



March 2023 - 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?

HIS 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, though 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 Honiara, Juba or Vancouver, 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

- Lord God, Father Son and Holy Spirt, You have created us for Yourself, You have called us into being, You offer us Your infinite love. We give ourselves, our souls and bodies, and all that we do, to You in love and worship.
- Pray for: those who have been affected by record-breaking floods in the Kimberley region of Western Australia as well as flooding in South Australia; for those in Western Australia who have been affected by bushfires; for the 4000+ Ukrainian asylum seekers in Australia, here as a result of the Russian invasion; for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians who represent 3% of the population but who are overrepresented at 29% of the adult prison population. Pray that the systemic issues that cause this may be addressed; for children's rights in Australia that the minimum age of criminal responsibility be raised from 10 to 14, the internationally-accepted age; for Indigenous children who are 20 time more likely to be incarcerated than their non-Indigenous peers; that Australia will endorse the Safe Schools Declaration, an intergovernmental pledge now supported by 112 countries to protect education in times of conflict.
- Give thanks for the medical staff who have been working so tirelessly during the pandemic; 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; for Australia's low unemployment rate; for the Federal Government's commitment to end violence against women and children within a generation; for the recent establishment of the national anti-corruption commission; for all those who volunteer in organisations to help Australia to become a better place.
- Lord God, as we call to mind the guidance and help You give us each moment of every day, we thank and praise You, holy God, for You alone have the words of eternal life.

Prayer Points from our Overseas Partners



The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

- Please pray for families and communities that have lost loved ones and had houses and livelihoods destroyed as a result of Cyclone Gabrielle which devastated parts of the North Island last week. Waiapu Diocese and Te Pihopatanga o Te Tairawhiti have been particularly impacted.
- ★ We give thanks for the courage, skill and generosity of the first responders including the staff from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and churches and marae that responded immediately.
- Pray for clergy in the affected areas who are not only dealing with the loss of buildings and significant damage but are also providing pastoral support to grieving communities.
- Pray especially for Archbishop Don Tamihere, Te Pihopa (Bishop) o Te Tairawhiti and Te Pihopa o Aotearoa, who oversees Te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa (the five Hui Amorangi for the Maori Anglican Church). He will be leading Tikanga Maori through some heartbreaking and difficult times ahead especially given the loss of and damage to taonga, or cultural treasures.
- Thank you for the generosity of people who have already donated money, time and much-needed items to the Cyclone Gabrielle Emergency Appeal launched by Anglican Missions on behalf of the Church.



The Anglican Church of Melanesia

For the Provincial and Diocesan offices as they continue to work as enablers of mission work to the whole church. Continue to pray for big projects ahead: John Coleridge Patteson University (JCPU), the board members and the fundraising committee; and for the proposed new ACOM offices.

Continue to pray for a replacement Southern Cross vessel to take the gospel between the islands.

The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

- Pray for good leadership and governance in all cultural, ethnic, government and church leaders
- ♣ Pray for climate change, sea piracy and illegal fishing in our shores.
- ♣ Pray that the General Secretary's position and the Archbishop of ACPNG position will be filled by suitable candidates
- ♣ Pray for foreigners entering our countries without proper screening and documentation
- Pray for the younger generations to have respect for the elders and learn much from them, rather than being influenced by Western culture.
- ♣ Pray for our mothers and young girls not to keep quiet about the abuses they face each day (especially suspected witchcraft killings in the Highlands Region)

The Church of the Province of Myanmar

- ♣ Pray for the Anglican Training and Resource Centre building as we are working on the paper works to get the legal permit to use this building by June 2023.
- ♣ Pray for Holy Cross seminarians as we are operating classes both in person in online.
- ♣ Pray for our faculty and their families.
- ♣ Pray for our country.

The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East

- For the suffering and polarized nation of Syria as well as its neighbour Turkey, both stricken by the earthquake disaster: for survivors and for those with resources to relieve them
- For the people of Iran in a time of increased repression by those in power and anger at injustices and lack of freedom





- For the dioceses of Cyprus and the Gulf, Jerusalem, and Iran in thanksgiving for the persistence and resilience of Christian presence and service
- For the end of hatreds and divisions in the Holy Land and in thanksgiving for those who promote truth and peace
- For Archbishop Michael, the Primate, and for Archbishop Hosam Naoum, Bishop in Jerusalem, and for all their people, lay and ordained

The Episcopal Church in the Philippines



- Give thanks for the 26 years of concordat relations between the Episcopal Church in the Philippines and the *Iglesia Filipina*Indipendiente.
- Pray for families and communities affected by continuous rains and earthquakes in Visayas and Mindanao, and for the farmers whose agricultural calendar have been disrupted because of these extreme and unpredicted weather events.
- Pray for the clergy and laity of all the dioceses of ECP as they prepare for their annual conventions next month. Also pray for congregations that are working together in building their houses of prayer.
- We pray for a lasting and peaceful resolution of the continuing territorial dispute between the Philippines and China over the West Philippine Sea.



The Episcopal Church of South Sudan

- Pray for the Primate, the Most Rev Justin Badi Arama, and for the primatial office staff: the Rev Joseph Ayach Deng (Private Secretary and Chaplain), Kate Brankin (International Coordinator), John Ladu (Driver).
- Pray for the Provincial Secretary, the Rev Peter Garang Deng, and for his colleague, the Administrative Secretary, the Rev Phoebe Levi Nyzakara, in their work together in the provincial office.
- ♣ Pray for the provincial departments, their leaders and staff and their work: Accounts (Gum Mabeny Achiek), Bishop Gwynne College (the Very Rev Samuel Galuak Marial),

Communications (Manyang Gabriel Kon), Education (the Rev Emmanuel Lomoro), the Guest House, Health (Peter Bul), the Justice, Peace and Reconciliation

Commission (the Rev Stephen Mayuen Mou), Mission and Evangelism (the Rev Francis Lado), the Mothers' Union (Harriet Baka Natana), SSUDRA – the South Sudanese Development and Relief Agency (the Rev Joseph Al-Haj Loabe), the Episcopal University (the Rev Canon Dr Joseph Bilal.

The Church of the Province of South-East Asia

- Continue to pray for a stable government in Malaysia, both at the Federal level as well as the state levels. Pray against any form of racial and religious extremism from perpetuating in the nation.
- Pray for the dioceses in our Province as we are moving towards creating area dioceses to be more effective in ministry, mission, discipleship and raising up the next generation of clergy, pastors and leaders in various contexts.
- Pray for protection against flood related damages during the monsoon rainy season in South East Asia, especially Kalimantan and Sumatra (Indonesia), Malaysia and Southern Philippines.
- ♣ Pray for the nations in our Province as the people combat against rising costs of living, food and fuel prices and economic hardship. Pray for a year of recovery in 2023.

香港聖公會

The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui The Anglican Church of Hong Kong

- \clubsuit We pray for those struggling with increasing living costs.
- ★ We pray for the Lord's wisdom and prudence in our judges' hearts as the trial for the Hong Kong 47 continues. May the court and its proceedings be guided towards the path of truth.
- ★ We pray for God's continued blessings as preparations for transforming Macau from a missionary area to a missionary diocese continue.
- As ACC18 (the plenary meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in Ghana) concludes, we pray that our representatives return with their shared fellowship with the rest of the Communion, and with a renewed vigour in carrying out our Marks of Mission.





日本聖公会

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai The Anglican Communion in Japan

Give thanks for those graduating from NSKK theological seminaries this month and pray for them on the next step of their journeys into ministry. Pray also for the future of theological education in Japan as the NSKK considers various options moving forward

- As Japan marks the 12th anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake, please pray for all those still living with the legacy of that tragedy and also those working in efforts to rebuild and restore the Tohoku region
- Give thanks for the strong relationship between the Anglican Church of Korea and the NSKK and pray for their conference this month. Ask God to continue to guide the two churches as they seek closer ties
- 4 As the Japanese government changes its policy on mask-wearing, please pray for the people of Japan as they continue to learn how to live with Covid in the background
- As the warmer Spring weather comes to Japan bringing new life, thank God for his beautiful world and pray that we may all respect and care for the planet entrusted to us
- With the Japanese government seeking to bring in more foreign workers with advanced skills, pray for all overseas workers in Japan: that they might be treated fairly and accepted more by the wider society

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

Mar	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
Med	David, Bishop of Menevia, Wales († 601) • The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee	The Anglican Church of Kenya ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services	 Zero Discrimination Day (UNAIDS) World Seagrass Day
Thu 2	Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, missionary († 672) • The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; Bishops Chris McLeod, Denise Ferguson and Tim Harris, the clergy and people	 The Anglican Church of Melanesia The ACOM Board of Mission See ρ. 4 	
Έ m	• The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rod Chiswell, the clergy and people	• The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea See p. 5	World Wildlife Day
Sat 4	• The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people	• The Church of the Province of Central Africa The Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program	

Mar	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 5	Lent 2 • The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people.	• The Church of the Province of Myanmar CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks	• International Day for Disarmament and Non- Proliferation Awareness
Mon 6	• The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people	• The Episcopal Church in the Philippines E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP See p. 6	
Tue	Perpetua and her companions, martyrs at Carthage († 203) The Diocese of Brisbane – Bishops Jeremy Greaves, John Roundhill and Cameron Venables, the clergy and people	 The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East The Diocese of Jerusalem's Development Desk See p. 5 	
% %	 John of God, worker among the sick and poor, Spain († 1550) The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people 	• The Philippine Independent Church – (La Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI) VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI)	International Women's Day

S	Sister Emma SSA, Superior of the Society of the	The Amity Foundation – an	
	ueenland († 1939)	expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self	
	Canberra and Goulburn – hort; Bishops Carol Wagner ckard, the clergy and people	Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China	
. j	Forces – Bishop Grant ins and members of the	 The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia Anglican Missions Board, AMB 	• International Day of Women Judges
. J		See p. 4	
<u> </u>	Gippsland – Bishop Richard rgy and people	 The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui 香港里公會) 	
ŭ		See p. 7	
• • •	•	The Anglican Church of Japan	
•	Grafton – Bishop Murray rgy and people	(Intppon 3ct No Nat 日本主公会) See p. 8	
•	the Aboriginal People of hop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal ole	The Anglican Church of Korea	
	the Torres Strait Islander ralia – Torres Strait clergy and	The Church of Bangladesh	
 Wed • The Drocese of Medouthe – Alchobshop Philip Freier; Bishops Andrew Curnow, Paul Barker, Genieve Blackwell, Brad Billings, Kate Prowd, the clergy and people 	The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier; Bishops Andrew Curnow, Paul Barker, Genieve Blackwell, Brad Billings, Kate Prowd, the clergy and people	The Church of Ceylon	• International Day to Combat Islamophobia

Mar	Lectionary and ABM Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	ABM Partner + development arm – where appropriate	see www.un.org/en/observances/ international-days-and-weeks for more information about each
Thu 16	• The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart; Bishops Charlie Murry and Sonia Roulston, the clergy and people	The Church of North India	
Fri	Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland († 461) • The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people	• The Church of Pakistan	
Sat	 Cyril of Jerusalem, bishop and teacher († 386) The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people 	The Church of South India	
Sun 19	Lent 4 • The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy; Bishop 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) See p. 7	
Mon 20	Joseph, husband of the BVM Cuthbert of Lindisfarne, bishop and missionary († 1556) The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people	• The Episcopal Church of South Sudan The Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA See p. 6	 International Day of Happiness French Language Day

Tue	Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, martyr and liturgist († 1556) The Diocese of Rockhampton – Bishop Peter Grice, the clergy and people	The Episcopal Church of Sudan	 Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination begins (till 27 March) International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination World Poetry Day
			 International Day of Nowruz World Down Syndrome Day International Day of Forests
Wed 22	Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath & Wells († 1711) • The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Kanishka Raffel; Bishops Peter Lin, Chris Edwards, Michael Stead, Gary Koo, Peter Hayward, the clergy and people	NATSIAC, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council	World Water Day
Thu 23	The Diocese of Tasmania –Bishop Richard Conde, Bishop Chris Jones, clergy and people	Nungalinya College, Darwin	World Meteorological Day
Fri 24	Paul Couturier, ecumenist († 1953) Óscar Romero, Archbishop of San Salvador, martyr († 1980) • The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people	• Wontulp-Bi-Buya College, Cairns	World Tuberculosis Day International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims

Δar	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
Sat	The Annunciation to the BVM	• Episcopal Relief and Development	• International Day of
25	• The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and	(USA)	Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
	peopie		 International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing UN Staff Members
Sun	Lent 5	• The Primate's World Relief and	
26	• The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people.	Development Fund (Canada)	
Mon 27	• The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop-Elect Jeremy James TSSF, the clergy and people	• USPG (UK and Ireland)	
Lue	Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Iones: Executive Director. Kasy Chambers	 Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy 	
28			
Wed	John Keble, priest († 1866)	 Anglican Discipleship – Jesus- changed 1 ife 	
29	 Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia 	Slidped Lile	
Thu 30	Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia	• CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa	
3 E	Kenglous Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia	• The Mothers Union	





A Spanish postage stamp featuring St John of God, whose Feast Day is on Wednesday 8 March. For more information, see en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ John_of_God

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Anglican Cycle of Prayer, go to
anglicancommunion.org/resources/cycle-of-prayer/download-the-acp.aspx

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

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you. – Psalm 5.11

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN AFRICA. Large proportional increases in Covid case numbers have recently been seen in the Republic of Congo, Mali, and Zimbabwe. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by South Africa, Zambia and Réunion.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord:

Let them ever sing for joy.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE AMERICAS. Large proportional increases in Covid case numbers have recently been seen in Saint Lucia, the Turks and Caicos Islands, and Jamaica. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by the United States of America, Brazil and Mexico.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord: Let them ever sing for joy.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS AROUND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN. Large proportional increases in Covid case numbers have recently been seen in Tunisia, Sudan and Egypt. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by Lebanon, Iran, and Tunisia.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord:

Let them ever sing for joy.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN EUROPE. Large proportional increases in Covid case numbers have recently been seen in Georgia, Kosovo and Armenia. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by Germany, Russia and Italy.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord:

Let them ever sing for joy.

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN SOUTH-EAST ASIA. No country has reported increases in new cases of 20% or greater compared to the previous 28 days. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by Indonesia, India, and Thailand.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord:

Let them ever sing for joy.

AND WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN OUR OWN REGION, THE WESTERN PACIFIC. A large proportional increase in Covid case numbers has recently been seen in Samoa. Large raw numbers of new cases have been reported recently by Japan, China and South Korea.

Let all who take refuge in you rejoice, O Lord:

Let them ever sing for joy.

* Statistics are the latest available from the WHO and are accurate as of 12 February 2023. Infection rates are now decreasing in most parts of the world., however, there is concern over new variants and over the effects of long covid. Death rates are continuing to fall in most parts of the world.