

Carlisle Diocese Prayer Diary

December 2017



The **Methodist** Church 

'Four 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 the Ecumenical County
and the charities supported by our churches.**



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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Friday 1 December

Charles de Foucauld

Charles Eugène de Foucauld was born 15 September 1858 and died 1 December 1916. He was a French Catholic priest living among the Tuareg in the Sahara in Algeria. He was assassinated in 1916 and is considered by the Catholic Church to be a martyr.

Anglican Communion

Diocese of Wau Bahr El Ghaza, the province of South Sudan, The Rt Revd Moses Deng Bol, clergy and people.

The Diocese is part of the Province of the Episcopal Church of The Sudan. Out of a total population of in excess of 30 million there are five million Anglicans and almost three thousand Anglican clergy.

Ecumenical and Charity

Giving thanks for the first anniversary of the Declaration of the Ecumenical Partnership, and our companion denominations.

Our Bishops

Bishop James, St John's Council Residential, Durham.

Saturday 2 December

Anglican Communion

Diocese of Aotearoe, the Province of NZ and Polynesia, The Rt Revd Justin Duckworth, Assistant Bishop of Wellington The Rt Revd Eleanor Sanderson, clergy and people.

Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. Formerly known as the Church of the Province of New Zealand, the Church covers 106,000 square miles and includes the countries of New Zealand, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and the Cook Islands. It was established as an autonomous Church in 1857.

Ecumenical and Charity

Sarah Moore Area Moderator of the United Reform Church, Drew McCombe of the Salvation Army and Richard Teal Methodist District Chairman.

SUNDAY 3 December

Advent 1

Anglican Communion Diocese of West Buganda, the Province of Uganda, The Rt Revd Henry Katumba-Tamale, the clergy and people.

The Anglican Province of Uganda has tripled in size in the past 10 years. There are now 29 Dioceses for around 6.7million Anglicans.

Ecumenical and charity David Frith and the Methodist churches of North Cumbria Circuit; Nick Mark and the URC congregations at Carlisle, Brampton, Bewcastle and Penrith.

Our Bishops Bishop James, Confirmation Service St Pauls Seaton. Bishop Robert, Anniversary Service, St Mary's Wreay and Evensong, St Oswald's Grasmere.

God for All: Pray for the Big Reach Christmas campaign that the message might be received with open minds and hearts. We pray for Mountain Pilgrims in their new relationships over the winter months.

Vocations: Pray for all those exploring God's call in their lives. Pray for a growing ecumenical spirit in our exploring what God is calling us to do.

Monday 4 December

Anglican Communion The Most Revd Ng Moon Hing Archbishop of South East Asia & Bishop of West Malaysia, South East Asia, The Rt Revd Charles Samuel Assistant Bishop of West Malaysia and The Rt Revd Jayson Selvaraj, Assistant Bishop of West Malaysia.

The Church of South East Asia has 4 Dioceses in the countries of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

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, Meetings, Church House.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Church House.

Tuesday 5 December

*Anglican
Communion*

The Rt Revd Nicholas Baines and The Rt Revd Toby Howarth of the Diocese of Leeds. The Province of York.

Area Bishop of Huddersfield, The Rt Revd Jonathan Gibbs. Area Bishop of Richmond, The Revd Paul Slater, Area Bishop of Ripon, The Revd James Bell and Area Bishop of Wakefield, The Revd Anthony Robinson. The Province of York.

The Province of York is one of two and covers northern England and the Isle of Man and includes the Diocese of Wakefield and Diocese of Leeds and other areas in Yorkshire.

*Ecumenical
and charity*

Jennet McLeod Area Co-Leader of the United South West Cumbria Area and Ron Wilson together with the URC congregations of Barrow and Furness.

Our Bishops

Bishop James, Meetings, Manchester.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Manchester and Kendal.

Wednesday 6 December

St Nicholas

Nicholas dedicated his life to serving God and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, and his concern for sailors and ships. Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled and imprisoned. After his release, Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in AD 325. He died December 6, AD 343 in Myra and was buried in his cathedral church.

Anglican
Communion

Wester Izon, Bendel Province, Nigeria, the Rt Revd Edafe Emaez, clergy and people.

Prior to 1990 the northern two thirds of Nigeria was largely blocked then eight new bishops were then consecrated, It is the second largest province in the Anglican Communion, as measured by baptized membership, after the Church of England. Current membership exceeds 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 to 122 with around 4 thousand clergy. The administrative headquarters are in Abuja.

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 Circuit of South Lakes.

Our Bishops

Bishop James, Meetings in Diocese.

Thursday 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. 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

The Episcopal Church, Western Massachusetts, The Rt Revd Douglas Fisher, 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 and 20 overseas jurisdictions.

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, Bishops Advisory Meetings, London.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Kendal.

Friday 8 December

Anglican Communion The Episcopal Church, Western Michigan, The Rt Revd Wayne Hougland, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church see 7 December).

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

Our Bishops Bishop James, Bishops Leadership Team, Keswick. Eden Valley Hospice Service, Carlisle Cathedral.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Keswick.

Saturday 9 December

Anglican Communion The Episcopal Church in The Western Newfoundland, Canada, The Revd Percy David Coffin, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church see 7 December).

Ecumenical and charity Susan Edwards and the Keswick & Cockermouth Circuit, Moses John Family Worker.

SUNDAY 10 December

Advent 2

Anglican Communion The Episcopal Church, Western North Carolina, The Rt Revd José Antonio McLoughlin, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church see 7 December.)

Ecumenical and charity Stephen Radford and the Kirkby Stephen, Appleby and Tebay Circuit; Glynis Hayton Methodist District Treasurer.

God for All: Pray for encouragement and community for the new Messy church teams in Crossthwaite Kendal and at Braithwaite. Pray for young people and families under pressure over Christmas and that NYC will provide the right space at the right time.

Monday 11 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Wiawso, the Province of the Church of Ghana West Africa, The Revd Abraham Ackah, clergy and people.

Church of the Province of West Africa includes Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and The Gambia. There is total population of about 45 million of which 10 million are Christians, and 1 million are Anglicans with 600 parishes.

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

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Bishops, London.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Church House.

Tuesday 12 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Willochra, the Province of South Australia the Rt Revd John Stead, clergy and people.

The Province of the Anglican Church of Australia. The Church came to Australia in 1788 with the First Fleet and free settlers soon followed. A General Synod held in 1872 formed the Australian Board of Missions; missionary work among the aborigines and the Torres Strait Islanders was key to the growth of the Church. The Anglican Church of Australia is part of the Christian Conference of Asia and of the Council of the Church of East Asia. Links with Churches of New Guinea, Melanesia and Polynesia are strong especially through the Australian Board of Mission.

Anglican and charity 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, House of Bishops, London.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Kendal and Diocese.

Wednesday 13 December

St Lucy

Lucy, martyr 304, 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 Diocese of Windward Islands, the Province of the West Indies
the Rt Revd Calvert Friday, clergy and people.

The West Indies became a self-governing Province of the worldwide Anglican Communion in 1883 because of the Church of England missions in territories that became British colonies. It is made up of two mainland dioceses and six island dioceses, including Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Nassau and the Bahamas, Tobago, Trinidad, and the Windward Islands. Great emphasis is being placed on training personnel for an indigenous ministry. The island locations and scattered settlements make pastoral care difficult.

Ecumenical and charity Philip Jackson and the Wigton Circuit, Alan and Mim Rainford Community and Family Workers.

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Bishops, London.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Church House.

Thursday 14 December

St John of the Cross

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 The Diocese of Loroko, Province of South Sudan, The Revd Matthew Taban, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church of The Sudan see 1 December.)

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

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Lords, London.

Friday 15 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Worcester, The Rt Revd John Inge, The Diocese of Worcester-Dudley, The Rt Reverend Graham Usher. The Diocese of Winchester, The Revd Tim Dakin, The Diocese of Winchester-Basingstoke, The Rt Revd David Grant Williams and Diocese of Winchester-Southampton, The Revd Jonathan Frost. All of the Province of Canterbury, clergy and people.

The Diocese are part of the Province of Canterbury, (one of two in England) covering the southern half of England. Winchester was founded in 676 and Worcestershire was founded in 679.

Ecumenical and charity The URC North Western Synod's international partnerships with the Waldensian Church in Italy and the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan.

Our Bishops Bishop James, House of Lords, London.
Bishop Robert, Meetings, Kendal.

Saturday 16 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Wusasa, Province of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Ali Buba Lamido, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Church of Nigeria see 6 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.

SUNDAY 17 December *Advent 3 O-Sapientia*

Anglican Communion The Episcopal Church, Wyoming, The Rt Revd John Smylie, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church see 7 December.)

Ecumenical 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 Robert, Service of Celebration and Dedication, St Aidan's Newbarns, Barrow.

God for All: Pray for wisdom and discernment for connecting with people who are drawn to our churches over Christmas. Pray for the Holy Spirit to touch minds, lives and hearts over Christmas with God's love and peace.

Monday 18 December

Anglican Communion Yambio, the province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan, The Rt Revd Peter Munde Yacoub, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church of The Sudan see 1 December)

Ecumenical and charity The charities supported at this time of year by our churches, especially our local charities

Our Bishops Bishop James, meetings Bishops House.

Tuesday 19 November

Anglican Communion The Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo Archbishop of Myanmar and Bishop of Yangon, Assistant Bishop of Yangon The Rt Revd Samuel Htang Oak, clergy and people.

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

Wednesday 20 November

Anglican Communion Diocese of Yei, the Province of Loryko, South Sudan, the Rt Revd Hilary Luate Adebe, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church of The Sudan see 1 December)

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

Thursday 21 December

Anglican Communion Diocese of Yewa, Edbado, the Province of the Church of Nigeria, the Rt Revd Michael Adebayo Oluwarohunbi, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Church of Nigeria, see 6 December)

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

Friday 22 December

Anglican Communion The Rt Revd David Akau, The Rt Revd Isaac Nyariel Aleth and The Rt Revd Paul Tokmach Lual of Behr EL Ghazal, South Sudan the clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church of The Sudan see 1 December)

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

Saturday 23 December

Anglican Communion The Episcopal Church in Yokohama, Japan, The Rt Revd Laurence Yutaka Minabe, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Episcopal Church 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.

SUNDAY 24 December *Advent 4 Christmas Eve*

Anglican Communion Diocese of Yola, Province of the Church of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Markus Ibrahim, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Church of Nigeria, see 6 December)

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

Our Bishops Bishop James, Christmas Eve Carol Service, Carlisle Cathedral.

Monday 25 December *Christmas Day – Nativity of our Lord*

Anglican Communion The Most Revd & Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu, the Province of York, The Rt Revd Glyn Ebster, The Rt Revd Alison White, The Rt Revd John Bromilow Thomson and The Rt Revd Paul John Ferguson of the Diocese of York, the clergy and people.

Covering all of England, including the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, the Church is the ancient national Church of the land. Its structures emerged from the missionary work of St Augustine, sent from Rome in 597, and from the work of Celtic missionaries in the north. The Province of York is one of two and covers northern England and the Isle of Man, it also includes the Diocese of York.

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, Carlisle Cathedral.

Tuesday 26 December

St Stephen

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** The Diocese of Ysabel, in the Province of Melanesia, The Revd Ellison Quity, clergy and people.

After 118 years of missionary association with the Church of the Province of New Zealand, the Church of the Province of Melanesia was formed in 1975. The Province encompasses the Republic of Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and the French Trust Territory of New Caledonia, both sovereign island nations in the South Pacific. There are 8 Anglican Dioceses.

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

Wednesday 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
Communion** Diocese of Yukon, Province of British Columbia & the Yukon, Canada, The Rt Revd Larry David Robertson 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.

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

Thursday 28 December *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 Communion Diocese of Zaki-Biama, The Province of the Church of Nigeria, The Rt Revd Benjamin Vagar, clergy and people.

(For notes on the Church of Nigeria, see 6 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.

Friday 29 December *St Thomas Becket*

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 statesmen 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 Communion Diocese of Zanzibar, Province of Tanzania, The Rt The Rt Revd Michael Hafidh, 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 approximately 30 million of which about 2 million are Anglicans.

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

Saturday 30 December

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Zaria, Kaduna, The Rt Revd Cornelius Salifu Bello, clergy and people. The Diocese of Zonkwa, The Rt Revd Jacob Kwashi, clergy and people. Both of the Church of Nigeria.
(For notes on the Church of Nigeria, see 6 December)

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

SUNDAY 31 December *Christmas 1*

Anglican Communion The Diocese of Zululand, province of Southern Africa, The Rt Revd Monument Makhanya, 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 diocese 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.

Ecumenical and charity The Bible Society, their work of translation; Open Doors, their work of supporting the persecuted church and christians.

God for All: Pray for the local champions in each church who are the backbone of Moving Mountains that they be encouraged. Pray that as statistics are gathered for the past year that we all may be encouraged as we review what the Spirit has been doing in our churches and in our lives.

Moving Mountains – 8 to 11 March 2018

God for All Prayer

God for all,
You reached out to the world
in your Son Jesus Christ.
Help us to reach out in faith and love
and witness to all.

God for all,
you send your Holy Spirit
to empower and gift your Church.
By your Spirit help us
grow in unity,
grow as followers of Jesus Christ,
and grow in your kingdom
in Cumbria and in this world
Amen



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www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk/our-faith/prayer.html***