

Partners Praying Together

October 2021 – Covid-19 Special Edition



BECAUSE OF THE RAPID CHANGES brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic across the globe much of ABM's normal project work has been disrupted. Because of that, we have asked our Overseas Partners to supply us with prayer points that reflect the situation in their country. Included in this edition of *Partners Praying Together* are the prayer points that we have received. We have included these so that you can show prayerful concern for them as they, who like us are 'wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world' (as the prayer from Compline puts it), adjust to living in a time of global pandemic. You'll also find the usual things we would normally have: the feasts and commemorations from the lectionary, the Australian Cycle of Prayer, and commemorations from the United Nations calendar. All the material is designed to inform your prayers for our Overseas Partners, the bishops and dioceses of our Church and for wider global concerns. With the Psalmist let us pray, 'Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, Lord, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice' (141.2).

1. Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?
2. ABM prayer theme for each day this month
3. Prayer points s from our Overseas Partners
4. The feasts and commemorations from the lectionary, the Australian Cycle of Prayer, a cycle of our Overseas Partners, and commemorations from the UN calendar

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Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?

THIS MONTH WE ARE ASKING YOU not only to remember our each of our Australian dioceses as they grapple with the Covid-19 pandemic, but also each of our each of our Overseas Partners as they deal with it too. Our Overseas Partners consist of Activity Partners (with whom we currently have joint activities), Relational Partners (with whom we have historical relationships) and Networking Partners (with whom we work overseas, or with whom we share information). We have, as the well-used Anglican phrase describes it, strong *bonds of affection* for all of them. Because our overseas work involves both the Church, through our Church-to-Church Unit, and communities, through our Anglicans in Development Unit, we often relate to our partners both through the Church itself and through a particular Church's community development arm. So, as you pray, we ask you to remember each of our Partners (and their community development arms) some of whom are more able to weather through the coronavirus storm than others:

Activity Partners

1. The Anglican Church of Kenya (*ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services*)
2. The Anglican Church of Melanesia (*The Anglican Church of Melanesia's Board of Mission*)
3. The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (*Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*)
4. The Church of the Province of Central Africa (*the Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program*)
5. The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) (*the CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks*)
6. The Episcopal Church in the Philippines (*E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP*)
7. The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East (*the Diocese of Jerusalem's Development Desk*)
8. The Philippine Independent Church – *Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI* (*VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI*)

Relational Partners

9. The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China
10. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia (*Anglican Missions Board, AMB*)
11. The Anglican Church of Hong Kong, the *Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui* 香港聖公會
12. The Anglican Church of Japan, the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai* 日本聖公会
13. The Anglican Church of Korea
14. The Church of Bangladesh
15. The Church of Ceylon
16. The Church of North India
17. The Church of Pakistan

18. The Church of South India
19. The Church of the Province of South East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore)
20. The Episcopal Church of South Sudan (*the Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA*)
21. The Episcopal Church of Sudan

Networking Partners

22. Episcopal Relief and Development (USA)
23. The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Canada)
24. USPG (UK and Ireland)
25. Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy
26. Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life
27. CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa
28. The Mothers' Union

Please remember all our partners in your prayers. Whether they are in Port Moresby, London or Seoul, they need our prayers.

Information from our Partners regarding Covid-19 will be put up on our website as it comes to hand.

EACH DAY THIS MONTH

- ✠ Pray for all those affected by the Covid-19 whether here in Australia, within ABM's Overseas Partners, or beyond – for the souls of all who have died; for the families and friends they have left behind; for the sick, especially those who need oxygen but who are unable to get it and those who cannot find a place in hospital when they need it; for those so overwhelmed by anxiety that they have resorted to panic buying and hoarding; for children who are now scared of dying; for those in self-isolation or in quarantine; for those unable to work from home; for those whose businesses have been negatively affected; for those whose income is now reduced or who have been laid off; for those more susceptible to the disease – whether by age or underlying medical condition; for those who are unable, for any reason, to worship in their churches or synagogues, mosques or temples; for those who are struggling due to of the social restrictions brought about because of the virus.
- ✠ Give thanks for all the doctors, nurses, and other medical staff who are tending to the sick; for the police as they maintain social order; for the epidemiologists and other scientists who have brought us effective vaccines and strive to bring us more; for those who show kindness to others through social distancing, through buying groceries for the elderly, or through phone calls to the isolated; for all those businesses who are able to let their staff work from home; for those who have been buying responsibly in the supermarkets; for those churches who are finding creative ways to engage in worship and prayer online or outside; for all who minister to others in Christ's name in this season of continued anxiety.

Prayer Points

from our

Overseas Partners

The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

- ✦ We pray for our Prime Minister and for government health advisers as they make difficult decisions on how to respond to the recent community outbreak of Covid in New Zealand. We give thanks for the plans and structures already in place and for the way that the vast majority of people are accepting recently imposed restrictions and doing the right thing.
- ✦ We give thanks for the way Anglican congregations continue to support the vulnerable and those most in need during these uncertain times.
- ✦ We pray for the people of Afghanistan, especially for at-risk Afghan nationals.
- ✦ We pray for the Diocese of Polynesia as it continues to support and bring hope to struggling congregations and communities across Fiji. We pray for the families who have lost loved ones and who struggle to make ends meet.
- ✦ We give thanks that in Aotearoa New Zealand we have access to testing stations and vaccines and we pray for the front-line workers who are going out of their way to help ensure our safety.
- ✦ We give thanks for everyone supporting the 'Get one. Give one.' Covid vaccination campaign being pushed out by Anglican Missions which aims for greater equality in the availability of and access to vaccines in countries that cannot afford them.

The Church of the Province of South-East Asia

- ✦ We thank the Lord for His faithfulness and mercy, in protecting and providing for His Church in the Province of South East (PSEA). In the midst of the pandemic together with challenges in the region, the Lord has provided resources, creativity and online innovation for the work of evangelism and discipleship.

- ✦ Pray for the work of the Church in Malaysia and Singapore, and the mission of the Province of South East Asia in Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Nepal, that the Kingdom of God will be preached without fear nor favour in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- ✦ Ask for God's mercy on all who suffer due to the threat of Covid 19, affecting tourism industry which contributes significantly to the GDP of the nations in our region, causing millions losing their livelihood at the brink of starvation.
- ✦ Pray for equitable distribution of vaccines, food, financial resources in the nations, and that we might walk in the blessings of God's timeless principle in His words, to love our neighbour as ourselves.
- ✦ Pray for the continuous equipping and effective training of clergy and laity through local theological institutions and ministry schools, that greater mobilisation of the laity for effective witnessing for Christ and ministries to the hurting and the marginalized would be evident in our society.

The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East

- ✦ Pray for the people of the Lebanon, ravaged by economic meltdown and political selfishness as well as the after-effects of the huge port explosion a year ago
- ✦ Pray for each of the many governments in this multi-nation Province to manage the pandemic responsibly and consistently
- ✦ Give thanks for regular worship faithfully maintained almost everywhere despite restriction and challenge
- ✦ Pray for justice in Israel/Palestine and Iraq in particular
- ✦ Pray for Archbishop Michael, the Primate, and for Archbishop Hosam of the Diocese of Jerusalem, and all their people, together with the Diocese of Iran in exceptionally hard times

The Episcopal Church of South Sudan

- ✦ Thank God for the 7th Youth Conference in All Saints' Cathedral, Juba
- ✦ Thank God for the swearing in of the Legislative Assembly in South Sudan
- ✦ Pray for the Confirmation taking place in the Diocese of Juba currently aiming at 1000 candidates who would join the Church and start serving the Lord in their areas of call.
- ✦ Pray for the rampant killing along the Juba-Nimule highway.
- ✦ Pray for the People of Afghanistan, that peace and stability may come back.

香港聖公會
The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui
The Anglican Church of Hong Kong

- ✦ Pray for the revival of the Church and the spirituality of the faithful in the Pentecost season.
- ✦ Pray for the opening of new school year 2021-2022, the well-beings of all teachers and students in the HKSKH schools.
- ✦ Pray for the travellers under quarantine that they shall be healthy and able to return home seeing family and friends.
- ✦ Pray for the recovery of the economy, the improvement of unemployment rate, especially in the sectors which have been badly affected amid the epidemic.

日本聖公会
The Nippon Sei Ko Kai
The Anglican Communion in Japan

- ✦ Give thanks for the increasing vaccine rollout in Japan and for the recent addition of Astra-Zeneca doses; and pray for those planning, administering and supporting the vaccination programme nationwide
- ✦ Please pray for all essential workers in the country and their safety in the face of rising numbers of infections
- ✦ Give thanks for the recent Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo and pray that their legacy will prove to be a coming-together of the world during a time of great difficulty for all
- ✦ Please pray for all those in Japan affected by the recent heavy rains and severe flooding across the country; especially those who have lost homes, livelihoods or those they love
- ✦ Give thanks for the dedication of all teachers and school administrators, and as children return to school after the summer holidays, pray that they may continue to enjoy their learning in safe and comfortable environments
- ✦ Please pray for the government and people of Japan as the country enacts (and re-enacts) states of emergency in various prefectures; that the people may refrain from going out unnecessarily; and that the government may understand the frustration that brings and show some empathy.

For access to the electronic version of *Partners Praying Together*, go to www.abmission.org/partners-praying-together



A postage stamp from the USA featuring St Francis. Feast day 4 October.

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Australia

Oct	Lectionary and ABM Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	ABM Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days see www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks for more information about each
Fri 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Kenya <i>ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Older Persons
Sat 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; Bishops Chris McLeod, Denise Ferguson and Tim Harris, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Melanesia <i>The ACOM Board of Mission</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Statistics Day International Day of Non-Violence
Sun 3	<p>Pentecost 19 [Ordinary Sunday 27]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rod Chiswell, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea <i>Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea</i> 	
Mon 4	<p>Francis, friar and preacher († 1226)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of the Province of Central Africa <i>The Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Space Week begins World Habitat Day
Tue 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of the Province of Myanmar <i>CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Teachers' Day

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Wed 6	<p>William Tyndale, biblical scholar († 1536)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church in the Philippines <i>E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP</i> 	
Thu 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Brisbane – Archbishop Phillip Aspinall; Bishops Jeremy Greaves, John Roundhill and Cameron Venables, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East <i>The Diocese of Jerusalem’s Development Desk</i> <p>See p. 5</p>	
Fri 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Philippine Independent Church – (<i>Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI</i>) <i>VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI</i>) 	
Sat 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Mark Short; Bishops Carol Wagner and Stephen Pickard, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Migratory Bird Day World Post Day

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Sun 10	Pentecost 20 [Ordinary Sunday 28] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry to the Forces – Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Armed Forces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia <i>Anglican Missions Board, AMB</i> <p>See p. 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Mental Health Day
Mon 11	<i>120th anniversary of the establishment of the Episcopal Church in the Philippines, 1901</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (<i>Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui 香港聖公會</i>) <p>See p. 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of the Girl Child
Tue 12	Elizabeth Fry, prison reformer († 1845) <i>Consecration of the Rt Rev Arthur Malcolm - first Aboriginal bishop, 1985</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Grafton – Bishop Murray Harvey, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Japan (<i>Nippon Sei Ko Kai 日本聖公会</i>) <p>See p. 6</p>	
Wed 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia – Bishop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Korea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction
Thu 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Bangladesh 	

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Fri 15	<p>Teresa of Avila, teacher († 1592)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier; Bishops Andrew Curnow, Paul Barker, Genieve Blackwell, Brad Billings, Kate Prowd, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Ceylon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Rural Women
Sat 16	<p>Hugh Latimer and Nicholas Ridley, bishops and martyrs († 1555)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart; Bishops Charlie Murry and Sonia Roulston, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of North India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Food Day
Sun 17	<p>Pentecost 21 [Ordinary Sunday 29]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Pakistan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
Mon 18	<p>Luke, evangelist and martyr</p> <p><i>Ordination of the Rev Joseph Liu and the Rev Poey Passi - first Torres Strait Islander priests, 1926</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of South India 	

Oct	Lectionary and ABM Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	ABM Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days see www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks for more information about each
Tue 19	<p>Henry Martyn, missionary and Bible translator in India and Persia († 1812)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy; Bishops Jeremy James TSSF, Kate Wilmot, the clergy and people 	<p>The Church of the Province of South-East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore, with missionary congregations in Nepal, Indonesia, Thailand and some parts of Indo-China)</p> <p><i>See p. 4</i></p>	
Wed 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of South Sudan <i>The Church’s Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA</i> <p><i>See p. 5</i></p>	
Thu 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Rockhampton – Bishop Peter Grice, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of Sudan 	
Fri 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Kanishka Raffel; Bishops Peter Lin, Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Gary Koo, Peter Hayward, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NATSIAC, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council 	

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Sat 23	James of Jerusalem, brother of our Lord († ca. 62) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Tasmania – Bishop Richard Conde, Bishop Chris Jones, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nungalinga College, Darwin 	
Sun 24	Pentecost 22 [Ordinary Sunday 30] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wontulp-Bi-Buya College, Cairns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Media & Information Literacy Week begins Disarmament Week begins United Nations Day World Development Information Day
Mon 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Episcopal Relief and Development (USA) 	
Tue 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (Canada) 	
Wed 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop John Stead, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USPG (UK and Ireland) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Day for Audiovisual Heritage

Oct	Lectionary and ABM Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	ABM Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days see www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks for more information about each
Thu 28	Simon and Jude, apostles and martyrs <i>Foundation of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1925</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Jones; Executive Director, Kasy Chambers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy 	
Fri 29	<i>Foundation of ABM, 1850</i> <i>Ordination of the Rev Patrick Brisbane - first Aboriginal priest, 1970</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life 	
Sat 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa 	
Sun 31	Pentecost 23 [Ordinary Sunday 31] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religious Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mothers' Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Cities Day

Omissions and displacements in October this year –

17: Ignatius of Antioch, bishop and martyr († ca. 115)

31: Martin Luther († 1546) and other Continental Reformers

Let us pray for our sisters and brothers throughout the world ...

Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the Lord; and I will heal them – Isaiah 57.19

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN AFRICA, where there have been 8,180,555 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (2,882,630), Morocco (919,681), Tunisia (700,807), Ethiopia (332,961) and Libya (332,026).

Spare your people, O Lord,
And heal them by your mighty power.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE AMERICAS, where there have been 88,561,500 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are the United States (42,287,762), Brazil (21,247,667), Argentina (5,241,327), Colombia (4,942,249) and Mexico (3,573,044).

Spare your people, O Lord,
And heal them by your mighty power.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN ASIA, where there have been 65,962,928 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (33,478,419), Iran (5,408,860), Indonesia (4,192,695), the Philippines (2,366,749) and Malaysia (2,112,175).

Spare your people, O Lord,
And heal them by your mighty power.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN EUROPE, where there have been 66,489,365 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are the United Kingdom (7,429,746), Russia (7,274,928), France (6,955,333), Turkey (6,847,259) and Spain (4,935,534).

Spare your people, O Lord,
And heal them by your mighty power.

AND WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN OUR OWN REGION, OCEANIA, where there have been 220,721 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (85,629), Fiji (49,889), French Polynesia (44,612), Papua New Guinea (18,933) and Guam (13,660).

Spare your people, O Lord,
And heal them by your mighty power.

** Figures are the latest available from the European Centre for Disease Control and accurate as of 23 September 2021.*