

Partners Praying Together

May 2022 – 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 Covid-19 worldwide, especially those who mourn the loss of loved ones; for those suffering from long Covid; for all those who are currently infected, especially children; for all whose businesses or employment has been affected by the pandemic; for the people of the Ukraine, and for all like them who suffer the misery of conflict around the world.
- ✠ Give thanks for the medical staff who have been working so tirelessly; for the development of vaccines; for the way in which people have been flexible and managed to cope despite the difficulties; for all those who have shown kindness to their neighbours throughout the course of the pandemic so far; for the way that churches have been able to use technology to keep in touch with their communities.

Prayer Points

from our

Overseas Partners

The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East

- ✦ Give thanks for those who attended the Provincial Clergy and Spouses Conference in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan from 24 to 27 April.
- ✦ Give thanks for the keynote speakers Monseigneur Jamal Khader, Latin Patriarchal Vicar in Jordan, and the Reverend Professor Jennifer Strawbridge.
- ✦ Give thanks for the Provincial Synod on 28 and 29 April and for ever deeper mutual understanding between our dioceses and nations.
- ✦ Pray for the people of Ukraine and for all affected by the tyranny and oppression of President Putin, including Russians.
- ✦ Pray for Christians in Iran and especially the small congregations of the Anglican diocese there, and for that whole nation.

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines

- ✦ Give thanks for wisdom and opportunities as the ECP works its way towards a “net-zero carbon footprint” institution under the De-carbonization Program as one of our responses to the 5th Mark of Mission
- ✦ Pray for the work of the church in new mission areas, particularly in Surigao Province, Metro Cebu and Laguna Province.
- ✦ Pray for the upcoming national elections on May 9, for the wise discernment of voters so that we will be able to choose leaders who promote justice, liberty, peace, unity and the welfare of all people.
- ✦ Pray for the decrease of prices of fuel in the country resulting to increased prices of basic commodities and badly affecting the livelihoods of the transportation sector.

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

- ✠ Pray for the people who died and suffered in the fifth wave of Omicron-COVID in Hong Kong; and for the seniors living in the elderly homes.
- ✠ Pray for the reunion of family and the revival of economy after the relaxation of quarantine requirements for travelers from overseas.
- ✠ Pray for the reopening of the religious premises and the spiritualities of the faithful.
- ✠ Pray for the General Synod to be held on 12-16 June 2022. The synod theme is “Enhancing the Church’s Public Ministry”.
- ✠ Pray for the election of next Chief Executive of the HKSAR Government.

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

- ✠ Give thanks for the recent warmer weather and the beauty of God’s world as it blooms all around us
- ✠ As the country celebrates ‘Constitution Day’ this month, pray that Article 9 of the Constitution (the clause regarding ‘Peace’ as a key part of the country’s constitution and the commitment never to do war) be upheld, and that the government does not try to initiate moves towards a more militaristic footing
- ✠ Give thanks for the two theological colleges run by the NSKK: Central Theological College in Tokyo and the Bishop Williams Theological Seminary in Kyoto, and their staff and students. Pray that theological education in Japan may continue to be inspired by God’s Holy Spirit and produce leaders suitable for today and tomorrow’s church
- ✠ As Japan enjoys an extended holiday period over ‘Golden Week’ this month, pray for all those whose work is challenging or tiring and especially those work is affected by the recent price hikes due to the war in Ukraine
- ✠ Give thanks for the Japanese government’s acceptance of a number of refugees from Ukraine and pray they do more; at the same time pray for all those in this country who will help care for any refugees arriving in Japan
- ✠ Please pray for the Provincial General Synod which meets at the end of this month; for all discussions and resolutions, and that God’s wisdom may rest upon all who take part. Especially praying for all who are first-timers.

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Locked Bag Q4005,
Queen Victoria Building,
New South Wales 1230,
Australia



A postage stamp from Ukraine featuring a traditionally decorated Easter egg. See <https://youtu.be/BhG0DsouU-I> for how the eggs are made.

For access to the electronic version of Partners Praying Together, go to www.abmission.org/resources/missional-prayers

May	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
Sun 1	Easter 3 <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> 	
Mon 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 Tuna Day
Tue 3	St Philip and St James, Apostles and Martyrs <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> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Press Freedom Day
Wed 4	<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> 	

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Thu 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 Portuguese Language Day
Fri 6	<p>John, Apostle and Evangelist if not observed on 27 December</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> <p>See p. 4</p>	
Sat 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. 4</p>	
Sun 8	<p>Easter 4</p> <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>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives During the Second World War

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Mon 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 	
Tue 10	<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> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Argania
Wed 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people 	<p>The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (<i>Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui</i> 香港聖公會)</p> <p><i>See p. 5</i></p>	
Thu 12	<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</i> 日本聖公会) <p><i>See p. 5</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Plant Health
Fri 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 	

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Sat 14	Matthias, Apostle and Martyr if not observed on 24 February Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Bangladesh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Migratory Bird Day
Sun 15	Easter 5 <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 Families
Mon 16	<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"> International Day of Living Together in Peace International Day of Light Vesak, the Day of the Full Moon
Tue 17	<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"> World Telecommunication and Information Society Day
Wed 18	<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 	

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Thu 19	Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury († 988) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy; Bishops Jeremy James TSSF, Kate Wilmot, the clergy and people 	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)	
Fri 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> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bee Day
Sat 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Tea Day World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
Sun 22	Easter 6 <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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day for Biological Diversity

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Mon 23	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day to End Obstetric Fistula
Tue 24	<p>John († 1791) and Charles († 1788) Wesley, evangelists</p> <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 	
Wed 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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, 25-31 May
Thu 26	<p>Ascension Day <i>Week of Prayer for Reconciliation begins (till 3 June)</i></p> <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) 	
Fri 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) 	
Sat 28	<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 	

May	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
Sun 29	Easter 7 <i>Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins for those of us in the Southern Hemisphere (till Eve of Pentecost)</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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers
Mon 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 	
Tue 31	The Visitation of the BVM to Elizabeth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MU, the Mothers' Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World No Tobacco Day

Displacements and Omissions this year

1 May: St Philip and St James (transferred to 3 May)

8 May: Julian of Norwich, holy woman and mystic († 1417)

26 Apr: Augustine of Canterbury, missionary and bishop († 605)

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 11,614,769 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (3,741,230), Morocco (1,164,381), Tunisia (1,038,668), Egypt (515,645) and Libya (501,834).

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 152,438,949 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are the United States (80,686,455), Brazil (30,261,088), Argentina (9,060,923), Colombia (6,089,791) and Mexico (5,727,832).

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 127,160,487 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (43,045,527), South Korea (16,353,495), Vietnam (10,432,547), Japan (7,358,627) and Iran (7,206,959).

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 206,079,547 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are France (27,731,272), Germany (23,442,557), the United Kingdom (21,747,638), Russia (18,084,151) and Italy (15,712,088).

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, 6,402,678 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (5,225,150), New Zealand (828,906), French Polynesia (72,596), Fiji (64,513) and New Caledonia (60,457).

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 at 21 April 2022.*