







CYCLE OF PRAYER

Friday 25 Christmas Day 	DURHAM DIOCESE 'Unto us a child is born!' As we rejoice in the birth of the Christ Child, give thanks for the gift of life and pray for those less fortunate than us who face a difficult and uncertain future. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yola - (Province of Jos, Nigeria) Bp Ibrahim Markus SOCIAL ACTION Mary and Joseph sought shelter to bring the infant Jesus into this world. Pray for all who are homeless this Christmas and those who dedicate their lives to serve them.
Saturday 26 St Stephen	DURHAM DIOCESE On St Stephen's Day, the commemoration of the first Christian martyr, pray for all Christians who face hardship following Christ. ANGLICAN COMMUNION York - (CofE) The Most Revd John Sentamu THE PERSECUTED CHURCH Pray for a change of attitude in Uzbekistan's media who publish articles denouncing the Christian church.
Sunday 27 Christmas 1 St John	DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for all those at Durham Cathedral who have worked so hard during the Advent and Christmas season. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Ysabel - (Melanesia) Bp Richard Naramana HEALING & WHOLENESS Pray for the NHS and its staff as they work during one of the busiest times of the year.
Monday 28	DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for all the Diocesan office staff as they take a break this Christmas. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yukon - (British Columbia & the Yukon, Canada) The Most Revd Terrence Buckle THE WORLD AROUND US Taliban militants are continuing to cause death and devastation in places like Afghanistan with deadly suicide bombings. Pray for the military forces tackling the rise of insurgency attacks.
Tuesday 29 	DURHAM DIOCESE Give thanks for the charity HOST and those in this diocese who hosted students from overseas this Christmas. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Zanzibar - (Tanzania) Vacant ALL GOD'S PEOPLE Guinea. Pop. 10 million. Its people are amongst the poorest in West Africa. Pray for investment to eradicate widespread poverty.
Wednesday 30 	DURHAM DIOCESE Give thanks and pray for our clergy: as the busyness of the Christmas season ends. Pray for continued encouragement and support both from the Diocese and their own congregations in their mission and ministry. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Zonkwa - (Province of Abuja, Nigeria) Vacant THE WORLD AT RISK Banning the trade in Atlantic bluefin tuna is justified by the extent of their decline, according to fisheries regulators. Pray for the work done by conservation groups who highlight the dangers of over-fishing.
Thursday 31 	DURHAM DIOCESE At the end of 2009, pray for the Diocese and give thanks for the outreach that has taken place over the year in Christ's name. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Zululand - (South Africa) Bp Dino Gabriel SOCIAL ACTION As we prepare for the beginning of a new year, pray that 2010 will see the economic recovery continue and that the world's richest nations (including the UK) will honour their commitment to helping the world's poor.

Ring out wild bells to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out wild bells and let him die.


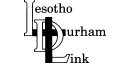

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

From 'In Memoriam', Alfred Tennyson

Prayer requests for inclusion should be sent to:

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Please feel free to photocopy this and distribute it to anyone who is willing to use it.

Our prayers for The Body of Christ in Durham Diocese focus this month on BARNARD CASTLE DEANERY	
Tuesday 1 	DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for the Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Council for Ministry meeting today. ANGLICAN COMMUNION World AIDS Day. Pray for those affected by HIV/AIDS and the work the Church is doing in developing countries. THE LESOTHO LINK Give thanks and pray for the invaluable work of the SHAPE course with schools, helping to educate the young Basotho about HIV and AIDS.
Wednesday 2	DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for the Bishop's Council meeting tonight. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Abakaliki - Nigeria. Bp. Benson C B Onyeibor. NORTH ELBIA LINK Pastor Christa Hunzinger as she takes on responsibility for the North Elbian Church's European links.
Thursday 3	DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for the Joint Bishop's Staff Teams and the Liturgical Committee meeting today. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Kansas - (Province VII, USA) Bp James Adams ALBA IULIA LINK Pray for the Theological Seminary in Alba Iulia and for Fr Nicolae Bolea, its director.
Friday 4 	DURHAM DIOCESE Barnard Castle Deanery. Alec Harding (Area Dean), Geoff Taylor (Lay Co-chair), Paul Whittaker (Secretary), Lynne Lobley (Treasurer). Thanks for the work completed towards framing a deanery plan and for the 'slow but sure' work together with Methodist churches across the dale. Thank God for a growing sense of working together across the deanery. Thank God for the Learning Discipleship lectures in the Deanery. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Louisiana - (Province VII, USA) Bp David MacPherson LESOTHO PARISHES Cathedral Archdeaconry: The Very Revd Bernard Dumas.
Saturday 5 	DURHAM DIOCESE Barnard Castle with Whorlton. Barnard Castle, St Mary. Alec Harding (Vicar), David Blakely, Astley Fenwick (Readers). Give thanks for the growth of their '4 o'clock' service for young families and pray for its development as it moves from monthly to fortnightly. Thank God for the growth of the Junior Choir and the creation of a new Youth Group (Trax) meeting jointly with the Methodists in the town. Pray for Emily Roberts (Methodist Circuit Youth Worker) and her team drawn from both denominations. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Massachusetts - (Province I, USA) Bp Gordon Scruton HEALING & WHOLENESS Pray for those affected by the winter flu virus and for the added complications that swine flu is having on the health service.
Sunday 6 Advent 2	DURHAM DIOCESE Whorlton, St Mary. Alec Harding (Vicar), David Blakely, Astley Fenwick (Readers). Pray for the small congregation as they seek to serve the village through making the church available and welcoming for private prayer and contemplation. Thank God for the congregation's membership and leadership within the Village Association. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Mexico - (Mexico) Bp Lino Amaero THE WORLD AROUND US Following the devastating natural disasters to hit Indonesia this autumn, pray that reconstruction is swift so that people can start to rebuild their lives.
Monday 7	DIOCESAN FAMILY Pray for the Board of Education meeting tonight. ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Michigan - (Province V, USA) Bp Robert Gepert THE WORLD AT RISK At the start of the Copenhagen summit on climate change, pray for a common consensus from world leaders on tackling the issue.

Tuesday 8	<p>DIOCESAN FAMILY Pray for the Pastoral Committee meeting tonight.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western New York - (Province II, USA) Bp Michael Garrison</p> <p>ALL GOD'S PEOPLE Philippines. Pop. 92 million. Social and political unrest has damaged the development of the country. Pray for people suffering from poverty and unemployment.</p>
Wednesday 9	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Cockfield, St Mary. <i>Jane Grieve (Priest-in-charge), Emma Johnson (Curate)</i>. Pray for their new deacon Emma, giving thanks for the gifts she brings to the benefice; for plans to develop monthly tea-time all age services and 'Sing for your Supper' evening services; for the church finances in the wake of two lead thefts in the first few months of 2009, and for plans to restart an active Mothers' Union branch in the parish.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Newfoundland - (Canada, Canada) Bp Percy Coffin</p> <p>SOCIAL ACTION A government green paper is looking at reforming the benefits system. Pray that ministers will be fully aware of the effects of changes on genuine claimants.</p>
Thursday 10	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for the Area Deans meeting today.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western North Carolina - (Province IV, USA) Bp Granville Taylor</p> <p>THE PERSECUTED CHURCH The Bishop of Sudan has told Radio Vatican how Al-Qaida attackers crucified seven Christians during an attack on a remote village. Pray for the families of those killed and those who carried out this atrocity.</p>
Friday 11	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Lynesack, St John the Evangelist. <i>Jane Grieve (Priest-in-charge), Emma Johnson (Curate)</i>. Pray for plans to develop monthly cafe style worship in village halls and 'Sing for your Supper' evening services; for their children's work and outreach to families following the summer church camp.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Western Tanganyika - (Tanzania) Bp Gerard E Mpango</p> <p>THE LESOTHO LINK Give thanks for the recent lay ministers training course delivered through the LINK in Lesotho and pray that the next course will attract even more participants so that the Church's ministry will be more effective.</p>
Saturday 12	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Woodland, St Mary. <i>Jane Grieve (Priest-in-charge), Emma Johnson (Curate), Charles Owston (Reader Emeritus)</i>. For their youth work based in the church as they seek to develop open drop-in sessions alongside a regular club with a stronger Christian identity.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Wiauso - (West Africa) Bp Abraham Ackah</p> <p>LESOTHO PARISHES Cathedral: St Mary & St James (Dean Fr. Bernard Dumas)</p>
Sunday 13	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE St Mary's Middleton with Holy Trinity Eggleston and St James the Less Forest in Frith. <i>Anne Freestone (NSM/MSE)</i>. Pray for Anne as she balances her ministry as a priest in the parishes and as a teacher. Give thanks for the continued witness of the parishes engagement with their communities. Pray for them as they seek a House for Duty priest to serve in Middleton, and for the work of Upper Teesdale Churches Together as Christians in the Dale work together in mission.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Willochra - (South Australia, Australia) Bp Gary Weatherill</p> <p>HEALING & WHOLENESS Pray for the elderly this winter and make us all mindful to remember those living near us who are alone.</p>
Monday 14	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Evenwood, St Paul. <i>Jane Grieve (Priest-in-charge), Emma Johnson (Curate)</i>. Pray for plans to develop new links with families through closer work with Evenwood CofE Primary School, and for plans to develop new 'Sing for your Supper' evening services.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Winchester - (Canterbury, England) Bp Michael Scott-Joynt</p> <p>THE WORLD AROUND US Pray for the European Union and the changes following the ratification of the Lisbon Treaty.</p>
Tuesday 15	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Gainford, St Mary and Winston, St Andrew. <i>Martin Jacques (Priest-in-charge)</i>. Give thanks for the faithful work of these congregations through a long vacancy. Pray for Martin as he leads them in mission: that the churches will grow in depth and numbers and the desire to pray.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Windward Islands - (West Indies) Bp Calvert Friday</p> <p>ALL GOD'S PEOPLE Samoa. Pop. 179,000. Thank God that diversification has been a success drawing tourists to the islands' scenic attractions and beaches.</p>

Wednesday 16	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Staindrop, St Mary and Ingleton, St John the Evangelist. <i>Ken Steventon (Priest-in-charge)</i>. Pray for the Staindrop congregation as they struggle with the demands of an historic building. Thank God for the connection between these congregations and the wider community. Pray for the youth drop in centre which has lost its YMCA funding.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Worcester - (CofE) Bp John Geoffrey Inge</p> <p>THE WORLD AT RISK Australia's coastal regions are suffering the effects of climate change. Pray for greater awareness of the damage being done to our world and the need for action.</p>
Thursday 17	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Retired clergy in the Deanery: <i>John Moore, David Grieve, Peter Holland</i>. Give thanks for the invaluable service they give.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Wusasa - (Province of Kaduna, Nigeria) Bp Ali Buba Lamido</p> <p>SOCIAL ACTION Following the recent postal strikes, pray for better dialogue between all unions and managements to avoid the widespread disruption that has been seen.</p>
Friday 18	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Give thanks for the Deanery Missioner, Martin Jacques. Pray for him and the deanery steering group as they discern opportunities for mission developments across the deanery in collaboration with the parishes.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Wyoming - (Province VI, USA) Bp Bruce Caldwell</p> <p>THE PERSECUTED CHURCH Give thanks that a new law in Kazakhstan to restrict religious freedom was rejected by the Constitutional Council this year.</p>
Saturday 19	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Senior Schools: Teesdale School - pray for openings to be created for new work in the school. Staindrop School - thank God for the mission that took place led by Dependance and for the follow up that is now taking place. Barnard Castle School - Chaplain Stephen Ridley.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yambio - (Sudan) Bp Peter Yacoub</p> <p>THE LESOTHO LINK Pray for the work done by over 80 Peace Corps volunteers in Lesotho, living in very basic and often isolated conditions, especially remembering Merrill and her work in the community at Ha Mohatlane.</p>
Sunday 20	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Church Schools: Gainford (Howard Blindt), Green Lane Barnard Castle (Paula Ford), Staindrop (Steve Whelerton), Ingleton (Judith Pressley), Evenwood (Anita Boyd). Thank God for a growing confidence within these schools as places of Christian community and mission.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION The Most Revd Stephen Than Myint Oo (Archbishop of Myanmar and Bishop of Yangon)</p> <p>LESOTHO PARISHES Church of the Resurrection, Maseru (vacant).</p>
Monday 21	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Pray for Barnard Castle's police chaplain, Ken Steventon.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Bishop of Yei - (Sudan) Bp Hilary Adeba</p> <p>HEALING & WHOLENESS Pray for those who now devote their entire lives to caring for loved ones who have suffered a stroke.</p>
Tuesday 22	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Following 'the F word: images of forgiveness' exhibition, pray for those in this diocese who are struggling with forgiveness for whatever reason. May the Lord give them the strength to move forward in faith</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yewa (Province of Lagos, Nigeria) Bp Simeon Adebola</p> <p>THE WORLD AROUND US Pray for a cessation of Iran's nuclear ambitions and that better dialogue with the West will yield results.</p>
Wednesday 23	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE Give thanks for the Mothers' Union and for their tireless voluntary work in this Diocese and beyond.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yirol - (Sudan) Bp Benjamin Mamur</p> <p>ALL GOD'S PEOPLE Georgia. Pop. 4.4 million. Pray for continued stability following the conflict between Georgian troops and South Ossetian separatist forces in 2008.</p>
Thursday 24	<p>DURHAM DIOCESE As we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child, pray for all expectant mothers about to give birth.</p> <p>ANGLICAN COMMUNION Yokohama - (Japan) Bp Lawrence Minabe</p> <p>THE WORLD AT RISK Pray for those in developing countries struggling to make a living. Give thanks for Fairtrade and the work being done to better reward workers.</p>