THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
DIOCESE OF DURHAM

April 2026

## Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all

***This month we pray for Chester le Street & Houghton Deanery***

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| Friday 24th<br>Easter Season<br>Mellitus, Bishop of London, First Bishop at St Paul's, 624<br>Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood, Solomon Islands, 2003 | • Newbottle St Matthew, Interim PiC: Revd Tim Wall, Readers: Tom Dick, Stephen Holmes, Mrs Joanne Martin, Reader with PTO: Tom Dick<br>• Our Bishops - Bishop Frank -Acting Bishop of Durham, Assistant Bishops: John, David, Stephen, Rob<br>• Licensed Lay Ministries—Warden: Ven Libby Wilkinson, Sub Wardens: Stephen Holmes, Dr Jocelyn Bryan, Mrs Connie Robinson, Mr Andrew Trigger and Mrs Lina Beck<br>• Diocesan links; Nordkirche - Germany & Alba Iulia - Romania<br>• Diocese of Willochra (Australia) Rt Revd Jeremy James |
| Saturday 25th<br>Friday of Easter Week<br>Mark the Evangelist | • Pam Wilson: Vocations development support officer<br>• Revd Joanne Thorns: Refugee and Asylum Project Co-ordinator.<br>• Diocese of Winchester (The Church of England) Rt Revd Philip Mountstephen |
| Sunday 26th<br>Saturday of Fourth Sunday of Easter | • Hospital Chaplains: Revd Norma Clee, Joanne Nicholson, (Co Durham and Darlington), Revd Canon Remi Omole (Sunderland), Vacant (Sherburn), Revd Gareth Rowlands and Revd Joan Urwin (Gateshead), (North Tees and Hartlepool), Revd Pat Bealing, Revd Gordon Tough (South Tyneside), Canon Colin Jay, Revd Debbie Baker, Revd Christine Britcliffe (Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys),<br>• The Church of Nigeria (Anglican Communion) Most Revd Henry C Ndukuba |
| Monday 27th<br>Easter Season<br>Christina Rossetti, Poet, 1894 | • Usworth Holy Trinity and Usworth St Michael, Rector: Revd Julie Wing, Curate: Rev Bethany McNeeley<br>• Diocesan Chancellor: Adrian Iles Registrar: Phillip Wills<br>• Senior Force Chaplain Durham Police: Canon Adrian Gatrill<br>• Diocese of Windward Islands (West Indies) Rt Revd C Leopold Friday |
| Tuesday 28th<br>Easter Season<br>Peter Chanel, Missionary in the South Pacific, Martyr, 1841 | • Houghton le Spring St Michael and All Angels, PiC: Revd John Barron, Readers: Mrs Susan Elsey, Reader with PTO: Mrs Ros Pickersgill, Mrs Anne Clappison, Reader in Training; Simon Hardy<br>• Bishop's Council (AGM)<br>• Pennywell building a presence through Shop4All and Cafe4All<br>• Diocese of Wondurba (South Sudan) Rt Revd Matthew Peter |
| Wednesday 29th<br>Easter Season<br>Catharine of Siena, Teacher of the Faith, 1380 | • Diocesan Secretary, James Morgan: all who work at Cuthbert House<br>• Revd James Shelton, Director of Cuthbert Centre for Prayer and Pilgrimage; Revd Dan Parkinson, Succentor. Revd Simon McMurtary, Chaplain to Durham Cathedral Schools' Foundation; Revd Kathryn Tiernan, Cathedral Curate.<br>• Diocese of Worcester (The Church of England) Rt Revd Hugh Nelson |
| Thursday 30th<br>Easter Season<br>Pandita Mary Ramabai, Translator of the Scriptures, 1922 | • Consecration of The Ven Rick Simpson as Bishop of Durham<br>• Cathedral Musicians and Vergers, Daniel Cook, Master of Choristers. Sub-organist Joseph Beech, Head Verger: Rebekah Best<br>• Society of St Wilfred & St Hilda: Bp Stephen Race, Fr Paul Kennedy<br>• Diocese of Wulu (South Sudan) Rt Revd Zacharia Mangar Apeti |

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| Wednesday 1st<br>Wednesday of Holy Week | • Chester le Street & Houghton Synod: Area Dean: Revd John Lintern, Lay Chair: Dr Simon Wilkinson, Secretary: Vacant, Treasurer: Malcolm Adamson<br>• Safeguarding Management Group<br>• St. Anthony's Priory - Revd Dr Nicholas Buxton, Ruth Grant, Revd Canon Paul Tyler, Laurence Pinkney, Scholastica Jacob, Sheila Shearer, Gavin Harper<br>• Diocese of Victoria Nyanza (The Anglican Church of Tanzania) Vacant |
| Thursday 2nd<br>Maundy Thursday | • Chrism Eucharist in the Cathedral<br>• An Increase in vocations to ministry in each Deanery in the Diocese<br>• Diocese of Virgin Islands (The Episcopal Church) Rt Revd Ambrose Gumbs |
| Friday 3rd<br>Good Friday | • 'Having disarmed and powers and authorities he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross' Colossians 2:15<br>• Diocese of Virginia (The Episcopal Church) Rt Revd E Mark Stevenson |
| Saturday 4th<br>Easter Eve | • Chester le Street St Mary and St Cuthbert, Rector: Revd Matt Strand, SSM Curate: Revd Miriam Wakefield, PM: Mrs Sharon Dodds, Mrs Sue Begg, Mrs Louise Vincent, Will Hoy, PM and Reader: Dr Paul Vincent, Reader: John Hopper, Reader in training: Mrs Sharon Pritchard,<br>• Chester le Street CE Primary, Head Teacher: Mrs Rachel Butler<br>• Diocese of Southern Virginia (The Episcopal Church) Rt Revd Susan Haynes |
| Sunday 5th<br>Easter Day | • Hallelujah: Christ is Risen!<br>• Prison Chaplains, Holme House: Revd Kate Brooke, The Revd Andrei Petrine, Durham: Paula Barber, Frankland (High Security): Revd Rachel Farnham, Low Newton (Women): Revd Rebecca Feeney<br>• La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico; Most Revd Enrique Trevino Cruz |
| Monday 6th<br>Monday of Easter Week | • Pelton Holy Trinity and West Pelton St Paul, Vicar: Revd John Lintern, Curate: Revd Simon Spencer, Reader: Mrs Alison MacKay<br>• Diocesan Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Beth Miller & Support Officer: Wendy Hopkins<br>• Diocese of Southwestern Virginia (The Episcopal Church) Vacant |
| Tuesday 7th<br>Tuesday of Easter Week | • Mother's Union: President Miss Kathleen Wilson JP, Chaplain: Revd Norma Clee<br>• Adviser in Pastoral Care, Counselling and Clergy Wellbeing: Simon Rose<br>• Diocese of West Virginia (The Episcopal Church) Rt Revd Matthew Cowden |
| Wednesday 8th<br>Wednesday of Easter Week | • Ali Bianchi: Growing Church Strategic Lead<br>• Northumbria Industrial Mission Chaplains, led by Fiona Usher<br>• Diocese of Wad Medani (Episcopal Church of Sudan) Most Revd Ezekiel Kumir Kondo |

Please send any prayer requests, particularly for Gateshead and Gateshead West Deaneries for inclusion in May by 8th April, to nick.barker99@btinternet.com marked PRAYER CYCLE
Please feel free to photocopy this and distribute it to anyone who would like to use it.

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| Thursday 9th<br>Thursday of Easter Week | • Fatfield St George, Minister: Vacant, Reader: Maurice Taylor, PM: Mrs Eve Winstanley<br>• Our Archdeacons: Katherine Bagnall (Sunderland) and Libby Wilkinson (Durham)<br>• Diocese of Waiapu (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia) Rt Revd Andrew Hedge |
| Friday 10th<br>Friday of Easter Week | • Lumley Christ Church, Minister: Vacant,<br>• Revd Dr Chris Knights: Bishop's Chaplain, Jo Dowsett (Bishop's PA); Rachael Cleasby (Ass Sec); Jane Lintern (Admin Ass), Sarah Thompson (Bp Jarrow's PA)<br>• Diocesan Retreat House, Shepherds Dene, staff<br>• Waikato and Taranaki (Aotearoa, NZ and Polynesia) Rt Revd Philip Richardson |
| Saturday 11th<br>Saturday of Easter Week | • West Rainton St Mary, East Rainton St Cuthbert in Plurality: Minister: Vacant, Reader: Mr Julian Ward<br>• Ven Libby Wilkinson and the team of Diocesan Support Staff<br>• Ali Bianchi: Growing Church Strategic Lead<br>• Te Pihopatanga o Te Waipounamu (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia) Vacant |
| Sunday 12th<br>Second Sunday of Easter | • Dean & Chapter of Durham - Dean: Very Revd Dr Philip Plyming: Revd Canons Prof Simon Oliver, Charlie Allen, Michael Hampel, Lay Canons: Dr Maria Cockerill, Jonathan Ward, Paul Chandler, Dr Apollo Tutesigensi and Professor Stefanie Sheen, Alice Ambrose-Thurman, Clerk and COO: Guy Sampson, College of Canons<br>• Igreja Anglicana de Mocambique e Angola: Most Revd Vicente Msosa |
| Monday 13th<br>Easter Season | • Chilton Moor St Andrew, Minister: Vacant, Communities of Hope based out of Youll House, Thornley, and The Clarences.<br>• Sharon Pritchard: Foundational Training Enabler<br>• Diocese of Wandi (South Sudan) Rt Revd Yohanas Benjamin Dirar |
| Tuesday 14th<br>Easter Season | • Finance Group meeting<br>• Amy Burns: Head of Programme Delivery for Diocesan Transformation.<br>• That all the baptised may know they are called to minister. Vocations to ministry<br>• Diocese of Wangaratta (Australia) Rt Revd Clarence Bester |
| Wednesday 15th<br>Easter Season | • Bishop's Leadership Team meeting<br>• Cranmer Hall, Principal St John's College: Prof Jolyon Mitchell Warden: Revd Dr Nick Moore, Staff and students in training for ministry<br>• Diocese of Wanglei (South Sudan) Rt revd Zechariah Mayok Biar |
| Thursday 16th<br>Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess, 1923 | • Audit and Risk Committee<br>• Oxclose, Vicar: Revd Gavin Rushton,<br>• SSM's & Self-Supporting Ministry Adviser: Revd Canon Dorothy Snowball<br>• Diocese of Wanyjok (South Sudan) Rt Revd Mamer Manot |

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| Friday 17th<br>Easter Season | • The Diocesan Deliverance Ministry Team;<br>• For Fr Molemo Baatjies, elected to be the next Bishop of Lesotho .<br>• Churchwardens, Readers and PCC's in churches that are in vacancy<br>• Diocese of Warri (The Church of Nigeria) Rt Revd Christian Esezi Ide |
| Saturday 18th<br>Easter Season | • Burnmoor St Barnabas; PiC: Revd Catherine Walton SSM Curate: Revd Emma Barker<br>• Lesotho Link: CEO's Revd Dr Joseph Morenammele and Lee Musson: (Durham)<br>• Victims of clerical sexual abuse<br>• Diocese of Washington (The Episcopal Church) Rt Revd Mariann Edgar Budde |
| Sunday 19th<br>Third Sunday of Easter | • University Chaplains - Revd Julia Candy, Revd Peter Kashouris, Revd Gavin Wort, The Revd Dr Samuel Hole, Revd Fiona Hill, Revd Marie Edwards, Revd Kate Eaton-Wells (Durham) Revd Chris Howson (Sunderland)<br>• Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo |
| Monday 20th<br>Easter Season | • Herrington St Aidan, Penshaw All Saints & Shiney Row St Oswald, PiC: Revd Catherine Walton, SSM Curate; Revd Emma Barker, Reader: Miss Dawn Cummings, Reader in Training: Dr Simon Wilkinson,<br>• The Community of Hope hub in North Wearside<br>• Diocesan Director of Education: David Akers,<br>• Diocese of Wau (South Sudan) Most Revd Moses Deng Bol |
| Tuesday 21st<br>Easter Season<br>Anselm, Abbot of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1107 | • Hetton-Lyons with Eppleton St Michael and All Angels and St Nicholas, Minister; Vacant, PTO: Revd Hilary Avent, Curate: Revd Sarah Quinn<br>• Revd Dr Jennifer Cooper, Director Initial Ministerial Education (IME 2).<br>• Revd Alexander Jones; Growing Mission Strategic Lead<br>• Annwen Stone: Strategic lead for Growing Leadership<br>• Diocese of Wellington (Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia) Most Revd Justin Duckworth |
| Wednesday 22nd<br>Easter Season | • Washington Holy Trinity PiC: Revd Teresa Walton, SSM Curate: Revd Chris Scorer, Readers with PTO: Ms Olive Sangha, Mrs Dinah Gollan, PM's: Mrs Jenene Snowball, Mrs Elizabeth Slowther<br>• Vocations to ministry from Chester le Street and Houghton Deaneries<br>• Parish Giving Adviser: Revd Paul Child<br>• Diocese of Wernyol (South Sudan) Rt Revd Gabriel Kuol Garang |
| Thursday 23rd<br>Easter Season<br>George, Martyr, Patron of England, c304 | • Strategic Mission Delivery Board<br>• Lindisfarne College of Theology, Principal: Revd Dr Richard Briggs, staff and students training for ministry<br>• Durham Cathedral — Stewards, Porters, Joiners & Masons<br>• Mrs Catherine Simpson, Growing Faith Project Lead<br>• Diocese of Wiawso (West Africa) Rt Revd Kwame Kyem-Ampomah |