

# Carlisle Diocese Prayer Diary

DECEMBER 2016



*'Three churches journeying together'*

*Praying with our fellow Christians in Cumbria,  
together with our link dioceses of  
Northern Argentina, Stavanger and Zululand*

**This month we focus on Ecumenical and Charity**



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*God for All: By 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their life*  
<http://www.godforall.org.uk/making-it-happen/prayer-resources/>

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## Thursday 1 December

<i>Anglican Communion</i>	Karamoja - (Uganda) The Rt Revd Joseph Abura, clergy and people. <i>The population of Uganda is almost 23 million, 89% of whom are Christians (RC 38%; Anglicans 34%).</i>
<i>Ecumenical and Charity</i>	The Declaration of the Ecumenical Partnership on Advent Sunday 2016, and our companion denominations.
<i>Our Bishops</i>	Bishop James and Bishop Robert, Bishop's Leadership Team, Bishop's House

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## Friday 2 December

<i>Anglican Communion</i>	Karimnagar - (South India) The Rt Revd Reuben Mark, clergy and people. <i>The Church was inaugurated in 1947 by the union of the South India United Church (It is one of the four United Churches in the Anglican Communion. There are 22 Dioceses.</i>
<i>Ecumenical and Charity</i>	Sarah Moore Area Moderator of the United Reform Church, Drew McCombe of the Salvation Army and Richard Teal Methodist District Chairman
<i>Our Bishops</i>	Bishop James, Open Memorial to Organ Donors, Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle. Bishop Robert, staff meetings, Church House

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## Saturday 3 December      *Francis Xavier, missionary, 1506-1552*

*One of the first six members of the Society of Jesus, formed by Ignatius Loyala in 1533. In 1541 set sail for Goa as apostolic nuncio to the East where he spent the rest of his life. When he reached Japan he presented himself as the emissary of the King of Portugal, baptized over 2,000 people and left priests and catechists to carry on his work. Francis undertook a final mission to China but became ill and died. His tomb is in the Cathedral in Goa*

<i>Anglican Communion</i>	Karnataka Central - (South India) The Rt Revd Prasana Kumar Samuel, clergy and people. <i>(For notes on South India see 2 December).</i>
<i>Ecumenical and Charity</i>	David Frith and the Methodist churches of North Cumbria Circuit; Nick Mark and the URC congregations at Carlisle, Brampton, Bewcastle and Penrith

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## **Advent 2 – Vocations Sunday**

### **Vocations Sunday**

*Beginning in this season of Advent the Prayer Diary will use the first Sunday of every month to encourage prayer for vocations. Every month vocations day will have a different intention. Whilst the allocation of a regular day of prayer is a statement about the importance of discerning and encouraging vocation, we should all make the calling to ministry a regular part of our prayer life. It is one of the most encouraging signs in the present growth of our congregations to see the increasing numbers coming forward to test a call as Christ's disciple. This shouldn't make us complacent but rather challenge us to make our churches places where the Spirit will seek fresh stewards of grace. Please use the Prayer Diary to focus your prayers in the coming year on vocation in its fullest sense, thank you.*

### **Vocations Prayer**

Almighty God, you have entrusted to your Church  
a share in the ministry of your Son our great high priest:  
inspire by your Holy Spirit the hearts of many  
to offer themselves for the ministry of your Church,  
that strengthened by his power,  
they may work for the increase of your kingdom  
and set forward the eternal praise of your name;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen

### **Prayer Request**

We pray for all those exploring God's call in their lives. We pray that we may be open to hear God's Spirit, be courageous in our response and gracious as we work out together God's will. We pray for all Vocations Advisers as they encourage us all to consider what God is calling us to do.

We pray for the Vocations Advisers in the Penrith deanery.

Karnataka North - (South India) The Rt Revd Ravikumar J. Niranjana, clergy and people.  
(For notes on South India see 2 December).

*Ecumenical and Charity* Vocations Sunday material to be supplied by Peter Clements by 17 November

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Confirmation, St Paul's Newbarns Barrow.  
Bishop Robert, Hospice at Home West Cumbria Light up a Life, St Mary's RC, Egremont

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## Monday 5 December

*Anglican Communion* Karnataka South - (South India) The Rt Revd Mohan Manoraj, clergy and people.  
(For notes on South India see 2 December).

*Ecumenical and Charity* David Harkison and the URC congregations of Whitehaven and Silloth; Wendy Kilworth-Mason and the Methodist churches of the Solway Circuit; David Opie Chaplain to Sellafield

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Carol Service, St Aidan's Carlisle  
Bishop Robert, Reach team meeting and then Archdeacon meeting, Church House Penrith; Carol Service, J36 Auction Mart, 6pm

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## Tuesday 6 December *St Nicholas*

*Nicholas Ferrar was a wealthy and influential secretary of the Virginia Company who, during a plague epidemic took his brother, sister and their families to the dilapidated manor of Little Gidding, Huntingdonshire, where he founded a Christian community. They drew George Herbert and Isaac Watts, among others, to share its pattern of worship and way of life. The community was, wrongly, suspected of RC practices and was raided in 1646 by Puritan troops, ten years after the founder's death. Nothing remains except the church which inspired T S Eliot's poem The Four Quartets.*

*Anglican Communion* Kasai - (Congo) The Rt Revd Marcel Kapinga; Katanga - (Congo) The Rt Revd Muno Kasima, clergy and people.

*The province of the Anglican Church of Congo has a population of 45 million. Anglicans number only 160,000, with 6 Dioceses, 270 clergy and 241 parishes.*

<i>Ecumenical and Charity</i>	Jennet McLeod Area Co-Leader of the United South West Cumbria Area and Ron Wilson together with the URC congregations of Barrow and Furness
<i>Our Bishops</i>	Bishop James and Bishop Robert, Diocesan Strategy Peer Review Meeting, Church House

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## **Wednesday 7 December**     *St Ambrose*

*Ambrose was the Roman consul for two provinces when riots occurred over the appointment of the Bishop of Milan. Someone (maybe a child) cried 'Ambrose for Bishop'. The crowd took up the cry and the emperor agreed to his appointment and he was consecrated within a week. His letters to his sister Marcellina are extant. On several occasions he opposed the power of the emperors. Once he was besieged in his cathedral from Palm Sunday to Easter Day by imperial troops but he kept the congregation singing hymns and the emperor finally gave way. Ambrose, who wrote several major treatises, is recognised as one of the four Latin Doctors of the Church.*

*Anglican Communion*     Katakwa - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Zakayo Epusi, clergy and people.  
*The first Kenyan Bishops were consecrated in 1955. The Church became part of the Province of East Africa established in 1960, but by 1970 Kenya was formed into a separate Province. A total population of 30,700,000 with 29 Anglican dioceses.*

*Ecumenical and Charity*     Ann Hufton, Martyn Coe and the URC congregation of Dalton in Furness, Grange over Sands, and Windermere; Graham Ransom and the Methodist Circuilt of South Lakes

*Our Bishops*     Bishop James, RCF Trustees Meeting and then the Norman Autton Memorial Lecture, London.  
 Bishop Robert, SuG and then Mission 2018 project team meeting, Holmcroft

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## **Thursday 8 December**

*Anglican Communion*     Katsina - (Kaduna, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jonathan Bamaïyi  
 Kebbi - (Kaduna, Nigeria) The Most Revd Edmund Akanya, clergy and people.  
*Before 1990 the northern two thirds of Nigeria was largely blocked, but eight new bishops were consecrated, paid for by Lagos parishes, and the Project has been highly successful. It is the second largest province*

*in the Anglican Communion, as measured by baptized membership, after the Church of England. Current membership over 25 million, out of a total Nigerian population of 104 million. Since 2002 the Church of Nigeria is organised in 10 ecclesiastical provinces. It has rapidly increased the number of its dioceses and bishops from 91 to 122. There are 3,680 Anglican congregations and 4,000 clergy. The administrative headquarters are in Abuja.*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

Carole Marsden, Pam Noonan and the URC congregations of Kendal and Sedbergh; John Simms and the Kendal Methodist Circuit; Harold Stuteley and the Sedbergh Methodist Circuit

*Our Bishops*

Bishop James, St John's Council, Durham.  
Bishop Robert, staff meetings, Church House Penrith

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## **Friday 9 December**

*Anglican  
Communion*

Keewatin - (Rupert's Land, Canada) The Most Revd David Norman Ashdown, clergy and people.

*The Anglican Witness in Canada started in the eighteenth century with the Church Missionary Society and the United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Eucharist was first celebrated in Frobisher Bay in 1578; the first Church building was St. Paul's, Halifax, in 1750. The Church includes a large number of the original inhabitants of Canadian Indians, Inuit, and Metis and has been a strong advocate of their rights. Canada's population is 31 million of which 22 million are Christians but only just over 2 million are Anglicans in 34 Dioceses with 2,836 congregations and 3,517 clergy.*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

Les Wallace and the Kirkoswald and Alston Moor Methodist Circuit; Irene McKay Secretary to the Methodist Synod

*Our Bishops*

Bishop James, Bishop James, St John's Council, Durham.  
Bishop Robert, Order of the Companions of Martha and Mary (OCMM), St Mary's Vicarage, Mellor

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## **Saturday 10 December**

*Anglican  
Communion*

Kentucky - (IV, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Terry White, clergy and people.

*Anglicanism was brought to the New World by explorers and colonists with the first celebration of the Holy Eucharist in Jamestown, Virginia, in 1607. There was no resident Bishop for nearly two hundred years,*

*causing problems when many of the clergy sided with the Crown during the American Revolution. In 1784, the Scottish Episcopal Church consecrated the first American Bishop. The Church has 9 Provinces, 98 Dioceses, plus 20 overseas jurisdictions. Out of a population of 284 million, only 2 million are Episcopalians, in 7,095 parishes, with 15,310 clergy.*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Susan Edwards and the Keswick & Cockermouth Circuit, Moses John Family Worker

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Rose Castle Christmas Service 1 of 2, Dalston

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## **SUNDAY 11 December      Advent 3**

*Anglican Communion* Kericho - (Kenya) Vacant, clergy and people.

*Ecumenical and Charity* Stephen Radford and the Kirkby Stephen, Appleby and Tebay Circuit; Glynis Hayton Methodist District treasurer

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Hope in the City, Carlisle; Hospice at Home West Cumbria Light up a Life Service, St Mary's Maryport.  
Bishop Robert, Hospice at Home West Cumbria Light up a Life Service, Holy Spirit Distington

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## **Monday 12 December**

*Anglican Communion* Khartoum - (Northern, Sudan) The Most Revd Ezekiel Kumir Kondo, clergy and people.

*In the Episcopal Church of The Sudan, out of a total population of 30,120,000 there are 5 million Anglicans and almost three thousand Anglican clergy. The Anglican Church has grown with amazing speed during the period of persecution.*

*Ecumenical and Charity* David Milner and the Penrith Methodist Circuit, Paul Rose Children and Youth Co-ordinator

*Our Bishops* Bishop James and Bishop Robert, House of Bishops, London

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## **SUNDAY 13 December      Lucy, martyr, 304**

*Lucy is one of the most famous of the early virgin martyrs. A fourth century inscription in Sicily mentions Lucy's feast day who is thought to have been martyred during the*

*Diocletian persecutions. The celebration of her feast day in Sweden (near the winter solstice) is a celebration of virginity. By the 7th century her story had spread to England and Aldham, Bishop of Sherborne, wrote extensively about her in prose and verse.*

*Anglican Communion* Kibondo - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Awaiting Details, clergy and people.

*The Universities Mission to Central Africa and the Church Missionary Society began work in 1864 and 1878 at Mpwapwa. The Province was inaugurated in 1970 following the division of the Province of East Africa into the Province of Kenya and the Province of Tanzania. The 19 dioceses represent both evangelical and Anglo-Catholic Churches. There are 16 bishops and 685 priests. The population is 30 million of which 45% are Christians and 35% Muslims. Only about 2 million are Anglicans.*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Philip Jackson and the Wigton Circuit, Alan and Mim Rainford Community and Family Workers. Alistair Smeaton and the URC congregations at Workington, Harrington and Cockermouth; Richard Skinner and the Methodist churches of the Solway Circuit

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Bishop James, House of Bishops, London. Bishop Robert, staff meetings, Holmcroft; Appointment Process meeting, Church House Penrith.

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**Wednesday 14 December** *John of the Cross, poet, teacher of the faith, 1542-1591*

*He became a Carmelite friar, studied at Salamanca and was ordained in 1567. When, in 1571, Teresa of Avila became prioress of the house at Avila, she sent for John to be the spiritual director. But the unreformed Carmelites captured John and went to extreme lengths to try and make him renounce the new movement. After eight months in captivity he escaped with many of the poems he had written. He also wrote much, later, both poetry and prose.*

*Anglican Communion* Kibungo - (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Emmanuel Ntazinda, clergy and people.

*The Province of the Episcopal Church of Rwanda came into being in 1992. It had previously been a part of the enormous Province of Zaire, Rwanda and Burundi. It has 9 dioceses for a population of 7,000,000 of whom 5,600,000 are Christians and just over 1,000,000 are Anglicans. There are 197 parishes and 300 clergy*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Jane Rowell URC Northern and North Western Synods Training Officers; Andrew Mills Moderator of the North Western Synod

*Our Bishops* Bishop Robert, Business Leadership Team meeting, Holmcroft



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## Thursday 15 December

*Anglican Communion* Kigali - (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Louis Muvunyi, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Rwanda see 14 December)*

*Ecumenical and Charity* The URC North Western Synod's international partnerships with the Waldensian Church in Itlay and the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan

*Our Bishops* Bishop James and Bishop Robert, Strategy Steering Group, Church House.

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## Friday 16 December

*Anglican Communion* Kigeme - (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Augustin Mvunabandi, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Rwanda see 14 December)*

*Ecumenical and Charity* The Methodist Church in Argentina link with Cumbria, for all that has been built on this partnership since 1999; Sue Jansen link partner

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Visit St Mary's Primary School, Kirkby Lonsdale

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## Saturday 17 December

*Anglican Communion* Kigezi - (Uganda) The Rt Revd George Bagamuhunda, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Uganda see 1 December)*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Churches Together in Cumbria Executive Committee; Lucinda Kirkby CTIC Administrator; Helen Boothroyd Ecumenical Officer; David Cooper, Nicola Reynolds and Nick Mark Denominational Ecumenical Officers

*Our Bishops* Bishop James, Rose Castle Carol Service 2nd of 2, Dalston.

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## SUNDAY 18 December      **Advent 4** – O Sapientia

*Anglican Communion* Kilmore, Elphin & Ardagh - (Armagh, Ireland) The Rt Revd Ferran Glenfield, clergy and people.

*Tracing its origins to St. Patrick and his companions in the fifth century, the Irish Church has been marked by strong missionary efforts. In 1537, the English king was declared head of the Church, but most Irish*

Christians maintained loyalty to Rome. The Irish Church Act of 1869 provided that the statutory union between the Churches of England and Ireland be dissolved and that the Church of Ireland should cease to be established by law. A General Synod of the Church, established in 1890 and consisting of Archbishops, Bishops, and representatives of the clergy and laity, has legislative and administrative power. The Church of Ireland covers the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. There are 12 Dioceses. Total population is 3.8 million of whom only 400,000 are Anglicans, with 450 parishes and 500 clergy.

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

The charities supported at this time of year by our churches, especially our local charities...

*Our Bishops*

Bishop James, Service of Dedication and Celebration St Aiden's Church, Newbarns Barrow in Furness.

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## **Monday 19 December**

*Anglican  
Communion*

Kimberley & Kuruman - (Southern Africa) The Rt Revd Oswald Swartz, clergy and people.

*The Province is the oldest in Africa. British Anglicans met for worship in Cape Town after 1806, with the first Bishop appointed in 1847. The 23 dioceses of the Province extend beyond the Republic of South Africa and include the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (St Helena and Tristan da Cunha), Mozambique (Lebombo and Niassa), the Republic of Namibia, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Kingdom of Swaziland and Angola. Total population 80,700,000. 28.5 million Christians. 3 million Anglicans with 28 Dioceses, 1,240 clergy, 994 parishes and 1,900 congregations.*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

Boxes of Hope, those who have contributed boxes, those who took them to Romania, and all who will receive the boxes

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## **Tuesday 20 December**

*Anglican  
Communion*

The Most Revd Zacharie Masimango Katanda Archbishop of the Congo & Bishop of Kindu, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Congo see 6 December)*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

Methodist Homes for the Aged, Woodlands at Penrith and Amatheia at Workington, their staff, chaplains, residents and families they support.

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## Wednesday 21 December

*Anglican Communion* Kinkiizi - (Uganda) The Rt Revd Dan Zoreka, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Uganda see 1 December).*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Cerebral Palsy Cumbria, for the families support and those coping with cerebral palsy.

*Our Bishops* Bishop Robert, Reach team meeting, Church House, Penrith

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## Thursday 22 December

*Anglican Communion* Kinshasa - (Congo) The Rt Revd Achille Mutshindu  
Kisangani - (Congo) The Rt Revd Lambert Botolome, clergy and people.

*(For notes on Congo see 6 December).*

*Ecumenical and Charity* Hospice at Home Cumbria for those who are cared for, their families and all who support.

*Our Bishops* Bishop Robert, Why Christmas? – Alpha Talk, Penrith Methodist Church

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## Friday 23 December

*Anglican Communion* Kirinyaga - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Joseph Kibuchua, clergy and people

*(For notes on Kenya see 7 December)..*

*Ecumenical and Charity* SANDS, those who have lost children in years past and all who feel the pain of loss especially at Christmas.

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## Saturday 24 December

*Anglican Communion* Kita Kanto - (Japan) The Rt Revd Zerubbabel Katsuichi Hirota, clergy and people.

*In 1859, the American Episcopal Church sent two missionaries to Japan, followed some years later by representatives of the Church of England and the Church of Canada. The first Anglican Synod occurred in 1887. The first Japanese Bishops were consecrated in 1923. The Church remained underground during World War II and assumed all Church leadership after the war. Sei Ko Kai Shumbun, the Church monthly, is augmented by NSKK, published in English. The total population is 127,100,000 of whom only 1 million are Christians and of these 57,407*

*are Anglicans. There are 11 Dioceses, 318 parishes and 348 clergy.*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

The Children's Society and Christingle Services being held, those attending and those assisted by the fundraising.

*Our Bishops*

Bishop James, Festival of Readings and Carols Service, Carlisle Cathedral  
Bishop Robert, Midnight Communion.

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## **SUNDAY 25 December      Christmas**

*Anglican  
Communion*

Kitale - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Stephen Kewasis, clergy and people.  
*(For notes on Kenya see 7 December).*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

Crisis, all those fed and housed over Christmas, homeless shelters and those who they support

*Our Bishops*

Bishop James, Christmas Day Service Sung Eucharist, Carlisle Cathedral

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## **Monday 26 December      *St Stephen, deacon, first martyr***

*The first martyr of the Christian faith. A deacon, he was one of the seven Hellenists who were appointed to care for the Greek Christians. Brought before the Sanhedrin and accused of blasphemy he made an eloquent defence (Acts 7.2-53). He was condemned to death and stoned, asking God to forgive his executors.*

*Anglican  
Communion*

Kiteto - (Tanzania) The Rt Revd Isaiah Chambala, clergy and people.  
*(For notes on Tanzania see 13 December)*

*Ecumenical  
and Charity*

The many charities supported by regular donations and for the care they provide nationally and internationally.

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## **Tuesday 27 December      *St John the Evangelist***

*Traditionally held to be the Apostle John, son of Zebedee, brother of James the Great, the author of the Fourth Gospel, possibly of the three NT Letters and the Revelation of John. John had a long life and seems to have outlived all the other apostles and is the only one who did not die a martyr's death.*

*Anglican*

Kitgum - (Uganda) Vacant, clergy and people.

## Communion

*(For notes on Uganda see 1 December).*

## Ecumenical and Charity

The links with the church overseas; Partnership in World Mission Committee; the Diocesan Link Committees.

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## Wednesday 28 December

### *The Holy Innocents*

*The account of Herod's edict to kill all male children under two years of age in Bethlehem can be found in Matthew 2.1-12 and 16-23. The parallel with Pharaoh's slaying of the first-born of Israel (Exodus 1.13-22) is strong. Bethlehem was only a village and modern scholars think the number of babies involved would not have been large.*

## Anglican

Kitui - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Josephat Mule, clergy and people.

## Communion

*(For notes on Kenya see 7 December)*

## Ecumenical and Charity

UNICEF, the children who are refugees from their own homes, those in danger as refugees, those split up and separated from family.

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## Thursday 29 December

### *Thomas Becket, archbishop, martyr, 1118-1170*

*Thomas Becket. As Archdeacon of Canterbury was involved in getting the Pope's approval to Henry II's accession and was the King's Chancellor, friend and a statesman and diplomatist. He was, reluctantly, persuaded to become Archbishop but, having done so changed his way of life and fearlessly opposed the King's depredations on the Church. After six years in exile he came back to England with papal authority to suspend the Archbishop of York and six other bishops who had collaborated with the King. On Christmas Day 1170, the King, in a rage, asked who would rid him of his troublesome Archbishop. Four knights hacked him down in his cathedral causing universal horror.*

## Anglican

Kivu - (Rwanda) The Rt Revd Augustin Ahimana, clergy and people.

## Communion

*(For notes on Rwanda see 14 December).*

## Ecumenical and Charity

Church Action on Poverty, those who support them and the projects that they sponsor.

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## Friday 30 December

## Anglican

Kobe - (Japan) The Rt Revd Andrew Yatuka Nakamura, clergy and

*Communion* people.  
(For notes on Japan see 24 December). .

*Ecumenical and Charity* Christian Aid, the link partners and projects, the staff and those who support the charity.

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## **Saturday 31 December     *John Wyclif***

*A scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, who became incumbent, successively, of Fillington, Ludgershall and Lutterworth. At the court of Edward II he wrote pamphlets defending the C of E against papal domination. The Pope demanded that the King should imprison him but, with a group of scholars, Wyclif translated the Bible into English so that the common people could read it, and narrowly escaped arrest and trial for heresy, though many of his followers did not.*

*Anglican Communion* Koforidua - (Ghana, West Africa) The Rt Revd Francis Quashie, clergy and people.

*Church of the Province of West Africa includes Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. Total population 45 million of which 10 million are Christians, and 1 million are Anglicans with 600 parishes and 450 clergy.*

*Ecumenical and Charity* The Bible Society, their work of translation; Open Doors, their work of supporting the persecuted church and Christians.

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