

### 21ST FEBRUARY - LENT 1

Anglican	The Church of the Province of Central Africa.
Hereford	The Conover Deanery: Rural Dean – Geoff Garrett; Lay Co-Chair – Janet Wilcoxon; Sub-Warden of Readers – Nancy Cleaton.
Porvoo	England: Peterborough; Ireland: Meath & Kildare.
The Wider View	Pray for refugees and displaced and migrant people throughout the world, many of whom will have spent Christmas and New Year in hostile conditions, vulnerable to cold, hunger, exploitation and disease including Covid. May 2021 bring them a better and safer life.
This Week	<p>Pray for those who help run our local <b>village and community halls</b>, many of which will have been little used through past months.</p> <p><b>Polycarp</b>, commemorated on Tuesday, was martyred in the mid 2nd Century, refusing the option to save his life by renouncing his faith. Pray for all who are persecuted for their faith today.</p> <p><b>George Herbert's</b> day, which is Saturday, gives cause to celebrate those who, like him, express their faith in poetry and hymnody, and also to honour his quiet dedication to his country parish.</p> <p>The Lenten <b>Ember Days</b>, falling during this week, prompt prayer for all who minister within the Church, both ordained and lay, for all in training for ministry, or considering a sense of vocation, and for Neil Patterson as Director of Vocations and Ordinands.</p> <p><b>Fairtrade Fortnight</b>, beginning on Monday, focuses this year on the impact of climate change on the growers and producers with whom they work. Pray for all that encourages and enables fair trade.</p> <p>Tuesday is kept worldwide as <b>Rotary Day</b> worldwide. Give thanks for the Rotary Clubs active within our Diocese, and for other groups (Lions, Round Table, etc), which share the same theme of service within the community.</p> <p>Pray for all involved in the work of <b>mass vaccination</b> for Covid, and that it be beginning to have an effect in limiting the spread of the disease and its impact on our communities.</p>

### 28TH FEBRUARY - LENT 2

Anglican	The Anglican Church of Central America.
Hereford	Pray for the care, conservation and creative use of our church buildings, as places of worship and fellowship, and at the heart of the local community. Pray for all working to ensure safety, cleanliness and Covid security in these challenging times.
Porvoo	England: Canterbury; Ireland: Down & Dromore.
The Wider View	Though agreement has been reached between the UK and the EU, it is clear that there is much that will need to be rebuilt, in terms of trust and coordination. Links such as ours with the Diocese of

Nuremberg will be all the more important as places where friends are made, and dialogue and mutual support encouraged.

This Week The last Sunday in February is kept as **Rare Disease Day**, raising awareness of the more than 6,000 rare conditions impacting on the lives of perhaps 300 million people worldwide. Each disease may be experienced by only a small number of people, and misdiagnosis or a refusal to take reported symptoms seriously often happens.

Monday is **St David's Day**: pray for our neighbour the Church in Wales, for the people of Wales, and for the Welsh communities and churches in our own Diocese. Tuesday is the day of **St Chad**, the first bishop of our neighbour diocese, Lichfield.

The **Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal** happens at this time too: pray for the work of Marie Curie nurses in our communities, for those supported by their work, and for its funding.

This is also **Eating Disorders Awareness Week**. Many young people suffer from eating disorders such as Anorexia and Bulimia, which may be linked to bullying, body image issues, or stress. Pray for better understanding and treatment.

Another issue affecting many young people is self-harming. **Self Injury and Harm Awareness Day** falls on Monday.

This is also **National Careers Week**. One impact of Covid will be to limit the career choice options available to young people. Pray for all who offer advice, support and funding for training or retraining.

**World Hearing Day** on Wednesday prompts prayers for all who live with hearing loss, and for their support and provision.

Pray for the work of our **Diocesan Synod and Board of Finance**, as its members meet this week.

### 7TH MARCH - LENT 3

Anglican	The Anglican Church of the Congo.
Hereford	The Hereford Deanery: Rural Dean – Ruth Hulse; Lay Co-Chair – Jackie Mumford; Sub-Warden of Readers – Malcolm Robertson; Treasurer - Rosemary Lording.
Porvoo	England: Chelmsford; Sweden: Karlstad.
The Wider View	Pray for the people and nations of the Horn of Africa, where tensions are high in many places, including the Tigray region of Ethiopia, and Somalia and South Sudan.
This Week	<b>No More Week</b> , beginning this Sunday and sponsored by the charity UK Says No More, raises awareness of domestic abuse, which is so often hidden and unreported. Pray for all who offer help and refuge. <b>International Women's Day</b> on Monday marks the achievements of women in cultural, social, scientific and other spheres, as well as campaigning for, this year, equality in education.

This week is also **National Butchers Week**: pray for the many local butcher's shops serving our communities, and all that supports a local market for locally produced and sourced meats.

Wednesday is **National No Smoking Day**. Pray for all who are trying to give up smoking, and all who have smoking-related health issues. As we look towards Easter, pray for all who work within the area of **local tourism** and visitor attractions within our Diocese, many of whom will have struggled greatly over the past year, and will be hoping for a year of rebuilding. Pray for visitors to our churches. Pray for our **church schools**: for heads and teaching and non-teaching staff, and for children and parents, giving thanks for their dedication, hard work and resilience over the past months

## 14TH MARCH - LENT 4 (MOTHERING SUNDAY)

Anglican Hereford	<p>The Anglican Church of Chile.</p> <p>Pray for all who visit our churches, and for the welcome we extend, both at times of worship, and to those who look in at other times. Pray we may interpret our buildings in ways that both tell their story and share our faith.</p>
Porvoo	<p>Evangelical Lutheran Church of Latvia; England: Lichfield; Wales: St David's.</p>
The Wider View	<p>Pray for Nuremberg Diocese as it prepares for change, with Bishop Ark's retirement at the end of this year (Bishop Elizabeth will continue), and looks towards the 2023 Kirchentag. Pray too for growth in our link relationship, including new and revived contacts at deanery level between our dioceses.</p>
This Week	<p>On <b>Mothering Sunday</b>, give thanks for mothers and for family life - and for mothering, which is not done only by mothers. Pray too for the places in our diocese where the Gospel was first preached, and for the Cathedral as our mother church.</p> <p><b>National Compost Week</b> prompts prayers for those who will be busy gardening by now, and for awareness of the benefits of all forms of recycling.</p> <p>Tuesday is <b>Young Carers Day</b>: pray for the many young people who, alongside school and other commitments, care for siblings, parents or other family members.</p> <p>Wednesday is <b>St Patrick's Day</b>: pray for the churches and people of Ireland.</p> <p>Friday is <b>St Joseph's Day</b>, by tradition a day to pray for all who work with their hands, and to give thanks for the skills of those who make and build.</p> <p><b>Cuthbert</b> is remembered this Saturday for the humility he showed as priest and bishop, his dedication to his flock and to his Lord, and</p>

his love of the wild places and wild creatures of the Northumbrian coast. Give thanks for Celtic rhythms and prayers as a resource for our worship today.

**Beep Beep Day** on Wednesday supports the teaching of road safety to children nursery and early classes. Pray for all that is done to ensure roads near schools and playgrounds are safe.

Pray for all taking part in or responding to events and activities this week to raise funds for **Comic Relief**.

## 21ST MARCH - LENT 5 (PASSION SUNDAY: PASSIONTIDE BEGINS)

Anglican	The Church of England.
Hereford	Kington & Weobley Deanery: Rural Dean – Guy Wilkinson; Lay Co-Chair – Elizabeth Shayler; Sub-Warden of Readers – Anne Tunley.
Porvoo	Sweden: Lund; Ireland: Cashel, Ossory & Ferns; England: Ely.
The Wider View	As the events of Passiontide and Easter turn our focus to the peoples of the Holy Land, pray that, as pragmatic links seem to be being forged between Israel and states within the Arab world, the needs and aspirations of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza will not be forgotten. Gaza has been particularly badly hit by the Covid pandemic: pray for health provision there.
This Week	<p>As well as it being the beginning of Passiontide, a number of awareness days share this Sunday. <b>World Down Syndrome Day</b> raises awareness around the world of those living with Down's Syndrome, this year focusing on the right to participate of those living with this syndrome.</p> <p>The <b>International Day of Forests</b> encourages awareness of the importance of forests and their vulnerability: pray we may protect our forests, for the wellbeing of people and of our planet.</p> <p>Sunday is also <b>World Poetry Day</b> - give thanks for poets and poetry, and the way this literary form can challenge, encourage and lift us.</p> <p>Thursday is the feast of the <b>Annunciation</b>, and celebrates Mary's decisive "yes" to the message of the angel. She declared herself to be the "handmaid of the Lord" - pray that her humility and obedience may be a mark of the Church in mission and service.</p> <p><b>World Water Day</b> on Monday reminds us how important water is, and of the many places in our world where water is a cause of disease and death. Pray all may have access to clean water.</p> <p><b>Tuberculosis</b> is also a major killer in our world. Our focus on Covid over the past year has perhaps taken our attention away from the continued impact of diseases like TB, which is not only a persistent threat to health in poorer countries, but a growing problem across the world, encouraged by international travel and large population movements. World TB Day on Wednesday seeks to raise awareness of an epidemic unobserved by many.</p>