

# PRAY WITH THE WORLD CHURCH

PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS FROM  
THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION



**31 MAY -  
28 NOVEMBER 2026**



USPG is the Anglican mission agency that partners with churches and communities around the world, reflecting the call of God to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential and champion justice. We were founded in 1701.

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All Bible verses are taken from New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) unless otherwise stated.

Please note that the views expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of USPG.

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this new edition of the USPG prayer diary.

We are delighted to share this resource to support and enrich your prayer life. We hear so often how meaningful this diary is for USPG supporters, just like you. It works beautifully during a daily time of prayer and reflection or as part of a church service. Wherever and however you use it, thank you for standing with us and the global Church in prayer.

Over the coming months, we will journey around the global Church to inspire our thoughts, prayers, and actions. Look out for contributions from The Revd Titus Oluwalusi who reflects on his motivations for ministry in Casablanca, Morocco, while Ialy Tongasoa shares how small, mindful actions can make a big difference in waste reduction in Madagascar. Learn too about the ministry of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente in support of the Mangyan Indigenous people who are resisting illegal mining and military encroachment.

On most Sundays, we encourage you to read and meditate on the Gospel lectionary reading as set out in The Revised Common Lectionary 2026 © SPCK.

Thank you once again for partnering with USPG and joining us on our mission to enliven faith, strengthen relationships, unlock potential, and champion justice through Church partnerships across the Anglican Communion.

With every blessing,

**Rachel Weller**

Communications Officer, USPG

**Cover photo** - In Oriental Mindoro, Nanay Norma Abnay, a lay reader, leads a group of Mangyan people down the mountain to gather for a Eucharist service. Hear from her on pages 28-29.

**Inside cover** - Revd Tobias Okoth, a Masters student at African International University in Nairobi, leads prayer at the opening Eucharist service of the FeAST conference in Limuru, Kenya. Read more on pages 16-17.

# MEET OUR CONTRIBUTORS

This prayer diary could not exist without the thoughtful contributions and reflections from our partners around the world - some of whom are listed here. We are deeply thankful to them. Please do remember them as you pray.



## THE VERY REVD LYDIA BUCKLIN - PRESIDENT AND DEAN OF THE EPISCOPAL DIVINITY SCHOOL

Lydia Kelsey Bucklin is President and Dean of the Episcopal Divinity School in New York City, USA. She is also Canon Theologian... Canon Theologian in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan, and Senior Advisor to the Mutual Ministry Initiative at Virginia Theological Seminary. She has served in diocesan leadership in Northern Michigan and Iowa, focusing on ministry development, congregational renewal, youth leadership, and communications. Her work centres on collaborative ministry, justice-oriented theology, and strengthening community-based church leadership across the Episcopal Church.



## THE VENERABLE TITUS B. OLUWALUSI - ANGLICAN CHAPLAIN AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH IN CASABLANCA, MOROCCO

Titus Oluwalusi was ordained as a deacon in 2009 and as a priest in 2010 in the Diocese of Jebba, Nigeria. He has served as vicar in four parishes, including several in predominantly Muslim communities in northern Nigeria, and later worked as Assistant Chaplain at the University of Ibadan, supporting preaching, teaching, and pastoral care for students and staff. He holds a master's degree in Philosophy of Religion from the University of Ibadan.



## THE MOST REVD JUAN DAVID ALVARADO - BISHOP OF EL SALVADOR AND PRIMATE OF THE PROVINCE OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Juan David Alvarado has served as Bishop of El Salvador since 2015, overseeing 18 congregations and around 3,000 members within the Anglican Church in Central America. In 2022, he was elected Archbishop and Primate of the province - comprising the dioceses of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Panama. Anglicanism in the province traces its origins to the 18th-century mission of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (precursor to USPG) and was later expanded by the Episcopal Church among English-speaking communities, Caribbean migrants, and local populations.



## TAMARA KHISIMISI - ACTING HEAD OF PROGRAMMES, ANGLICAN COUNCIL IN MALAWI

Tamara Khisimisi coordinates social and development initiatives across the Anglican Council in Malawi. She has been with the Council since February 2014, contributing to girls' education and gender justice programmes, mission hospitals and community health programmes. Her work particularly focuses on supporting vulnerable adolescent girls to complete their education and reach their full potential.



# 31 MAY – 6 JUNE

## PEACEBUILDING IN THE GULF

At St George's Church, Baghdad, Iraq's only Anglican church, the Revd Canon Faiz Jerjes sees the courage of his congregation every day. It includes native Baghdadis alongside Christians displaced from northern Iraq in recent years. Despite the risks, they continue to gather faithfully.

Asked why they come, parishioners speak simply and powerfully: "When I attend church, I feel at peace." Another says, "We feel rest and peace when we come into the church. God is with us." In a city marked by instability, the church remains a place of refuge, prayer, and hope.

These challenges are echoed across the wider Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, where conflict affects communities across the region. Bishop Sean Semple notes that the impact is felt from Iraq to the Gulf states, including the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Qatar. Sirens, missile interceptions, and explosions bring fear, disrupt sleep, and heighten anxiety for many.

Reflecting on the Diocese's mission, Bishop Sean says, "We wait in hope and pray for dialogue and diplomatic solutions to bring this war to a swift and just end. As we wait, we carry on as best as we can with love."

Whether meeting in person or online, congregations remain steadfast. Even in times of danger, the Church's presence, prayer, and witness offer peace and hope.

**Join St Christopher's Cathedral in Bahrain online for daily Evening Prayer at 16:00 BST, to pray for all affected by conflict in the Middle East. For the Zoom link, contact [communications@uspg.org.uk](mailto:communications@uspg.org.uk).**



### SUNDAY 31 MAY – TRINITY SUNDAY

Read and meditate on Matthew 28:16-20

We give thanks for the mystery of the Holy Trinity, one God in three Persons. May we live in the love and unity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.



### PRAYERS

**MONDAY 1 JUNE** Lord, uphold the people of St George's and all who gather in Baghdad, giving them courage to walk streets shadowed by conflict. Thank you that there is peace in your presence. We pray with them for peace across the country too.

**TUESDAY 2 JUNE** Lord God, we thank you for your grace as the USPG Annual Conference takes place at High Leigh this week. May all taking part be guided by your Spirit as we reflect on the theme of the Church as an agent of peace.

**WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE** God of hope, sustain Anglican churches across the Gulf, from the UAE to Bahrain, Kuwait, and Qatar and elsewhere, as they navigate daily anxieties and dangers. May the rhythms of prayer, the hope found in Scripture, and fellowship with one another anchor them in your presence.

**THURSDAY 4 JUNE – CORPUS CHRISTI** We give thanks for the gift of Holy Communion, in which Christ nourishes and sustains us. May it inspire us to love and serve one another with humility.

**FRIDAY 5 JUNE** Lord, we pray for an end to violence across the Gulf region, and for dialogue and diplomacy to bring a swift and just peace.

**SATURDAY 6 JUNE** God of light, may your Church continue to bear witness through prayer, presence, and care, showing that even in danger, hope endures. Help us, too, to be the "salt of the earth" and the "light of Christ" (Matthew 5:13–14) in our daily lives.



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 7 JUNE – 13 JUNE

## SAFE CHURCHES IN ZAMBIA

**Fran Mate – Senior Regional Manager for Africa**

Across the Anglican Communion, churches are working to strengthen safeguarding and create safer environments for children, young people and vulnerable adults. In Zambia, church leaders gathered in Lusaka earlier this year to take this work forward within the Church in the Province of Central Africa.

At the meeting, Dr K. Mwanza reminded participants that Safe Church work is not only about policies and procedures, but about everyday behaviour and how people are treated in church communities: “Safe Church work is broader than safeguarding. It involves treating everyone with dignity and respect.”

This was reinforced by The Most Revd Albert Chama, Archbishop of the Province of Central Africa and Bishop of Lusaka, who warned: “Documents alone will not keep people safe.” He emphasised that real protection requires committed leadership, practical action, and communities willing to speak up when harm occurs.

The gathering also looked to the future by strengthening learning and training. Evangelist Canon Janet Munde highlighted the importance of building “a foundation of knowledge that will be passed on to the next generation.” The Very Revd Canon Jacob Manda added: “Our mindsets and attitudes have been changed, and we have been empowered to go out and [create] safe spaces for all.”

The meeting reflects a growing commitment across the Anglican Communion to ensure churches are places of trust and care. Safeguarding is not separate from mission, but part of faithful discipleship, where children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected and able to flourish.

### SUNDAY 7 JUNE

Read and meditate on Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

**MONDAY 8 JUNE** Lord of love, thank you for the challenge that “documents alone will not keep people safe.” Stir clergy and congregants alike with courage to act, wisdom to protect, and compassion to care.

**TUESDAY 9 JUNE** God of hope, bless the knowledge being shared across the Church in Zambia. Raise up a new generation committed to safeguarding, justice, and faithful witness.

**WEDNESDAY 10 JUNE** Lord God, bless Archbishop Albert Chama, the bishops, clergy, and church leaders in Zambia as they work to build safer churches. Give courage, discernment, and compassion to lead with care.

**THURSDAY 11 JUNE - FEAST OF ST BARNABAS THE APOSTLE** God of encouragement, as St Barnabas strengthened the early Church, strengthen leaders in Zambia. Help them build churches where every person is treated with dignity and respect.

**FRIDAY 12 JUNE - WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR** God of justice, we pray especially for children who are exploited, harmed or made vulnerable. Guide your Church worldwide to be courageous in protecting children and creating truly safe spaces for all.

**SATURDAY 13 JUNE** Lord God, guide Anglican provinces as they strengthen safeguarding through shared learning and accountability. Help your global Church to grow in wisdom, courage, and care for all people.



## PRAYERS







# 14-20 JUNE

## ROOTED IN COMPASSION

**By the Venerable Titus Oluwalusi - Anglican Chaplain at St John's Church in Casablanca, Morocco**

To mark Refugee Week, we turn to Morocco, where the Venerable Titus Oluwalusi ministers to a diverse congregation from more than 20 countries. Many are migrants from sub-Saharan Africa or temporary residents, navigating life in a new and often challenging environment.

In the Parable of the Good Samaritan, Jesus teaches us about love for our neighbours. The story shows that the root of love is compassion. True compassion goes beyond mere sympathy; it combines heartfelt concern with action. Mercy has no measure and requires no qualification. The Samaritan crossed boundaries to meet human need.

Jesus saw the crowds and was filled with compassion for them. He healed the sick and cared for those who were like sheep without a shepherd. He calls all of us to follow His example of compassion, outreach, and missionary care.

In Casablanca, many people are transient, isolated, or navigating new lives far from home. Here, every opportunity to care, disciple, and provide pastoral support is vital, helping people remain grounded in faith and connected to a supportive community.

There is always a chance to be kind. If we miss it, others may not. For the sake of the lost and for the glory of God, we need hearts full of compassion. To grow in love, we must first grow in compassion. A compassionate person will be more useful in God's hand than a gifted one who lacks it.

### SUNDAY 14 JUNE

Read and meditate on Colossians 3:12

**MONDAY 15 JUNE** Heavenly Father, thank you for showing us perfect love. Inspired by your Son, Jesus Christ, cultivate in us this fruit of the Spirit, that through our lives your holy name may be glorified.

**TUESDAY 16 JUNE** Gracious God, we thank you for the international congregation at St John's Casablanca. We pray that the church will be a place of welcome, hope, and community for all who attend.

**WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE** Father, in a community where many come and go, we pray that the ministry of St John's may nurture faith, foster connection, and provide a firm spiritual foundation for all who pass through.

**THURSDAY 18 JUNE** Gracious God, we give thanks for 120 years of faithful ministry at St John's Church in Casablanca. Bless the congregation and its leaders as they celebrate this milestone and all you have done.

**FRIDAY 19 JUNE** Loving God, open our hearts and minds to understand the experiences and emotions of others. Grant us empathy and compassion, that we may respond with care, patience, and love in all our relationships.

**SATURDAY 20 JUNE — WORLD REFUGEE DAY** Almighty God, we pray for refugees and displaced communities across the world. We lament the ways that many are often treated with disdain and a lack of compassion. Just as you accompanied your people in exile and brought them hope and restoration, may every person experience protection, provision, and your sustaining love.



### PRAYERS





## REFLECTION

# 21 JUNE – 27 JUNE LAND TAKEN, LAND REMEMBERED

**By the Venerable Rosalyn Kantlaht'ant Elm - Director of Indigenous Ministries, Anglican Church of Canada**

When I think about how land was taken from Indigenous communities in Canada, I see that it was not the work of one person or a single event. It happened slowly, over more than four hundred years. In the early days of European settlement, Indigenous peoples and settlers often lived and worked alongside one another. Though imperfect, there was a time of coexistence.

As Canada developed, laws such as the Civilization Act and the Indian Act enabled the government to take Indigenous lands and move our people onto reserves—fenced-in areas often far from our traditional territories, languages, medicines, ceremonies, and rituals. This process unfolded over generations. Today, Indigenous peoples occupy only a small fraction of our original lands. Much of the rest remains under treaty dispute or is unceded territory, often threatened by mining, forestry, and oil and gas development.

Churches also played a significant role. In partnership with the government, they sought to 'civilise' Indigenous children, attempting to erase our cultures. In doing so, they became complicit in what can rightly be described as a legislative form of cultural genocide.

These truths are difficult to speak and to hear. But just as Christians cannot have Easter without Good Friday, we cannot skip the hard history and move straight to celebration. Facing these truths together allows us to lament, to pray, and to understand ourselves not by what we own, but as people created by God, called to care for one another and for the land.

## SUNDAY 21 JUNE – NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY (CANADA)

Creator God, from you every family in heaven and earth takes its name. Rooted and grounded in your covenant love, empowered by your Spirit, help us speak the truth in love and walk in your way towards justice and wholeness.

*Anglican Church of Canada*



## PRAYERS

**MONDAY 22 JUNE - WINDRUSH DAY** God of welcome, we thank you for the faith, courage, and contributions of the Windrush generation. Help us to honour their legacy by building a more just and hospitable society.

**TUESDAY 23 JUNE** Creator God, guide your church as it continues the work of truth and reconciliation with Indigenous communities. Give us humility to listen and courage to act with justice.

**WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE – THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST** Lord God, as John the Baptist prepared the way for Christ, prepare our hearts to face the truth and turn towards your justice and mercy.

**THURSDAY 25 JUNE** Gracious God, we pray for the Most Reverend Shane Parker, Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. Grant him wisdom, humility, and courage as he leads your Church in the work of healing and reconciliation.

**FRIDAY 26 JUNE** Lord God, we pray for the Most Reverend Chris Harper, Indigenous Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Canada and the wider Indigenous Ministries. Remind them of your love by the presence of your Spirit.

**SATURDAY 27 JUNE** Creator of heaven and earth, remind us that the land and all its peoples belong to you. Teach us to care for your creation and for one another with reverence, justice, and love.



# 28 JUNE – 4 JULY

## LIVING STONES

### REFLECTION

**By the Very Revd Lydia Kelsey Bucklin – President and Dean of Episcopal Divinity School**

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary, I find myself taking stock of the hopeful and brutal legacies I have inherited as a citizen of this country – and the liberated communities I feel called by my faith to build. In 1 Peter 2:5, Peter urges believers to “let [our]selves be built into a spiritual house”.

This image stands out to me: the Church as a house made of living stones. Each of us is a stone, chosen and placed by God, not to dominate or exclude, but to support and strengthen the whole. Being chosen does not mean superiority; it means belonging, responsibility, and care.

When our theological lens is too narrow, we risk building houses that exclude God’s people and the earth itself. Often, the concept of ‘chosenness’ has been weaponised to justify the displacement of Indigenous peoples, the enslavement of African peoples, and the denial of rights and justice for those outside its walls. The promise of ‘We the People’ was a curated liberty, denied to many whose labour and lands were stolen.

Today, the promise of freedom remains unfulfilled as our nation prioritises war and state violence over structures that would make us more free: healthcare, education, restorative justice, and more. We continue to witness exclusion in the denial of rights and protections for immigrants, those made and kept poor, those in prison, our trans siblings, and others whose lives have been politicised rather than cherished.

This week, let us imagine ourselves as living stones, placed together by God’s hand to support rather than dominate, in a living wall where everyone can find a home.

### SUNDAY 28 JUNE

Read and meditate on Matthew 10:40-42.

### MONDAY 29 JUNE – FEAST OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL, APOSTLES

Gracious God, you called apostles to proclaim a love that disrupted power and turned the world upside down. Help us, as living stones, to support one another in courageous truth-telling and bearing witness against empire.

**TUESDAY 30 JUNE** Loving God, we pray for The Episcopal Church in the US. Make it a spiritual house where truth and justice shape our life together.

**WEDNESDAY 1 JULY** Gracious God, bless Episcopal Divinity School and all who are placing justice at the centre of theological education. May all who learn there be living stones.

**THURSDAY 2 JULY** Creator God, remind us of our deep interconnection. Strengthen us to seek the liberation of all people, knowing none of us are free while violence and injustice persist.

**FRIDAY 3 JULY – FEAST OF ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE** Faithful God, as we remember St. Thomas, we pray for those who doubt the myths of Christian nationalism. Give us courage to question and resist the use of faith to harm, and to see Christ more clearly.

**SATURDAY 4 JULY** God of mercy, as the United States marks 250 years, lead your Church to repent of its complicity in colonisation and enslavement. Help us build a future that values human dignity over war, and mercy over borders, with Christ as our cornerstone.



### PRAYERS





## REFLECTION

# 5-11 JULY FAITH IN THE MIDST OF FRACTURES

By the Revd Godfrey Owino Adera - Anglican priest, theologian, and lecturer at St Paul's University, Limuru, Kenya

Kenya, like many parts of the world, faces a tangle of urgent challenges that call for a bold and compassionate response from the Church. Gender-based violence, rising teenage pregnancies, and the ongoing burden of HIV remain pressing concerns, intensified by economic inequality, youth unemployment, political division, and corruption. Climate change adds further strain, with droughts, floods, and environmental damage hitting the most vulnerable hardest. Questions of dignity and belonging also persist, particularly for women, young people, and minorities often pushed to the margins of both church and society.

Against this backdrop, the FeAST Conference in Limuru, close to my home, proved to be a deeply formative experience. FeAST brings Anglican theologians together to reflect on faith rooted in both tradition and lived experience. In Limuru, we explored the Nicene Creed from fresh perspectives, drawing on insights from Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean, showing how theology is richest when shaped by lived experience and global solidarity.

Alongside the formal sessions, I had the privilege of leading Anglican worship using Kenyan liturgy. The service included singing, dancing, and a joyful rendition of “Nimetembea kote na hakuna kama Mungu,” capturing the beauty and energy of African worship. These shared moments of joy and cultural expression made the conference not only intellectually engaging but also deeply human and spiritually uplifting.

Overall, FeAST strengthened my work on social justice in Kenya, offering fresh insights from new friends and practical tools to engage in difficult conversations with honesty, hope, and care.

## SUNDAY 5 JULY

Read and meditate on Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

**MONDAY 6 JULY** Gracious God, move theologians, church leaders, and all followers of you to be perceptive of the needs in our communities and how we can respond in your justice, truth, and wisdom.



## PRAYERS

**TUESDAY 7 JULY** God of mercy, bring healing to survivors of gender-based violence and comfort those who mourn. Stir the Church and wider community towards justice, protection, and lasting change.

**WEDNESDAY 8 JULY** Loving God, renew the Church as a welcoming home where women, young people, and other minorities find dignity and belonging. Break down exclusion and form communities of love and grace.

**THURSDAY 9 JULY** God of truth, grant us the courage to face division with humility, honesty, and compassion. Lead communities towards justice, healing, and unity.

**FRIDAY 10 JULY** Faithful God, we give thanks for the FeAST network and the way it nurtures learning, friendship, and justice-oriented theology. Bless the network with deepened relationships, shared vision, and long-lasting fruit that glorifies your name.

**SATURDAY 11 JULY** God of truth and reconciliation, grant us courage to engage in difficult but necessary conversations. Where there is fear, give us boldness; where there is injustice, stir us to action; where there is brokenness, lead us toward healing and unity.





## REFLECTION

# 12-18 JULY THE LAND OF THE HIGHLANDERS

**By the Most Revd Mark Strange - Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church**

The Scottish Highlands are vast, amounting to an area roughly the size of Belgium, yet home to only 230,000 people. This is a land shaped by Gaelic, Scots, and English cultures, and by a long history of exclusion. After 1689, the Scottish Episcopal Church endured persecution, particularly following Culloden, when Highland culture and language were deliberately suppressed, leaving us as “the last remnant of the non-dealing Church of the North”.

The emptiness of the Highlands is rooted in land dispossession, especially during the Highland Clearances, when people were removed from ancestral lands to make way for sheep and estates owned by the wealthy. Though communities named the mountains, rivers and seas, those names were often erased. For example, Ben Nevis’ real name is Beinn Nibheis. Today around 80% of the land is owned by just 300 people, many of whom have never lived here.

Local people are increasingly priced out of housing and forced to leave; over 80% of young people from this diocese no longer live here, and communities face declining services and fragile local economies. The Church, too, is stretched, sustaining ministry across great distances with limited resources, yet remains committed to pastoral care, witness and being present.

Even so, we hold on to hope. We long to see the Highlands filled once more with Highlanders, communities renewed, and the land recognised not as the possession of a few, but as a shared gift; we ask for prayer that the Church may continue to serve faithfully, speak with courage, and stand alongside its people in seeking justice and life.

## SUNDAY 12 JULY

Read and meditate on Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**MONDAY 13 JULY** Lord God, we pray for the people of the Scottish Highlands, for communities shaped by loss, resilience, and hope. Strengthen those who remain, and renew the life of the land and its people.

**TUESDAY 14 JULY** Heavenly Father, we remember those displaced from ancestral lands during the Highland Clearances and all who continue to suffer the effects of dispossession. Grant justice, restoration, and dignity to communities longing to return and remain.

**WEDNESDAY 15 JULY** Dear Lord, for the Highlands, we pray that it may be honoured as a shared gift and not controlled by a few. Open paths for fair access, sustainable living, and flourishing local communities.

**THURSDAY 16 JULY** God, we think of the young people forced to leave the Highlands in search of work and housing. We commit them to you and pray for their next steps.

**FRIDAY 17 JULY** Lord God, strengthen your Church in the Highlands as it ministers across great distances. Sustain our leaders, clergy and congregations with perseverance and hope.

**SATURDAY 18 JULY** God, we hold before you the hope that the Highlands may once again be filled with Highlanders. Guide your Church to stand alongside its people and to trust in you.



## PRAYERS



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 19-25 JULY FLOOD RELIEF IN MOZAMBIQUE

**By the Revd Mauricio S. Mugunhe, Executive Director Anglican Social Action, Igreja Anglicana de Moçambique e Angola**

Since late 2025, Mozambique has endured a severe cyclonic season that culminated in catastrophic flooding across the southern regions in January 2026. Following heavy rainfall, many rivers including the Umbeluzi, Maputo, and Incomati overflowed, while cities such as Matola, Xai-Xai, and Maxixe experienced severe flooding due to blocked drainage systems. The government declared a national red alert.

The scale of the disaster has been immense. According to national authorities, more than 720,000 people have been affected, over 120 lives lost, and tens of thousands of homes damaged or destroyed. In the Gaza Province in the south of Mozambique, where the new Anglican Diocese of Maciene is located, over 40% of its territory was submerged and over 150km of roads destroyed. Communities remain displaced, with some cut off by damaged roads, and there is an increased risk of water-borne disease.

In the face of this suffering, the Church is called to respond. The Anglican Church in Mozambique has mobilised to provide food, clothing, blankets, mosquito nets, and other essentials, while also supporting the rebuilding of safer homes. With the support of USPG, we have been able to extend this ministry of compassion by offering immediate relief and contributing to longer-term recovery for displaced families.

Even in the midst of loss, we trust in God's presence among those who suffer, and in the calling of the Church to be a sign of hope and healing in the world.

## SUNDAY 19 JULY

Read and meditate on Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

**MONDAY 20 JULY** Lord of all comfort, we pray for those who mourn loved ones lost in the floods. Hold them in your mercy and bring them your peace.

**TUESDAY 21 JULY** Almighty God, strengthen the Igreja Anglicana de Moçambique e Angola, especially the Dioceses of Lebombo, Maciene, Inhambane, and Rio Pungue. Guide all who serve those affected with compassion and wisdom.

**WEDNESDAY 22 JULY — FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE** Faithful God, as you called Mary Magdalene to witness to the resurrection, bring hope and new life to communities in despair. Restore what has been broken and renew their strength.

**THURSDAY 23 JULY** Lord, bring hope to the people of Iene in Mozambique, renewing homes, roads, and lives after the floods. Protect those displaced and isolated, and raise up healing, strength, and swift restoration.

**FRIDAY 24 JULY** Lord God, we pray for the Igreja Anglicana de Moçambique e Angola, for its bishops, clergy, and lay leaders. Strengthen the ministry through Anglican Social Action, that the Church may shine like a light to all in need.

**SATURDAY 25 JULY — FEAST OF ST JAMES THE APOSTLE** Lord of the pilgrim Church, strengthen us to walk together in faith and perseverance. Inspire us to serve with courage and compassion.



## PRAYERS



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 26 JULY – 1 AUGUST

## LIVES IN TRANSIT

By Rachel Weller –  
Communications Officer, USPG

At a global summit on human trafficking and modern slavery, hosted by United Society Partners in the Gospel and the Diocese of Durgapur, two speakers illuminated the realities facing migrant workers in the Middle East: Saba, working in Lebanon and based in Jordan, and Pauline from Dubai.

In Lebanon, Saba Kerry describes the Kafala (sponsorship) system, where a worker's legal status is tied to an employer. This can prevent workers from changing jobs, leaving the country freely, or holding their own passports, leaving them exposed and often without effective legal protection. As one migrant worker from Benin, quoted by Saba, explains: "In other countries, the one who has tricked you is usually the one who would be arrested, and your money would be reimbursed. But here, I'm the illegal one."

In the city of sprawling skyscrapers, Dubai's migrant workers face similar challenges. Many are separated from their families, carry recruitment debt, and depend on employers for legal residency.

Yet, amid these pressures, the Church often becomes a place of refuge and belonging.

At Holy Trinity Church Dubai and St Mary's Catholic Church, Dubai, migrant communities gather for worship in many languages. These churches offer pastoral care and practical support for women in crisis, including emergency assistance, shelter support, and help to return home safely where possible.

Across both contexts, the Church is called not only to respond to individual hardship, but also to recognise the systems that shape it. For the migrant domestic worker who longs to go home, caught within an unjust system, we now pray.

## SUNDAY 26 JULY

Read and meditate on Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

**MONDAY 27 JULY** God of all peoples, we pray for migrant workers who begin each week in uncertainty and hard labour. Surround them with protection and your love.

**TUESDAY 28 JULY** God of mercy, hold close all who are weary and long to return home, particularly refugees. In their endurance, be their strength; in their uncertainty, be their peace; and in their suffering, be their hope that does not fail.

**WEDNESDAY 29 JULY** God of justice, we pray for systems that bind workers into vulnerability and fear. Stir the conscience of governments and employers to act with fairness and integrity.

**THURSDAY 30 JULY - WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS** God of freedom and justice, we pray for all who are trapped in trafficking and modern slavery. Bring an end to systems and practices that exploit the vulnerable, strengthen those who work to rescue and protect, and lead your Church to act with courage and compassion.

**FRIDAY 31 JULY** Lord God, we give thanks for Holy Trinity Church Dubai and St Mary's Catholic Church, who offer welcome, care, and practical support to migrant communities. Strengthen their witness, we pray.

**SATURDAY 1 AUGUST** Lord God, we pray for USPG and all church partners engaged in eradicating human trafficking and abolishing modern slavery. Guide their advocacy, deepen their compassion, and strengthen their efforts to bring justice, protection, and freedom.



## PRAYERS





## REFLECTION

# 2-8 AUGUST FAITH UNDER PRESSURE IN NICARAGUA

**By the Most Revd Juan David Alvarado - Bishop of El Salvador and Primate of the Province of the Anglican Church in Central America**

In Nicaragua, the Church is under intense pressure, a reality many outside the region may not be aware of. Since 2018, persecution has been relentless.

The government has violated human rights, restricting freedom of worship and expression. It is not only Catholic churches that suffer; clergy, schools, universities, and religious organisations have been targeted. Nuns have been expelled, and the Episcopal Church of Nicaragua faces constant pressure simply for speaking truth to power.

Some clergy have been prevented from returning after travelling abroad. One priest left for the United States and was barred from returning. Last December, a reverend visiting family abroad could not re-enter and remains in the United States. Bishop Harold Dixon lives in fear, unable to speak openly. The Church has lost legal recognition and risks losing its properties. Even sending financial support is fraught with difficulty.

In the face of fear, the Church must speak out. Silence is not an option. Statements have been issued, letters sent to the United Nations, and attempts made to accompany the diocese in every possible way. I have personally attempted three times to visit Nicaragua to offer pastoral support, yet entry has been denied.

It is painful to witness people stripped of homes, lands, and even their identities. As members of the Anglican Communion, we cannot look away. Even small gestures like a letter or a prayer can strengthen those who cannot freely practise their faith. It remains true that the love of Christ reaches even the most fearful corners of our world.

## SUNDAY 2 AUGUST

Read and meditate on Matthew 14:13-21

**MONDAY 3 AUGUST** Lord, strengthen your Church in Nicaragua as it faces fear and persecution. Grant courage and protection to all who continue to witness to your truth.

**TUESDAY 4 AUGUST** Gracious God, uphold Bishop Harold Dixon and all clergy serving in difficult circumstances. Give them wisdom, resilience, and hope in their ministry.

**WEDNESDAY 5 AUGUST** God of truth, we pray for those who cannot speak openly about injustice in Nicaragua. Give them courage in silence, and raise up voices beyond their borders to bear witness and seek justice.

**THURSDAY 6 AUGUST – TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD** Almighty God, in the Transfiguration you revealed Christ's glory to his disciples. Strengthen us as your Church to hear your voice, bear our cross, and reflect your light in the world.

**FRIDAY 7 AUGUST** Lord Jesus, renew hope in your missions, parishes, and communities. Give your people a missionary heart - open to all, ready to accompany those who suffer, and to speak words of hope.

**SATURDAY 8 AUGUST** God of compassion, be near to those who have been silenced, displaced, or stripped of identity. May they know they are not forgotten, and be sustained by your presence and love.



## PRAYERS







# PRAY WITH THE WORLD CHURCH

## 31 MAY – 28 NOVEMBER 2026

A snapshot of the regions we're praying for in this edition:





## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 9-15 AUGUST

## MISSION TO THE MANGYANS

**By the Revd Jewel B. Tumalian - Programme Director,  
Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI)**

Nanay Norma Abnay is a lay leader in the IFI Church and a member of the Mangyan, an Indigenous people of Mindoro. She lives in Panhulugan, a remote mountain village on the island of Mindoro in the Philippines.

Access to healthcare is one of the greatest challenges for the community, with travel to medical treatment often long and difficult, and river crossings becoming impossible during the rainy season.

Bishop Ronelio, who began working with Mangyan communities in 1995, adds, "Sometimes we cannot reach certain communities due to security threats from armed conflict. If there is an encounter, we cannot be present at the chapels, which makes gathering very difficult." Despite these dangers, local leaders like Nanay Norma are given training to ensure that worship and care continue, helping the community remain resilient and looked after.

She explains, "When we first got to know IFI, we were given a church, and we already had a good feeling about it. As a lay leader, sometimes it is difficult, especially when there are many tasks to handle. But to the best of my ability, I do everything I can to serve our community."

By God's grace, a network of chapels has emerged, led by lay leaders like Nanay Norma from the Indigenous communities they serve. "The Church has helped us a lot," Norma concludes, "especially in fostering unity and teaching us how to work together. Although we experience poverty, they are always there to help without getting tired."

## SUNDAY 9 AUGUST – INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Creator God, we give thanks for the Mangyan and all Indigenous peoples, for their rich cultures, wisdom, and deep relationship with the land. Thank you that you love them and know them by name.



## PRAYERS

**MONDAY 10 AUGUST** Lord, we pray for communities in remote areas where distance shapes daily life. May connection, support, and opportunity grow, and may your presence bring encouragement and hope.

**TUESDAY 11 AUGUST** Heavenly Father, we give thanks for lay leaders like Nanay Norma Abnay, serving with dedication and care. Grant strength, wisdom, and joy in leadership, as communities gather in faith and unity.

**WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST – INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY** God of hope, we lift up young people across the Anglican Communion and beyond. May access to education, healthcare, and opportunity increase, and may each young person grow in confidence and purpose.

**THURSDAY 13 AUGUST** Lord, we lament the danger and disruption caused by military presence and conflict that makes travel and worship unsafe for the Mangyans. Protect all, we pray. May your church shine as a light in the darkness for many.

**FRIDAY 14 AUGUST** God of mission, we give thanks for our partners, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente, and for the growth of the ministry to Mangyans as well as other joint projects. Bless bishops, clergy, and lay leaders, and strengthen shared work in building resilient communities and sustainable futures.

**SATURDAY 15 AUGUST – FEAST OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY** Loving God, we give thanks for the faith and courage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Inspire lives of trust, humility, and service, rooted in your love.





# 16-22 AUGUST

## HOPE IN THE MAKING

By Grace Murray – USPG Volunteer

Last summer was my second time at Greenbelt. Volunteering on the USPG stand felt like a natural extension of the things that already shape my life. In my work at a small social impact consultancy, and at the UK Youth Climate Coalition, I spend a lot of time thinking about justice and how change happens. So, the chance to bring together faith, justice and creativity was a big part of what drew me to volunteer.

Being on the stand was a real gift, giving me the chance to learn more about USPG's work and to have meaningful conversations with festivalgoers about faith, creativity, justice and mission. Getting to know the brilliant USPG staff was also a lot of fun!

One of the highlights for me was meeting Jacobed Solano, whose work with Memoria Indígena I had followed for some time. Hearing her speak alongside Dr Paulo Ueti in Prophetic Voices from the Earth and its Peoples was both grounding and challenging. They shared wisdom from Indigenous theological traditions, reminding us that we are deeply connected to the Earth and to one another. It was a powerful call to listen more closely - to creation, and to voices too often ignored. Back at the stall, we shared the work of the Diocese of Amazonia and invited festivalgoers to write their own prayers for creation.

I walked away with a deeper appreciation for the conversations USPG is willing to host, and a broader view of social, racial and environmental justice from a faith perspective.

Thanks to the team for bringing me along!

Contact [volunteer@uspg.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@uspg.org.uk) if you'd like to find out more about volunteering at a summer festival or event.

### SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

Read and meditate on Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28

The prayers this week come courtesy of passersby at Greenbelt Festival 2025.

**MONDAY 17 AUGUST** God of all creation, bless the Earth and all its creatures, that they may thrive in safety and abundance. May your Spirit guide us to care for this world with love and attentiveness.

**TUESDAY 18 AUGUST** Lord, thank you that all you made was good (Genesis 1). Forgive us for treating your creation poorly. Please heal all that you have made, and teach us to learn what it means to live in harmony with the Earth and with one another.

**WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST** Lord God, we pray that the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor are heard and acted upon by those in power, so that real change may come.

**THURSDAY 20 AUGUST** Dear God, please forgive us for we have been selfish and misused your creation. We are sorry that nature has been hurt by humans. Help us to do better, Lord!

**FRIDAY 21 AUGUST** Lord, bring your creation the flourishing it was made to show. Give us the courage to imagine our world differently, and give us the strength to change it for the better.

**SATURDAY 22 AUGUST** Look with compassion, Lord, on our weakness and lack of courage to act. We pray for honesty and perseverance to do what we can.



### PRAYERS





## REFLECTION

# 23-29 AUGUST

## LEGACIES OF HISTORY

**By the Revd Dr Rachele Evie Vernon O'Brien - a Jamaican-born theologian and advocate**

The Revd Levon Alkins is a recent graduate of Codrington College and assistant curate in Barbados. In an extract from Legacies of History, he reflects on how younger generations are wrestling with the Church's history of slavery and its lasting impact.

"When we think about the church and slavery," he says, "we look at it from an unfortunate point of view - how could someone who is promoting the gospel also promote slavery?" He notes that many young people struggle with this contradiction and that some "don't even want sometimes to get involved in the church... because the church upholds something that wasn't right."

He names the tension clearly: "On the one hand the church says you have to love, but on the other hand, the church is treating people without love because we are using people for labour to gain profits." His words highlight the gap between the gospel's call to love and the failures of human institutions.

Yet he also points towards hope. He urges the Church "not [to] dwell too heavily on the past, but look into the relevance for the future." This forward-looking hope is grounded in formation and reflection, pointing to Codrington College as "an institution... where one can come and learn about spirituality," alongside the importance of forgiveness.

Legacies of History brings Caribbean perspectives to the forefront, helping churches reflect faithfully on history, justice, and mission. Explore and use the resource in your church or small group at [www.uspg.org.uk/legacies-of-history](http://www.uspg.org.uk/legacies-of-history)

## SUNDAY 23 AUGUST - INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION

God of truth, as your Church reflects on its history, give us wisdom and honesty. Help us face the past with humility, recognise our mistakes, and follow your call to reconciliation.



## PRAYERS

**MONDAY 24 AUGUST - FEAST OF ST BARTHOLOMEW THE APOSTLE** Lord of compassion, remember young people who feel let down by the Church. Draw them into communities where your love is shown in actions as well as words.

**TUESDAY 25 AUGUST** Lord God, forgive us for where our words have not matched our actions. Renew us, your Church, to live out the love we proclaim.

**WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST** Heavenly Father, bless places of learning like Codrington College, its leadership team, and students. Raise up a new generation of leaders who are grounded in justice, humility, and faith.

**THURSDAY 27 AUGUST** God of wisdom, open our hearts and minds as we learn more about the history of the Church. Help us listen carefully, understand deeply, and remember that you promise to restore all that is broken.

**FRIDAY 28 AUGUST** Holy God, where the legacy of Codrington reveals pain or contradiction, bring your healing. Turn learning into action, and shape your Church to reflect your love more clearly in the world.

**SATURDAY 29 AUGUST** God of truth, we pray for the Codrington project. Guide the research, the conversations, and the listening, so that this work may bring understanding, justice, and hope.



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 30 AUGUST – 5 SEPTEMBER ANGLICAN YOUTH TACKLE WASTE IN MADAGASCAR

By Ialy Tongasoa - Community Development Lead, Diocese of Toliara, Madagascar

In Madagascar, huge amounts of waste are left untreated - clogging rivers, polluting land, and threatening both health and fragile ecosystems. Across Fort-Dauphin, and other parts of southern and northern Madagascar, Anglican dioceses have trained over 100 young advocates in practical ways to manage waste and tackle climate change. Workshops include hands-on sessions in composting organic waste, recycling plastics into useful products, and sensitising communities. The diocesan bishops also led Bible study sessions exploring the theological importance of caring for God's creation, linking faith directly to environmental action.

Youth are central to this programme because they bring energy, creativity, and influence across their communities, and by learning sustainable practices early, they become lifelong stewards of God's creation. With guidance from church leaders and local environmental specialists, the youth are taking these skills into their neighbourhoods—encouraging recycling, using smart bins, and even generating income from recycled materials.

When Kakafoharisoa Gabriel Fabriano from Mananjary joined the Smart Waste We Care programme, he never imagined how much he could learn. "Before the workshop, I knew waste could be recycled but didn't know how. Now I can turn organic waste into compost and plastic waste into paving materials. I am ready to help my community and share what I have learned," he says.

To find out more about this year's Harvest Appeal and climate action in Madagascar, visit [harvest.uspg.org.uk](https://harvest.uspg.org.uk)

## SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

Read and meditate on Matthew 16:21-28

**MONDAY 31 AUGUST** Dear God, bless the Anglican youth of Madagascar as they learn about protecting and restoring the environment. Give them courage and energy to inspire their communities too.

## TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER - GLOBAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

Lord, we confess that much of this crisis comes from both broken systems and our own failure to act; have mercy, and turn our hearts and communities to sustainable care.

**WEDNESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER** Gracious God, we lament the widespread plastic pollution and unmanaged waste that blights Madagascar's landscapes and waterways and threatens fragile ecosystems and human health. Have mercy, we pray.

**THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER** Lord, guide bishops, parish leaders, and clergy to support and nurture youth initiatives. Remind us, as Psalm 24:1 says, that "The Earth and everything in it is the Lord's," and inspire us to promote sustainable practices in care for creation.

**FRIDAY 4 SEPTEMBER** Gracious God, thank you for the skills young people are gaining and for how even small acts of recycling and composting are big signs of caring for your creation.

## SATURDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Lord, may this initiative continue to grow, reaching more parishes and bringing hope, care, and practical solutions to Madagascar and across the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean.



## PRAYERS





## REFLECTION

# 6-12 SEPTEMBER TURNING PAIN INTO GLORY

**By Nolene Sheppard – Leader of a Women’s Empowerment Group, Magnificat, and Ukraine Aid Project Support Lead at St Thomas à Becket, Hamburg, Germany**

It was a deep pain that hurt so bad it made me feel sick. I looked into the mirror and saw black and brown lines. The image couldn’t possibly be me - an unrecognisable, swollen face. My head continued to spin out of control. All I felt was helplessness, anger and frustration.

Traumatic experiences like these are not an unusual experience – a first for me, but nothing that other women haven’t experienced. Could I find my way back from the depths of such overwhelming despair? How can I do this when I am in a country where I am a foreigner, and at a disadvantage in every aspect of the word.

“Are other women going through this same emotional and psychological torture due to similar experiences?”, I asked myself. The findings were overwhelming. With the power of prayer, I knew I was not walking the journey back to the top on my own. God was at my side every step of the way. He showed me the path, gave me wisdom, strength and vision.

Now on a road better than I could have ever imagined, in the same country, I created a group within the English Anglican Church in Hamburg called “Magnificat”. This group is all about empowering women. We give financial support to Ukrainian refugees, made up of women and children, in Romania and put on activities for women in Hamburg too. I listen to each of their stories. It’s been a year now and the bond is still there. Magnificat continues to uplift them, as it does me.

## SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 18:15-20

**MONDAY 7 SEPTEMBER** Father in heaven, giver of life, I thank you for my breath and for making me in your image and likeness. Walk with me today and help me to live in the strength and wisdom you give.

**TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER** Heavenly Father, thank you that you provide strength in times of loneliness and weakness. Grant wisdom to support those who feel like strangers in unfamiliar places.

**WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER** Father in heaven, we thank you for Nolene and for carrying her through when she felt overwhelmed and alone. Thank you for walking beside her step by step. Remind us to trust you too and know that you are with us.

**THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER** Dear Father, we pray for the refugee women and children supported by the Magnificat group. Grant safety and strength, and may these new friendships be refreshing to their souls.

**FRIDAY 11 SEPTEMBER** Father in heaven, we pray that by your grace the work of the Magnificat group may be strengthened to bring guidance, stability, and hope to refugee women and children residing in Germany too.

**SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER** Lord God, we pray for the Anglican Church in Hamburg, Germany today. For the growing witness of their community and disciples in the city, and for courage and humility for their church officers and council.



## PRAYERS







## REFLECTION

# 13-19 SEPTEMBER WITNESS AS WITH-NESS

**By the Revd Canon Dr Peniel Rajkumar - Director of Global Mission and Theologian, USPG**

Life has a habit of placing people in situations not of their own choosing. That is the story of Simon of Cyrene. In Jerusalem for the Passover, Simon finds himself pulled into the forced cross-bearing of Jesus.

Simon is from “the country”, the margins of the Roman Empire, and is often understood as a person of African descent. There are many Simons today who feel life presses on them because of who they are or where they come from, leaving them struggling to belong. They carry forced crosses through life, embodying daily struggle.

We can use the language of discipleship for Simon who carries the cross behind Jesus, echoing Luke’s call to take up the cross and follow Christ. Yet it is problematic to turn forced suffering into simple heroism, especially when it risks glossing over pain. Even Jesus prayed that his cup of suffering might pass.

I often wonder whether romanticising such suffering as “sainthood” allows the comfort of remaining a spectator, avoiding the costly demands of Christian witness.

Christian witness in the face of forced cross-bearing may instead require what Augusto Boal calls “spect-actors” - those who do not remain passive observers, but who intervene, participate, and seek to transform the story with justice and solidarity.

## SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 18:21-35

**MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER – HOLY CROSS DAY** Gracious God, we thank you for the cross of Christ, where sin is defeated and your saving love is revealed. Help me to live in the freedom and hope won there, bearing witness with faith and courage.

**TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER** God of the margins, open my eyes to the many “Simons” around me who feel unseen and unwanted. Help me to walk beside them with humility and compassion.

**WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER** Merciful God, when I am tempted to complain, remind me of the suffering you bore. Form in me a heart that listens before it speaks.

**THURSDAY 17 SEPTEMBER** Christ who bore the cross, draw me into deeper discipleship that does not turn away from pain. Teach me to act with love where injustice burdens others.

**FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER** Holy God, unsettle my comfort when it keeps me distant from those who struggle. Make me an instrument of your presence in places of exclusion and hardship.

**SATURDAY 19 SEPTEMBER** God of transformation, help me to become a “spect-actor” who joins your work in the world. May I trust that your power is revealed even in the most unexpected places.



## PRAYERS



## REFLECTION

# 20-26 SEPTEMBER FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

By Rosie Dawson – USPG Trustee and freelance journalist

There was a lot to take in when I arrived at the Church of St Nino (Holy Child) in Manila, but the most arresting moment was when - as happens every week - the Filipino flag was brought to the altar and the national anthem played. True, the British anthem sometimes features in Church of England services, but I still felt uncomfortable. As a journalist, I cover too many stories in which Christianity is used to justify state narratives of domination – in Putin’s Russia, Trump’s America, and, yes, even in Britain.

Bishop Dindo Ranojo put me straight. The Iglesia Filipina Independiente (IFI) was born out of the struggle for independence at the end of the nineteenth century. “Singing the anthem reminds us that we are free from foreign domination,” he said. It doesn’t mean the IFI is uncritical of whichever government is in power. Indeed, IFI leaders have frequently been harassed, imprisoned or worse.

The Ramento Human Rights Project was set up in memory of Bishop Alberto Ramento, murdered in 2006 for his support for landless people. It is helping people like Amalia whose son was among 32,000 victims of the extrajudicial killings carried out as part of former President Duterte’s so-called war on drugs.

Before I left the Philippines, I visited the IFI’s national cathedral. “Father give us our independence”, said a banner to my left. To my right, the words of Micah; “The Lord requires you to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.” The National Anthem was sung again. I didn’t feel uneasy this time.

## SUNDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 20:1-16

### MONDAY 21 SEPTEMBER – FEAST OF ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

God of life, you call us to follow you faithfully as Matthew did. Help us to proclaim your truth with courage, act with humility, and bear witness to justice, mercy, and love in all that we do.

**TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER** Heavenly Father, for the peoples of the earth and the lands they inhabit, especially those displaced by war, occupation, land grabs, and ecological destruction, we pray. May the earth be honoured as a gift, not exploited as a possession.

**WEDNESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER** Lord God, strengthen the leaders and members of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente as they witness courageously, serve selflessly, and live out their mission of proclaiming God’s justice.

**THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER** Father, we pray for your grace in the healing of historical legacies where mission has been entangled with colonialism, slavery, and domination. Grant us truth-telling and reconciliation that leads to new life.

**FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER** Lord, we pray that the Gospel may be spoken, sung, and embodied in every tongue and context. Free us from silencing voices that we falsely claim do not belong.

**SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER** Father God, we pray for all who bear witness with perseverance such as human rights defenders, peacemakers, pastors, and communities at risk. Strengthen those who resist injustice, and sustain them with hope that does not disappoint.



## PRAYERS





REFLECTION

# 27 SEPTEMBER – 3 OCTOBER POWER OF LANGUAGE

By Rachel Weller – Communications Officer

Language is more than words; it carries culture, identity, and connection. It preserves memory, shapes community understanding, and gives voice to what matters most. At the USPG International Consultation 2026, The Rt Revd Dushantha Rodrigo and The Rt Revd Sally Hernández García shared examples of how language can both divide and heal communities.

In Sri Lanka, Tamil and Sinhala communities have long histories and rich cultural traditions. After independence, political decisions once excluded Tamil speakers from official recognition, leading to unrest, lost opportunity, and deep division. In short, “Two languages, one country; one language, two countries.” The Church responded by using language as a bridge, offering services, hymns, and liturgy in Tamil, Sinhala, and English so communities could worship together. “Presenting the gospel in different languages gives us credibility in a multi-lingual nation. No message means no hope at all,” explained Bishop Dushantha. Language here becomes access to the gospel and a pathway to reconciliation.

In Mexico, Indigenous languages continue alongside Spanish, allowing communities to express faith in ways that honour local culture. Translating the Book of Common Prayer and other liturgical materials is not only technical work but an act of inclusion and respect.

As a linguist myself, it was amazing to worship in many different languages. It offered a tangible reminder that God is not bound by language or culture, and that when every voice is honoured, worship and mission are enriched and made more complete.

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 21:23-32

**MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER** Lord God, help us listen carefully and speak with care, so our words build understanding and bring life.



PRAYERS

**TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER – FEAST OF ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS** Lord God, through the example of St Michael, defend and guide those who work for reconciliation. Give them courage so every voice may be heard and every community united in peace.

**WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER –  
INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY**

Gracious God, bless those who translate and interpret, making knowledge, scripture, and worship accessible to all.

**THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER** Lord God, forgive us when we fail to honour the gift of every language and dismiss the voices of others. Teach us to celebrate linguistic diversity and to listen with respect, so that all may share in your love and truth.

**FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER** Lord God, bless the Anglican Church in Sri Lanka as it brings Tamil, Singala, and English communities together in worship. We thank you for this amazing example of unity in diversity.

**SATURDAY 3 OCTOBER** Gracious God, bless the Anglican Church in Mexico as it honours Spanish and Indigenous languages in worship and mission. May its work foster inclusion, preserve cultural identity, and bring hope and dignity to all communities.





## REFLECTION

# 4-10 OCTOBER THE GUN, THE SWORD, AND THE BIBLE

By Revd Les Isaac OBE - Founder & President of Ascension Trust  
and co-founder of Street Pastors

I distinctly remember sitting in my local church in London and asking myself: "How come the Jesus that I'm seeing up there looks like the people who hate me?". I couldn't ask my mother that as it was seen as rude in my culture. But it did get me thinking.

I've not spent the last 40 years defending the negative side of the Church's history, but rather trying to help people to understand the complexity of the transatlantic slave trade and its entanglement with the Church. In spite of the gun, the sword, and the Bible travelling together in the same chest on the same ship, there were people who have done a great work. There are men and women who made great sacrifices, as did Jesus. I can't figure out why he allowed the Bible to be in that chest, but I'm consoled by Scripture that says everything works together for good.

That's why I think the Church must rediscover its unique role in shaping history and humanity. The Church has to recognise that we are agents of the gospel. And I say this to those who are Black, white, or of any other colour. I say, listen, God hasn't called one culture to deal with His Kingdom. He's called all people. We ought to come together because we value the fact that we are sisters and brothers in the Kingdom of God.

I see this potential in the resilience of young African and Caribbean people: their gifts, abilities, and zeal excites me. Partnering with them, we can bring the gospel to life in unity and hope across communities, nations, and the world.

Watch the full recording at: [www.youtube.com/@uspg6204](https://www.youtube.com/@uspg6204)

## SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 21:33-46

**MONDAY 5 OCTOBER** Lord, give us courage to face the complexities of your Church's history with honesty and humility. Help us to seek truth without fear and to grow in understanding and grace.

**TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER** We pray for healing where faith has been entangled with harm and injustice. Bring repentance where it is needed and restore hearts towards your righteousness.

## WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER

Father, teach us to recognise that you have called all peoples into Your Kingdom. Break down division and unite us as true brothers and sisters in Christ.

**THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER** Help your Church to rediscover its calling as an agent of your gospel in the world. May we live boldly and faithfully, bringing Your light into every community.

**FRIDAY 9 OCTOBER** We thank you for the resilience, gifts, and zeal of young people across Africa and the Caribbean. May we partner with them in wisdom and encouragement as they serve your purposes.

**SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER** Lord, we pray for your Kingdom to be made real in clarity, unity and hope across the world. May all people come together to reflect your love and glory.



## PRAYERS





## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 11-17 OCTOBER

## THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS

**By Guilherme Moura Bejo - Candidate for Holy Orders in the Anglican Diocese of São Paulo, and coordinator of the Diocesan Youth Group**

“The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy”  
(Psalm 126:3).

Here’s an update on my experience since the Emerging Leaders Academy in Kenya, organised by USPG and the Anglican Communion Youth Network, where I met young people from across the Anglican Communion and was inspired by how the Kingdom of God is being expressed through their ministries.

Since returning to Brazil, I have been applying both the practical and theoretical learning from the programme in my daily life, especially in my relationships. A key practice has been active listening, helping me to be more attentive to others’ voices, understand their struggles, and build deeper connections.

We are also developing a training course for young leaders in the Anglican Diocese of São Paulo, aiming to share what was learned during the formation and strengthen leadership rooted in Christian principles and the Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion. This will include online sessions throughout the year, alongside an in-person course to deepen leadership practice.

This journey has been made possible through the support of Bishop César and the Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil. Praise be to God for all who continue to support this work.

**For more on Anglicanism - its history, saints, and liturgy - you can find thoughtful content on Guilherme’s Instagram @discipuladoanglicano (in Portuguese).**

## SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 22:1-14

**MONDAY 12 OCTOBER** Lord, we give thanks for Guilherme and the ways that you have grown him through the Emerging Leaders Academy. Uphold him in his studies and responsibilities at church, to remember that you are his source of strength.

**TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER** Lord, we thank you for the Emerging Leaders Academy. We pray that all participants come with open hearts, ready to learn, worship, and grow together in faith and leadership.

**WEDNESDAY 14 OCTOBER** Lord God, we pray for the course being put together in the Diocese of São Paulo. May it nurture the faith of all who take part as they grow in wisdom, empathy, and courage to live out their calling.

**THURSDAY 15 OCTOBER** Almighty God, we pray for meaningful relationships and mutual support among participants on the Emerging Leaders Academy. May the friendships and mentorships formed over the course bear fruit in God’s mission.

**FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER** Heavenly Father, we pray that participants on the ELA will go forth renewed, empowered, and inspired to transform their communities and serve your mission with courage and faithfulness.

**SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER - INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY** Father, we bring before you the harsh reality of poverty and the pain it continues to cause. We lament the injustice and suffering that persist, and ask for your mercy, that through faithful presence, practical support, and enduring hope, lives may be restored.



## PRAYERS



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 18-24 OCTOBER

## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN HANDENI

**By Fr. John George Sembuyagi – Programme Lead, Diocese of Tanga, Anglican Church of Tanzania**

In Handeni District, in the Tanga Region of north-eastern Tanzania, many children who live with disabilities still face significant barriers to education, often due to social stigma and inaccessible learning environments. But a new programme '*Toward Inclusive Education for Children Living with Disability and Affected by Polio*' is rooted in the belief that every child is welcomed, supported, and able to learn, participate, and flourish alongside their peers.

Working in partnership with Kwamkono Disabled Centre, the initiative is already opening doors. A particularly special moment was seeing a student from Tanga Girls Secondary School wearing specially made shoes that support her mobility around the school compound. School attendance is increasing, and spaces for families to share their experiences are emerging across the community.

Over the past six months, we have seen the power of the living God through his Son, Jesus Christ, in how this programme has touched and empowered the lives of many children, including those with disabilities, bringing new hope into their lives. Parents, caregivers, and the wider community are being awakened to the truth that disability is not inability.

This work is part of the Church's calling in Tanga: to nurture spiritual growth, to reach out in love, and to respond to the needs of the community. In these shared efforts, God's grace is at work, drawing people together and revealing the dignity and promise within every child. Please pray for us.

## SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER — FEAST OF ST LUKE THE EVANGELIST

God of compassion and healing, we give thanks for the witness of St Luke and for all who bring care, learning, and good news in your name.

**MONDAY 19 OCTOBER** Loving God, we thank you for the growing opportunities for children in Handeni to attend school and to flourish in their learning. May they come to know new depths of your love.

**TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER** Gracious God, we pray for teachers at the Kwamkono Disabled Centre, that they may be inspired, equipped, and sustained in their work. Help the staff to create classrooms of welcome where all are valued.

**WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER** Faithful God, we pray for your protection and guidance for all members of the Diocese of Tanga. May they trust in the presence of the Lord (Psalm 121) in every challenge faced.

**THURSDAY 22 OCTOBER** God of unity, we pray for your church in Handeni that it may be known as a place of welcome, where hearts and minds are open to recognise and celebrate the gifts present in every person.

**FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER** Loving God, we give thanks for the new programme that champions inclusive education for children living with disability and affected by polio. Strengthen the relationship between USPG, Kwamkono Disabled Centre, and the Diocese of Tanga, that together we may trust in you.

**SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER — UNITED NATIONS DAY** God of all nations, we pray for the global community, that we may work together for peace, justice, and inclusion. May the dignity, rights, and wellbeing of every child be upheld and protected throughout the world.



## PRAYERS





## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 25-31 OCTOBER UPDATE FROM MYANMAR

**By Revd Davidson Solanki - Senior Regional Manager for Asia & the Middle East**

On 28 March 2025, a 7.7-magnitude earthquake hit central Myanmar, destroying homes, churches, and important infrastructure. Many communities were already struggling because of ongoing conflict and displacement since the 2021 military coup. The Church in Myanmar (CPM), together with USPG, responded quickly with emergency relief, putting faith into action by supporting those most in need.

Since then, CPM has been strengthening its longer-term development work. Church staff and leaders have met in workshops and discussions to reflect on what they have learned in the field, look at the impact of their programmes, and agree on shared priorities. This has helped ensure that work across dioceses is better coordinated and shaped by local communities.

This teamwork between leaders and practitioners is helping CPM move from short-term crisis response to more planned and sustainable programmes. Bishops have affirmed that development is a key part of the Church's mission and have committed to supporting staff, improving systems, and reducing reliance on outside funding.

The aim is simple but important: to help communities be better prepared not only for emergencies like earthquakes, but also for ongoing social and economic challenges. Faith, experience, and leadership are coming together to build stronger, more resilient communities.

## SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER – BIBLE SUNDAY

Bible Sunday in the Anglican Church is a day to celebrate Scripture as God's living Word, shaping our faith, worship, and daily life.

Consider: how would you summarise the Gospel in 60 seconds? Perhaps you could take inspiration from the lectionary reading for today, Matthew 22:34-46, where Jesus teaches the greatest commandments: to love God and love our neighbour.



## PRAYERS

**MONDAY 26 OCTOBER** Heavenly Father, continue to bless the people of Myanmar affected by the earthquake with protection, resilience, and renewed strength. May the Church be a sign of comfort and practical support.



**TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER** Lord, strengthen the Church in Myanmar as it rebuilds lives and communities after the earthquake. May faith, leadership, and local action bring hope and lasting change.

## WEDNESDAY 28 OCTOBER – FEAST OF ST SIMON AND ST JUDE, APOSTLES

Almighty God, as we remember St Simon and St Jude, inspire your Church in Myanmar and worldwide to proclaim the gospel with courage. May we stand firm in faith in times of trial.

**THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER** Gracious God, guide the Church in Myanmar as it moves from emergency relief to sustainable programmes. Let its work reflect your love for those most affected by disaster.

**FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER** Almighty God, we thank you for CPM's faith-rooted and sustainable development work. Uphold the bishops' commitment to strengthening systems and local ownership.

**SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER** Lord, may the lessons learned in Myanmar's emergency response strengthen the Church's mission. Help all involved to turn insight into action, bringing hope and stability to communities in need.



## REFLECTION

# 1-7 NOVEMBER ALL SAINTS' DAY

By Matthew Anns - Senior Communications  
and Engagement Manager, USPG

"While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, 'Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.' Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, 'Lord, do not hold this sin against them.' When he had said this, he died."

In the centuries since the martyrdom of Saint Stephen – venerated as the first Christian martyr – many parts of the world have become safer for Christians to live and publicly express their faith. This is a freedom we can often forget about but is something that I will forever be thankful to God for.

At USPG, I am regularly humbled by the stories we hear from our partners, many of whom are still facing the same levels of persecution, and martyrdom, that the early Christians faced. According to Open Doors' World Watch List 2026, almost 5,000 Christians were killed for faith-related reasons between October 2024 and September 2025 – an increase of 8% from the previous year.

Despite this, like Stephen, our partners never lose their faith in Jesus, and they regularly pray for those who seek to persecute them. Their compassion and conviction for God's mission is nothing short of awe-inspiring. It is one of the greatest privileges of working at USPG.

This week, for All Saints' Day and beyond, we honour and celebrate all saints, both known and unknown, who have died championing justice and living out God's mission in their own lives, throughout Church history.

## SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER - ALL SAINTS' DAY

Read and meditate on Matthew 5:1-12

**MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER - ALL SOULS' DAY** Lord God, we remember all past Christian saints and martyrs who paved the way for future generations worldwide to know God, and who put God's mission above their own lives in doing so. We pray that we can continue to follow in their footsteps.

**TUESDAY 3 NOVEMBER** Father, we pray for all Christian saints and martyrs who face persecution today, that they remain bold and courageous, and that they be protected when fulfilling your mission in their lives

**WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER** Spirit, help us to pray for those who have mistreated us in our own lives. That they come to know the Father, and forgive them for sinning against both us and you.

**THURSDAY 5 NOVEMBER** Thank you, Jesus, for your global Church living out your mission. We pray for Christians in persecuted nations, that they may be strengthened and supported as they share the Good News of your Kingdom.

**FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER** Abba, we thank you for our sisters and brothers who can worship you without fear. Soften our hearts to those who are persecuted, and help us to support them in prayer and action.

**SATURDAY 7 NOVEMBER** Lord, build your Church in unity and courage across all nations. May those who suffer for your name know your presence and peace, and may we not take our freedom in you for granted.



## PRAYERS



## REFLECTION

# 8-14 NOVEMBER PRAY FOR COP31

By Sophia Jones - Interim Director of Communications, Engagement, and Fundraising, USPG

The theme of the Lambeth Conference in 2022 was *God's Church for God's World – Walking, Listening and Witnessing Together*. The bishops discussed ten Lambeth Calls on themes and world affairs. One of them was the Lambeth Call on Environment and Sustainable Development.

In its declaration it states: "Anglicans hold to Scripture and the teachings of the Church, reflected in the Five Marks of Mission. These provide a clear vision and holistic framework for intentional discipleship and for being God's Church for God's World. They call us to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom, nurture disciples, and to express our concern for people and planet, for justice, peace, and care for vulnerable people, as well as our duty to safeguard creation (Genesis 2:15) and to sustain and renew the life of the earth (Fifth Mark of Mission)."

As the annual UN Climate Summit, COP31, meets this week in Antalya, Türkiye, we are reminded that we each have a role to play in caring for God's creation. Anglicans have been speaking out and amplifying the voices of the vulnerable at the highest levels of diplomatic advocacy at the UN, and we will have a presence at COP31 this year too.

We are planting trees in our local parishes and dioceses, growing the Communion Forest, a global initiative of local activities of forest protection, tree growing and ecosystem restoration undertaken by provinces, dioceses and individual churches across the Anglican Communion to safeguard creation.

## SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Read and meditate on Micah 4:1-5

**MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER** At the start of the UN Climate Summit, COP31, today in Antalya, Türkiye, we pray, Lord, that you will give the world's leaders wisdom in their decision-making.

**TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER** Lord, the Fifth Mark of Mission calls us 'to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth'. Help us to find ways in our daily lives to fulfil this.

**WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER — REMEMBRANCE DAY** O God of compassion and mercy, we remember today all who have served in times of war, and those who returned carrying wounds seen and unseen. Grant them eternal rest and peace, and may we honour their sacrifice by striving for justice, kindness, and peace in our world.

**THURSDAY 12 NOVEMBER** Loving God, we lift before you places in the world where rising seas, drought, and storms threaten homes, livelihoods, and places of worship. Strengthen your Church in these lands; grant resilience to communities, wisdom to leaders and hope that endures through every trial.

**FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER** God of peace, still the noise of war. Heal our world. Bring peace where there is conflict, hope where there is fear, unity where there is division. Teach us to live as one.

**SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER** Creator God bless the work of the Anglican Communion Environmental Network as it empowers and inspires communities across the Anglican Communion.



## PRAYERS



## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 15-21 NOVEMBER CARE AND COMPASSION IN MALAWI

**By Tamara Khisimisi - Projects Coordinator for the Anglican Church in Malawi**

Many Anglican Church mission hospitals are in rural, hard to reach areas and these facilities are often the first point of care, serving mothers of childbearing age, children, and vulnerable families.

Despite limited resources in these facilities, health workers continue to serve communities with dignity. They not only provide clinical care, but also offer comfort and counseling to the sick admitted to the hospitals. Despite the financial challenges faced by these mission hospitals, they also conduct community outreach, providing health education in underserved areas that transform lives and restore hope.

One encouraging story from St. Anne's Hospital is about a teen mother who arrived at the hospital in critical condition during childbirth. This teen mother had high blood pressure and signs of malaria. Through the committed staff at St. Anne's Hospital, both mother and child survived. She delivered through a C-section and was put on malaria treatment. Her parents were pleased with the care their child received. The mother said they felt comforted all the time by spiritual messages that really made a difference in their lives.

Unfortunately, Nkhhotakota district, where St Anne's Hospital is located, was not spared from recent flooding across much of Malawi. This has made it harder for the mission hospital to provide healthcare services, as damaged roads limit access to communities in need.

The Anglican Church in Malawi, and USPG, gives thanks to the dedicated medical team and church leaders who continue to serve faithfully in the midst of these challenges.

## SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

Read and meditate on Matthew 25:14-30

**MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER** Lord, we give thanks for the dedicated medical teams and church leaders serving in Malawi's Anglican hospitals. May they be sustained in their work and encouraged by the care they bring to others.

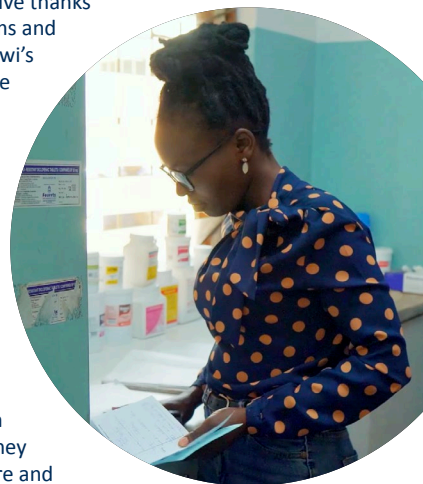
**TUESDAY 17 NOVEMBER** Lord, we pray that you will provide a steady supply of medicines and resources so these hospitals can continue this vital work.

**WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER** Heavenly Father, grant wisdom to hospital administrators as they lead these institutions with care and integrity. May their decisions serve the wellbeing of patients, staff, and communities alike.

**THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER** God of mercy, we lift up patients and their guardians, especially those living in poverty. Comfort them and give hope, that they may continue to care for their families with renewed strength.

**FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER** Lord, we pray for those displaced by flooding in Nkhhotakota district. Bring your healing and presence by your Spirit.

**SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER** Gracious God, may your love shine through all who serve in these hospitals, bringing hope and life to the communities they care for. Strengthen the Church's ministry of healing, that many may know your peace and restoration.





## PROGRAMME UPDATE

# 22-28 NOVEMBER

## ADVANCING GENDER JUSTICE IN NORTH INDIA

**By Nadia Sanchez - Regional Programme Coordinator (Asia)**

In Jharkhand, part of the Church of North India, we meet Mersa and her husband, whose lives have changed in a meaningful way. Once dependent on daily wage labour and limited resources, their family struggled with stability. Through support from the Church of North India's Synodical Board of Social Services, new opportunities opened up. They joined a support group and received small financial assistance, which enabled Mersa to start a small shop.

Access to land became another turning point. After discussions at a village council meeting, land was allocated to them, allowing them to grow rice, grains, and vegetables. With steady effort, farming alongside the shop gradually improved their income.

As stability increased, they were able to invest in a second-hand tempo, a common local vehicle used to carry passengers and goods between nearby towns and villages. This provided an extra source of income and strengthened the family's resilience.

Importantly, this change has also transformed relationships at home and in the community. Greater financial independence has enabled Mersa to take part more confidently in decision-making and to speak with greater assurance in family and community spaces.

The Church's socio-economic development programme shows that gender justice is not only about protection from harm, but about creating conditions where women can thrive. Here, opportunity leads to dignity, equality, and shared prosperity.

### SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER - FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING (SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE ADVENT)

Read and meditate on Matthew 25:31–46

Praise God for His glory and authority over all. Reflect on how his kingship invites us to live with mercy, compassion, and faithful service.

**MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER** Lord God, we give thanks for Mersa and her husband in Jharkhand and for the change in their lives through support and opportunity.

**TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER** God of provision, we give thanks for the shops, fields, and tempos that fit local life. Bless this work that meets real needs and helps families build stronger futures.

**WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER — INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN** God of refuge and strength, we pray for all women facing violence or fear, trusting in your promise that you are near to the broken-hearted and save those who are crushed in spirit. Bring healing where there is harm.

**THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER** God of wisdom, we pray for communities making decisions affecting women and children, and for those leading diocesan responses to exploitation. Guide them in justice, in compassion, and in the protection of the vulnerable.



**FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER** God of justice, we pray for the Socio-Economic Development of Women programme in North India. Strengthen this work as the diocese seeks to build secure futures through opportunity and community support.

**SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER** We pray for the Church of North India and its partnership with USPG. Strengthen this by your Spirit, we pray, that together we may proclaim the Gospel in word and action.





PIM, as it's otherwise known, is a giving programme that gives you the wonderful opportunity to serve your global Church family running life-changing local programmes. You can support a specific community programme in one of the various regions responding to important needs such as food security, health inequality and gender discrimination.

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To learn more, feel free to invite a speaker to your community church.



## NORTH INDIA ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

In North India, trafficking and exploitation are common. Many are lured by false promises of a job or forced into marriage, and then trafficked. The Diocese of Durgapur is not standing by in silence. The Anti-Human Trafficking programme, run by the diocese, rescues survivors through coordination with authorities and supports them with counselling, shelter, legal aid, education, and vocational training.



## MAYA'S STORY

**For three long months, 17-year-old Maya\* was missing. She had been taken under the false promise of a job.**

Her family pleaded with local officials saying “please bring her back”. Another week passed with no progress. Growing increasingly concerned, some members of the community compiled a missing person report and submitted it to the police. Still no progress.

Growing increasingly concerned, some members of the community compiled a missing person report and submitted it to the police. Still no progress.

At this point, the Diocese of Durgapur's anti human trafficking team, led by Tohin, stepped in and began engaging directly with the police, advocating persistently for urgent action. Through

determined effort and thanks to close coordination with the police and authorities, the team were able to trace Maya's whereabouts. They discovered that she had been transferred between traffickers and moved over 1,500 km to Delhi from West Bengal. Within a day, the traffickers were identified and arrested.

Today, Maya is safe. She has returned to her studies in Year 9, with the chance to rebuild her future.

By partnering with the Church in North India, you can help prevent trafficking, support survivors, and ensure more young people like Maya are found and brought home safely.

\*Name changed



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## PRAYER DIARY

**Thank you for praying with the World Church.**

If you don't regularly receive the USPG prayer diary, we'd love for you to join with us in prayer.

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USPG would like very much to keep you updated on our work and that of our partner churches and communities worldwide. Managing your details well is important to us and we would like to contact you in ways that work for you.

- ☐ **Yes**, I am happy to be contacted by email.

We may contact you by post and telephone. If you do not wish to hear from us or have a preferred contact method, simply get in touch with us at [info@uspg.org.uk](mailto:info@uspg.org.uk)

When you give us your details, you'll be added to our secure database so we can communicate with you as you have indicated. You can read our full data privacy notice at [www.uspg.org.uk/privacy](http://www.uspg.org.uk/privacy)

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