



**Daily Prayer Diary
for the
Diocese of St Albans**

January – March 2012

Living God's Love

Going Deeper into God . Transforming Communities . Making New Disciples

In the Prologue of the Rule of St Benedict we read ‘...begin everything you attempt with the earnest prayer that it will be brought to perfection...’ (*Rule of St Benedict, Translation April 2002, Abbot Stuart Burns OSB*). Much prayer has accompanied the research that has been undertaken as to what format of Diocesan Prayer Diary will be most informative and useful for us all, building on the one that has been used hither to fore.

In the feedback to the Questionnaire sent out by the Diocesan Initiatives in Spirituality Working Group (DIS) in 2010, there were many thoughts and views expressed (as you might imagine!) We have used the ones that offered constructive suggestions and based the newly styled Diocesan Prayer Diary on this information. One important area of feedback was that colleagues suggested that they would be glad of some form of focus for each Parish upon which to base their prayers.

In this diary, you will find requests for prayers of thanksgiving and intercession from each parish in the Diocese, as well as from Diocesan Staff and Officers. I hope that by being able to be more focused and specific in the prayer we offer, a greater knowledge of the work being undertaken across the Diocese will be promoted. We are a diverse Diocese, and there is much good work being done for which we would like to give thanks and, as we are all aware, there are always things to be held in prayer. If there is a general prayer for a particular Parish this is because, alas, we did not hear back from the Parish concerned – and there will a diverse range of reasons for this.

As you might imagine, the newly styled Diary may seem strange at first, and it won’t include everything that everyone wants. I hope we will all soon become accustomed to it and recognise that it is a Diary to encourage us to pray for the work of God in our Diocese. Additional copies may be printed from the Diocesan website.

I am grateful to those who have made suggestions for how we can build on what we have had thus far; if any of you wish to make further suggestions, please do contact me.

With my prayers and good wishes,



The Reverend Deborah Snowball
 Chair of the St Albans Diocesan Initiatives in Spirituality Working Group
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Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 25th March

Living God’s Love Going deeper into God

Please pray for Places of Pilgrimage in the United Kingdom

<p>Sunday 25th Cople Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 29th Croxley Green, St Oswald Robert Riley-Brale, (R) Tony Barton, Magdalena Pletsch <u>Thanksgiving</u> The initial vision to plant St. Oswald’s and 75 subsequent years of Christian witness and service <u>Prayers</u> For outreach to the community and an outward focus as we celebrate our anniversary year</p>
<p>Monday 26th Cottered with Broadfield Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 30th Datchworth Susannah Underwood, (R) Catherine Jupp <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the care shown those who work with our children and young people. <u>Prayers</u> Our practical and spiritual preparations for Holy Week.</p>
<p>Tuesday 27th Cranfield Hugh Symes-Thompson, (R) Trevor Dimmock <u>Thanksgiving</u> Strong links to our community and schools <u>Prayers</u> Outreach to new housing</p>	<p>Saturday 31st Dean Jan Brookshaw <u>Thanksgiving</u> Give thanks that no one died of frost bite during our winter services. <u>Prayers</u> That progress will be made on a new heating system</p>
<p>Wednesday 28th Croxley Green, All Saints Miriam Muga, Mary Kingsley (R) David Williams <u>Thanksgiving</u> For our growing ministry amongst young families <u>Prayers</u> For more volunteers to help with our work with children and young people.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">A suggested text for reflection for the week <i>Blessed are you, O Lord; O teach me your statutes. Ps 119 10</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 18th March

Living God's Love Going Transforming Communities

Please pray for *All who offer support to the frail and vulnerable*

<p>Sunday 18th Clifton Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 22nd Codicote Laurence Biggs, (R) Selina Evans <u>Thanksgiving</u> Fresh Expression - Worship4U@GilesCoffee Shop <u>Prayers</u> Financial situation and future plans for the parish</p>
<p>Monday 19th Clophill Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 23rd Colmworth Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Tuesday 20th Clothall Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Saturday 24th Colney Heath, St Mark Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 21st Cockayne Hatley Gill Smith, Jan Bunday, (R) Kath Partington, Pam Turner <u>Thanksgiving</u> for our new toilet project going ahead. <u>Prayers</u> for embryonic plans for a new community hall</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. Ps 34 14</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 1st January

Living God's Love Going deeper into God

Please pray for *Parish Prayer Groups*

<p>Sunday 1st The Bishop of St Albans Alan Smith <u>Thanksgiving</u> for God's faithfulness during the past year and anticipation of what lies ahead. <u>Prayers</u> that God will give me wisdom in the leadership of the diocese</p>	<p>Thursday 5th Albury Chris Boulton, Stephen Fielding, Clive Slaughter <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the establishment of our Sunday School on the first Sunday of the month. <u>Prayers</u> For the Church School and its staff and children</p>
<p>Monday 2nd The Bishop of Bedford Richard Inwood <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the privilege of serving as Bishop here for 9 years. <u>Prayers</u> For an effective ministry in my last 2 months – and for the continuing opportunities for ministry in retirement.</p>	<p>Friday 6th Aldenham Robert Fletcher, (R) Dr John Ware <u>Thanksgiving</u> Community organised Christmas dinner in the church. <u>Prayers</u> God's guidance for MAP</p>
<p>Tuesday 3rd The Bishop of Herford Paul Bayes <u>Thanksgiving</u> for the extraordinary variety of good work that I'm privileged to see in the parishes, schools and chaplaincies of the Diocese. <u>Prayers</u> that in all the many demands on my time I can identify the key priorities under God and put them first.</p>	<p>Saturday 7th Ampthill Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 4th Abbots Langley Jo Spreadbury, Angela Milton, (R) Sally Sanderson <u>Thanksgiving</u> Due to popular demand we increased the number of Candlelight Family Services on Christmas Eve from four to five. <u>Prayers</u> For plans to draw more baptism families and wedding couples into regular worship.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week O Lord our governor, how glorious is your name in all the world! Ps 8 1</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Texts taken from the Sunday Psalm</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 8th January

Living God's Love Going Making New Disciples

Please pray for *Those who lead Emmaus and Alpha Courses*

<p>Sunday 8th Anstey Carol Kimberley, [R] Patricia Hamilton, John Kimberley <u>Thanksgiving</u> For all who attended worship over Christmas. <u>Prayers</u> For plans for a toilet and kitchen facility at the church to further our outreach</p>	<p>Thursday 12th Ashwell Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Monday 9th Apsley End David Lawson, Karen Turner <u>Thanksgiving</u> Carol singing in new housing development - Nash Mills Wharf. <u>Prayers</u> For community survey as part of MAP</p>	<p>Friday 13th Aspenden Ian Hill, Norman Bingham, (R – PTO) Keith Chambers <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the growing Family Service. <u>Prayers</u> That newer members of the church will feel confident enough to volunteer for things.</p>
<p>Tuesday 10th Ardeley Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Saturday 14th Aspley Guise Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 11th Arlesey Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. PS 29 10</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 11th March

Living God's Love Going Making New Disciples

Please pray for *Café Church Groups*

<p>Sunday 11th Chalgrave Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 15th Chorleywood, Christ Church Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Monday 12th Cheshunt John Williams, Karen Mitchell, David Baverstock, (R) Rita Andrews <u>Thanksgiving</u> We give thanks for the opportunities we have to reach out to our varied community, and to welcome people into the family of our church. <u>Prayers</u> We pray for the success of our projects to refurbish our buildings and review their use.</p>	<p>Friday 16th Chorleywood, St Andrew David White, Rachel Jenkinson, Andy Reid (R) Alun Price-Davies, Denis Cole <u>Thanksgiving</u> for the arrival of Rachel and Andy. <u>Prayers</u> for current Alpha course and missional outreach</p>
<p>Tuesday 13th Chipperfield Jim Stevens, (R) Angela Coakley <u>Thanksgiving</u> The work of our youth team across our Benefice with Holy Cross Sarratt. <u>Prayers</u> Development of leadership for the benefice as we face a challenging year.</p>	<p>Saturday 17th Clapham Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 14th Chipping Barnet Charlotte Ballinger, Tristan Chapman, Revd Jane Kraft, Hall Speers, (R) Linda Sanders <u>Thanksgiving</u> The rich variety of traditions represented in the churches of St. John the Baptist, Barnet, St. Mark's, Barnet Vale, St. Peter's, Arkley and St. Stephen's, Bells Hill. <u>Prayers</u> For the joint activities of the churches especially the Valley Centre, the Youth Group and the Emmaus courses.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight. Ps 18 8</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 4th March

Living God's Love Going deeper into God

Please pray for *All who attend Church each Sunday*

<p>Sunday 4th Bushmead Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 8th Campton Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Monday 5th Bygrave Andrew Holford <u>Thanksgiving</u> That we are able to provide a Christian witness in a very small village. <u>Prayers</u> Please pray for us as we attempt to provide worship that is attractive and accessible to the people of the village</p>	<p>Friday 9th Cardington Stephen Smith <u>Thanksgiving</u> For St Mary's thriving congregation and the relentless hard work of the Church Choir. <u>Prayers</u> The warm welcome that St Mary's extends to the influx of new residences brought about by local housing developments</p>
<p>Tuesday 6th Caddington Ruth Pyke <u>Thanksgiving</u> For all groups and individuals that contribute to the life of the church. <u>Prayers</u> Spiritual growth of the church through mission and welcoming.</p>	<p>Saturday 10th Carlton with Chellington Jane Fox <u>Thanksgiving</u> Community support for services and events such as the Remembrance Service at the new War Memorial and the Victorian Bazaar. <u>Prayers</u> Responses to the findings of the 'Everybody welcome' course</p>
<p>Wednesday 7th Caldecote, All Saints Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Praise the Lord, you that fear him. Ps 22 23</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 15th January

Living God's Love Going Transforming Communities

Please pray for *Those who support the homeless*

<p>Sunday 15th Aston Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 19th Baldock Andrew Holford <u>Thanksgiving</u> For excellent relations with Church Schools and lots of Church members being involved, enabling new families to come to join us in worship and discover faith. <u>Prayers</u> For the young families attending toddler worship, that we sensitively provide the steps necessary for them to transfer to Junior Church and the main Sunday act of worship.</p>
<p>Monday 16th Astwick Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 20th Barkway, Reed and Buckland Vacancy <u>Thanksgiving</u> The whole church community which has provided and continues to provide support to maintain the life of the churches during our Vacancy. <u>Prayers</u> For our Mission Action Planning process.</p>
<p>Tuesday 17th Ayot St Lawrence Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Saturday 21st Barley We look forward to welcoming our new priest-in-charge later in the year and pray for their forthcoming ministry. <u>Prayers</u> For all those working in the benefice during the vacancy.</p>
<p>Wednesday 18th Ayot St Peter David Munchin, Diane Whittaker, (R) Colin and Usha Hull <u>Thanksgiving</u> For good follow up to a parish questionnaire. <u>Prayers</u> Support for a small congregation in this tiny but lovely rural hamlet.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week The Lord shall give strength to his people; the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace. Ps 139 17</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 22nd January

Living God's Love Going deeper into God

Please pray for *All who lead Bible Study Groups*

<p>Sunday 22nd Barton-le-Cley Vacant <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the ministry of Graham Newton. <u>Prayers</u> For a Vacancy that builds on what has gone before and for a wise and God-guided appointment</p>	<p>Thursday 26th Bedford, Christ Church Richard Hibbert, Fiona Gibson, (R) Mr Michael Bishop <u>Thanksgiving</u> Reviving sense of mission to our community. <u>Prayers</u> Continued work after PCC 24 hour retreat (20-21 January) which renewed strategy for mission and ministry, and for Mission Action Plan</p>
<p>Monday 23rd Battlesden with Pottesgrove Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 27th Bedford, St Andrew Christopher Dent, Adele Rowlands <u>Thanksgiving</u> For outreach to the community through the Church Centre <u>Prayers</u> for Money Advice at St Andrew's (debt and benefits)</p>
<p>Tuesday 24th Bayford Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Saturday 28th Bedford, St John and St Leonard Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 25th Bedford, All Saints Jay MacLeod, Martin Naylor <u>Thanksgiving</u> Our work alongside other faith communities in the service of God's kingdom. <u>Prayers</u> For something of St Paul's conviction, energy and perseverance as we strive to live God's love</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Blessed are all those who fear the Lord, and walk in his ways. Ps 128 1</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 26th February

Living God's Love Going Transforming Communities

Please pray for *All who serve as Street Angels*

<p>Sunday 26th Bromham Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 1st The Diocesan Secretary and the Staff of the Diocesan Office Susan Pope and all the staff at Holywell Lodge as they seek to support parishes in furthering mission and ministry in the diocese</p>
<p>Monday 27th Broxbourne with Wormley Charles Hudson, (R) Ray Slade <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the response to our stewardship campaign <u>Prayers</u> For those on the Alpha course this term</p>	<p>Friday 2nd The members of the Diocesan Board of Finance David Nye, Chairman of the Board of Finance, and all the members and officers of the Board <u>Thanksgiving</u> for the generosity of parishioners enabling Parish ministry to be carried on. <u>Prayers</u> for Parishes struggling to make ends meet</p>
<p>Tuesday 28th Bushey Bridget Adams, Caroline Drury, Verity Harvey, (R) Roger Payne <u>Thanksgiving</u> the commitment of the congregations through the Vacancy. <u>Prayers</u> For our new Rector.</p>	<p>Saturday 3rd The members of the Diocesan Pastoral Committee Richard Inwood (Chair) Jim May (Pastoral Secretary) Judith Calvert (Pastoral Officer) <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the commitment of the members and staff. <u>Prayers</u> For wisdom in formulating pastoral arrangements which will be effective in 'Living God's Love' in our Diocese</p>
<p>Wednesday 29th Bushey Heath, St Peter Andrew Burton, Geoffrey Neal, George Austin, (ALM) Sr. Diana Burton CA <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the opportunities for growth our Family Service has brought us. <u>Prayers</u> For an effective re-engagement with the parish and a renewed sense of purpose.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; O my God, in you I trust. Ps 25 1</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 19th February

Living God's Love Going Making New Disciples

Please pray for *All who work as Street Evangelists*

<p>Sunday 19th Bourne End David Abbott <u>Thanksgiving</u> A new desire to engage with what God is saying to us, as his people in this place. <u>Prayers</u> the right way forward to reach out into the community we are called to serve</p>	<p>Thursday 23rd Braughing Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Monday 20th Bovingdon Charles Burch, (R) Mary Beard</p>	<p>Friday 24th Brent Pelham Carol Kimberley, [R] Patricia Hamilton, John Kimberley <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the involvement of so many in the village in the care of the Church. <u>Prayers</u> For the special Family Service on 20th May to celebrate 150 years since the Victorian restoration of the Church</p>
<p>Tuesday 21st Boxmoor James Reveley, Ruth Goatly <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the pulpit swap on the 19th with the local RC church. <u>Prayers</u> For stability and continued growth at St. Francis, a year after the Ordinariate exodus.</p>	<p>Saturday 25th Bricket Wood Mike Rajkovic <u>Thanksgiving</u> the success of the Lunch Club. <u>Prayers</u> for working out our MAP as a PCC, as a Church, as a Community</p>
<p>Wednesday 22nd Bramfield Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge. Ps 50 6</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 29th January

Living God's Love Going Making New Disciples

Please pray for *Courage to live the one's faith as a witness to others*

<p>Sunday 29th Bedford, St Mark (LEP) Charles Royden, Sam Cappleman, Deacon Jane Mason, (R) Wendy Waters <u>Thanksgiving</u> for Volunteers who stepped up to run the learning disabilities day centre after social services funding was withdrawn, three cheers for the big society. <u>Prayers</u> For our Mission Action Planning process over the coming months</p>	<p>Thursday 2nd The Archdeacon of Hertford Trevor Jones <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the prayers, support and generosity of colleagues and parishes to enable a fruitful sabbatical leave. <u>Prayers</u> For vacant Benefices and new appointments to be made</p>
<p>Monday 30th Bedford, St Martin Roger Stokes <u>Thanksgiving</u> for expected new opportunities for mission in the area <u>Prayers</u> as we plan and work for a sustainable future for the parish</p>	<p>Friday 3rd The Archdeacon of St Albans Jonathan Smith <u>Thanksgiving</u> To have such excellent colleagues in Rural Deans and Lay Chairs. <u>Prayers</u> For all those who work with children and young people in a voluntary capacity.</p>
<p>Tuesday 31st Bedford, St Michael and All Angels Nigel Morrell, Roger Chapman, Peter Littleford <u>Thanksgiving</u> That the congregation is still prepared to have their services led by a rota of retired Clergy. <u>Prayers</u> That St Michael's will continue to develop its links with the Elstow Team Ministry and London Road Methodist Church as they seek to serve their community</p>	<p>Saturday 4th Bedford, St Paul Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 1st Archdeacon of Bedford Paul Hughes <u>Thanksgiving</u> For the work of the Luton and Dunstable Hospital. <u>Prayers</u> For those involved in appointing the next Bishop of Bedford.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week The Lord is gracious and full of compassion. Ps 111 4b</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 5th February

Living God's Love Going Transforming Communities

Please pray for *All who offer support to those who are housebound*

<p>Sunday 5th Bedford, St Peter de Merton with St Cuthbert Mike Fudger <u>Thanksgiving</u> the beauty of our building and its people. <u>Prayers</u> discerning new patterns of ministry in our town centre</p>	<p>Thursday 9th Biddenham Stephen Huckle, (R) Christopher Dawe <u>Thanksgiving</u> For links with St James's School, assemblies, services in church and work of school governors. <u>Prayers</u> For effective new initiatives in reaching out to large new housing area in Great Denham</p>
<p>Monday 6th Bengeo Holy Trinity and St Leonard with Christ Church Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 10th Biggleswade Guy Scott <u>Thanksgiving</u> for the completion of the Chapter House Development. <u>Prayers</u> for greater unity in the life and witness of the church family in Biggleswade.</p>
<p>Tuesday 7th Benington Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Saturday 11th Billington Grant Fellows, Don Brewin, (R) Richard Vickers <u>Thanksgiving</u> A good community wide response to our recent village Barn Dance <u>Prayers</u> Our plans to set up a "Friends of St Michael's"</p>
<p>Wednesday 8th Bennetts End Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his wisdom is beyond all telling. Ps 147 5</i></p>

Prayers for the week beginning Sunday 12th February

Living God's Love Going deeper into God

Please pray for *All who teach in Sunday Schools*

<p>Sunday 12th Biscot, Holy Trinity Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Thursday 16th Bletsoe Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Monday 13th Bishop's Hatfield Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p>Friday 17th Blunham Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Tuesday 14th Bishop's Stortford Toby Marchand, Anthony Searle, June Knight <u>Thanksgiving</u> For 22 members of the parish Confirmed last November. <u>Prayers</u> The keeping of Lent, with Home Groups and special meetings</p>	<p>Saturday 18th Bolnhurst Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>
<p>Wednesday 15th Bishop's Stortford, Holy Trinity Please pray for the Ministers and people of the Parish and the wider community they serve.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>A suggested text for reflection for the week O Lord, how manifold are your works! Ps 104 24a</i></p>