorne: Tim Mitchell	<b>Renewed:</b> preparations for Thy Kingdom Come in May-June this year
8	<b>Centenary Project:</b> the central team supporting CPWs in our diocese: Sarah Beardsmore, Dave Ludbrook, Steph Darbyshire, Dan Fall, Hannah Robinson, & Nicola Adams	<b>Released:</b> Beth Burras now heading up Focal Ministry, supported by Rachael Williams. For those exploring FM roles & all the work to support & equip them
9	For Tony Gardiner, Finance Director, as he becomes established in his role; for the team that works with him	<b>Rejuvenated:</b> for existing & new church in schools congregations to grow

10	General Synod (10-14th): pray for our representatives – (laity) Anna De Castro, Jane Patterson, Cathy Rhodes & Michaela Suckling; (clergy) Malcolm Chamberlain, Eleanor Robertshaw & Rick Stordy; Bishop Pete	<b>Monthly theme: strategic funding.</b> Common Fund is an essential source of income for ministry. Pray for parishes to be generous in pledging & diligent in paying. Pray for the total to grow, not decline
11	St Mary Stainforth: Jacqui Jones, Caroline Meadon (curate)	Those who are unemployed or facing the uncertainty of zero hours contracts
12	St Cuthbert Fishlake with Holy Trinity Sykehouse; St Mary Kirk Bramwith with Fenwick & Moss: Jacqui Jones, Caroline Meadon (curate)	Those who are struggling with fuel poverty, particularly in this cold period of the year
13	St Helen, Burghwallis & St Mary Campsall: for the churchwardens & other lay leaders in the vacancy	Those who find it hard to put food on the table & for the lifeline provided by local food banks
14	Centenary Project Doncaster Hub as they have a 24/7 Prayer Sleepover in Sprotbrough: for the young people to be inspired in their prayer lives	Those who are homeless or in temporary accommodation
15	Dan Christian, Director of Vocations & Diocesan Director of Ordinands. For wisdom as he guides those exploring God's calling for them	For the ministry of Readers, both in public worship & funeral ministry, as well as their roles in the wider community / the world of work
16	St Leonard & St Jude, Doncaster with St Luke Scawthorpe: David D'Silva, Ray Parkin	Melanie Pay, Centenary Project Worker as she develops her ministry here
17	St Philip & St James, New Bentley with All Saints, Arksey: David D'Silva, Ray Parkin	<b>Monthly theme: strategic funding.</b> For churches seeking grant funding for large building projects to make a persuasive case for the difference this can make in mission & connection with the community
18	<b>RMM (Resourcing Mission &amp; Ministry):</b> combining the work of the Parish Support Team with training & vocations since early 2023. For Toby Hole, heading up this team	<b>Link diocese of Bondo</b> in Kenya. Visit their updated website & pray for the current needs you see there: ( <a href="https://bondoack.org">https://bondoack.org</a> )
19	<b>Mission Development Advisors:</b> Renewed (John Hibberd), Released (Mark Wigglesworth), Rejuvenated (John Marsh); Grant Naylor working particularly with churches in the Catholic tradition	<b>Link diocese of Bondo:</b> pray for Bishop David Kodia & assistant Bishop Emily Onyango in their leadership of the diocese
20	Cathy Rhodes, Diocesan Environment Officer & her team: leading on Net Zero carbon & Eco Diocese initiatives	<b>Link diocese of Bondo:</b> construction of the new Cathedral is progressing. Pray for continued good progress & God's financial provision

21	St Mary the Virgin, Sprotbrough: Amanda Barraclough; Robert Heaton, Christine Herbert	Pray for Christine Herbert also in her role as Disability Advisor
22	St Peter, Bentley: David Berry, Rachel Price	Teachers, teaching assistants, caretakers & others who work in our local schools
23	Safeguarding Team, led by Sian Checkley. Rachel Tankard & Elina Penttila, with Claire Sayce providing training, plus Debs Corker-Vaughan	For all victims & survivors of abuse, especially as there have been some very large scale cases in the news in recent months
24	<b>Ukraine:</b> the 3rd anniversary of the Russian invasion. Continue to pray for all those suffering as a result & for a just end to the conflict	<b>Monthly theme: strategic funding.</b> For Small Sparks & other diocesan grants to help churches kick-start new missional projects
25	DAC meets; pray that they would be able to help each church move forward well & creatively with their project	Those who are victims of racism. For more to be done, in society & in churches, to positively embrace people from different cultures & ethnic backgrounds
26	Grants Committee: for careful consideration of each application	For the United Nations and António Guterres, the General Secretary
27	Javaid Iqbal, Archdeacon of Doncaster in his work across the archdeaconry & involvement in the Doncaster Urdu congregation	For an end to the conflict in Syria & for aid to reach those in need there
28	Katie Bell, our Diocesan Secretary, with her responsibilities for diocesan planning, finance & governance	For the country of Haiti, where lawlessness makes life incredibly difficult

## March 2025

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1	<b>Joined Up.</b> That this annual event will again bring encouragement & fresh ideas to all those working with families, children & youth	Arise Rotherham & Arise Sheffield both begin today, aiming to pray in every street in the city / borough. Pray too for a good launch event at Rotherham Minster
2	Ecclesall Deanery: Area Dean Mark Brown & Lay Chair (vacancy at time of publication)	In praying for parishes this month, pray beyond the church building and any names of ministers. Pray for the mission of the church in words & deeds
3	<b>Bishop's Annual Lecture</b> (evening). For Rev Dr Isabel Hamley speaking on the theme of well-being & caring for mental health	<b>Monthly theme: prayer.</b> Whether or not you live in Sheffield & Rotherham, pray for the Arise initiatives seeking to bless every home in every street
4	<b>Bishop's Annual Lecture.</b> The full day version of this event. Bishop Pete & a panel of guests also taking part in addressing well-being issues	For Associate Archdeacon Chris Stebbing, working in Attercliffe & Ecclesall Deaneries in this time of change
5	<b>Ash Wednesday.</b> If you cannot get to a service, try Companions in Daily Prayer online (8.30am / 9.00pm) as a way to begin your Lent	<b>Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name ...</b> We begin Lent by praying as Jesus taught us, beginning with praise, founded on being drawn close to God
6	St Gabriel's Greystones: Alistair Stevenson, Pete Gaunt	<b>Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as in heaven ...</b> Where do you look for God's kingdom or will to be done today?
7	(Women's) world day of prayer. Events, e.g. Kimberworth	<b>Give us our daily bread; forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us ...</b> God invites us to be open with him about our practical needs but also the murky things in our life that we'd rather hide
8	<b>Diocesan Synod.</b> Bishop Pete & others who will be speaking; for all those who have been elected to this body in the past year	<b>Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil ...</b> Pray about the challenges you face or you see others wrestling with

9	St John the Evangelist Abbeydale & Holy Trinity Millhouses: Nicholas Noble, Catherine Staziker	<b>For Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory. Amen.</b> How will you commit your life afresh to God this Lent?
10	Christ Church Dore: Andy Patrick	<b>Monthly theme: prayer.</b> Pray for people, including yourself, seeking to draw closer to God during Lent
11	All Saints Totley: Ben Tanner	Totley All Saints CE Primary School: Mel Drake
12	All Saints Ecclesall: Mark Brown, Roland Slade, Godfrey Smallman, Simon Oatridge. Rosie Blackett (children's worker) & Cameron Catto (youth minister)	For churches across Rotherham & Laughton deaneries as they begin the 'Talking Jesus' course today. That this will equip people & give them greater confidence to share their faith in Jesus
13	St Augustine Endcliffe: Ela Hall	For worship leaders around the diocese
14	St Mary Bramall Lane: Claire Dawson, Karen Cribb	Porter Croft CE Primary School: Cath Thomas
15	Whirlow Spirituality Centre: for any Lent events & courses to help people to deepen their faith. For chaplain, Alison Richards	Our link diocese in Germany, <b>Hattingen-Witten:</b> Church District Superintendent Minister: Julia Holtz. Parish of Martin Luther, Witten: Dirk Schuklat
16	Malcolm Chamberlain, Archdeacon of Sheffield & Rotherham, including his role on strategic funding. For Claire Dawson continuing to work as his assistant	Parish of the Trinity, Witten: Heike Bundt, Branko-Christian Uhlstein, Johannes Ditthardt and Mareike Gintzel. allParish of St John, Witten (Hattingen-Witten) Wolfram Linnemann, Mareike Gintzel and Christian Holtz
17	St Cyprian Frecheville: Cliff Kay	<b>Monthly theme: prayer.</b> For all Lent courses, Lent lunches & retreat days to deepen the faith of those who attend
18	St Mary the Virgin Beighton & St James Woodhouse: Daniel Hartley	Dave Ludbrook, Youth & Families worker, running various discipleship groups & very involved in local schools. Dave is also Pastoral Manager for Centenary Project
19	Christ Church Endcliffe (Bishop's Mission Order): Ed Pennington Rob Bridgewater	Scout & guide groups (and other uniformed organisations) in the diocese & their links to local churches
20	Meetings today: the Net Zero Steering Group and the Strategy Development Funding Board	The beginning of spring! Could you take a short prayer walk outside? Pray for issues of biodiversity, habitat loss, UK river quality, farming & access to green space
21	Pray for the bishops' chaplains, Harry Steele (+Pete) & Michael Reeder (+Doncaster), as they support the bishops in their ministry	For the emergency services – fire brigade, ambulance workers, paramedics & the police



22	St Mark Mosborough & Emmanuel Waterthorpe LEP: Sue Stewart	Emmanuel Anglican-Methodist Junior School: Leyton McHale and Jo Thorpe
23	St Matthew Carver Street: Grant Naylor, Alan Watson, Richard Parker	For Richard Parker also in his role as chaplain to the Mothers' Union across the diocese
24	Christ Church Hackenthorpe: Claire Welch (curate-in-charge)	<b>Monthly theme: prayer.</b> For our Diocesan Prayer Community to grow & for us to find ways to deepen our interaction
25	<b>The Annunciation.</b> 'I am the Lord's servant' (Luke 1:38). What is God calling you to do? Are there any ways in which you hang back? And for our Chrism Eucharist	Meetings today of Diocesan Mission & Pastoral Committee and the Finance & Property Committee.
26	Christ Church Gleadless with St Peter Basegreen; Cliff Kay, June Fox	Churches preparing for APCMs in the coming month: those considering standing for PCC or to serve as Churchwardens
27	Cathedral Church of St Peter & St Paul Sheffield: Abi Thompson, Justin Dodd, Daniel Wyman, Emily McDonald, Casey Strine, Ian Maher, Michael Collyer, Richard & Ann Walton	<b>Released:</b> Libby Culmer & her team offering financial support to churches on giving, generosity & treasurer roles: Caroline Langston, Claire Stinson, Janet Daye, Paul Sheridan & Luke Banting
28	Julian Raffay, Spirituality Advisor & his role with spiritual accompaniers	<b>Rejuvenated:</b> that we might 'grow younger' as a diocese – new places to meet new people & an intentional welcome to children, young people & families, even when it means embracing change
29	Clergy spouses and the Partners Together group, supporting family life in ministry	For social media; that it might be used for good, not ill; for the pressures some people experience through it
30	<b>Mothering Sunday.</b> Giving thanks for mothers, praying also for those for whom today is difficult for a number of reasons	Care homes, intermediate / respite care & hospices. Give thanks for those who work in these settings & pray for their care they give to people at different stages of life
31	For Assistant Bishops Stephen Race, Rob Munro, Richard Blackburn & Tim Ellis, thanking God for the support they offer to churches	Ukraine: the Calendar was prepared in Dec, so please check the latest news to inform your prayers