

Partners Praying Together



June 2020 – Covid-19 Special Edition

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

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

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Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?

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

Activity Partners

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

Relational Partners

9. The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China
10. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia (*Anglican Missions Board, AMB*)
11. The Anglican Church of Hong Kong, the *Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui*
12. The Anglican Church of Japan, the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai*
13. The Anglican Church of Korea, the *Daehan Song Gong Hoe* (*TOPIK – the Towards Peace in Korea Initiative of the Anglican Church of Korea*)
14. The Church of Bangladesh
15. The Church of Ceylon

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

Networking Partners

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

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

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

EACH DAY THIS MONTH

✠ *ABM Prayer Theme: Pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) whether here in Australia, within ABM's Overseas Partners, or beyond – for the souls of all who have died; for the families and friends they have left behind; for the sick; for those so overwhelmed by anxiety that they have resorted to panic buying and hoarding; for children who are now scared of dying; for those in self-isolation or in quarantine; for those unable to work from home; for those whose businesses have been negatively affected; for those whose income is now reduced or who have been laid off; for those more susceptible to the disease – whether by age or underlying medical condition; for those who are unable, for any reason, to worship in their churches or synagogues, mosques or temples. Give thanks for all the doctors, nurses, and other medical staff who are tending to the sick; for the epidemiologists and other scientists who are working towards a vaccine; for those who show kindness to others through 'social distancing', through buying groceries for the elderly, or through phone calls to the isolated; for all those businesses who are able to let their staff work from home; for those who have been buying responsibly in the supermarkets; for those churches who are finding creative ways to engage in worship and prayer online or outside; for all who minister to others in Christ's name in this season of anxiety*

Prayer Points

from our

Overseas Partners

The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East

- ✦ Pray for the torn, divided, and largely ignored nation of the Yemen, where war, secessions, and endemic poverty make the predicted spread of the pandemic particularly devastating.
- ✦ Pray for the various Anglican hospitals and clinics of the different dioceses of the Province as they bring their love and expertise to unforeseen circumstances: to name some in particular, the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza, the Harpur Memorial Hospital in Menouf, Egypt, the Ras Morbat Clinic in Aden, and St George's Clinic in Baghdad.
- ✦ Pray for schools, colleges, and universities in the region, for children and young people, for teachers, and for parents, in times that call for resourcefulness, courage, and stamina, that education may continue to broaden hearts and minds across the Middle East and North Africa.
- ✦ Pray for the nation of Iran, that the small Anglican diocese may make its contribution to the common good amidst deep concern for the health and well being of the people.
- ✦ Pray for the student chaplaincy project at the Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta, Cyprus – supported by ABM – that the many talented young adults, predominantly from African countries, may not lose hope during periods of isolation and distance.

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

- ✦ Give thanks for the relatively low rates of infection and mortality in Hong Kong from COVID-19; for the diligence and care of doctors, nurses, and health professionals; and for the strength of mutual support and community in Hong Kong during these difficult times.
- ✦ Pray that during these difficult times, people in Hong Kong will think about the bigger questions in life and will ask questions about faith. Pray that Christians

will give active witness to their faith in Jesus and that many people will turn to him in repentance and faith.

- ✚ Pray for those who are particularly afflicted by the slowdown in the economy: those who have lost their jobs and income, the poor and marginalised. Pray for their provision.
- ✚ Pray for those who have found social distancing and isolation especially difficult: the lonely and elderly, children and students unable to go to school.
- ✚ Pray for wisdom for the government as it continues to respond to COVID-19, particularly in how restrictions are lifted. Pray for Christians working in government and in the health services, for their perseverance and godly witness.

The Church of the Province of South-East Asia

- ✚ We thank the Lord for granting wisdom to governments to gradually re-open economy in the coming weeks. Pray for restoration of livelihood of the people.
- ✚ Seek God's mercy, confess and ask the Lord for forgiveness that we have not looked out for the interests of our neighbours within our society and among the nations. Ask the Lord to forgive us for not loving our neighbours (the migrant workers, legal or illegal, stateless and marginalized) as ourselves.
- ✚ Pray for God's provision for the smaller churches in our region, where worships are held in rented properties. As the income of congregations drops, they are faced with the possibility of closing down.
- ✚ Pray the work of mission of the Province in Indonesia, Thailand, Nepal and the Indo-China. As travel is restricted, pray for God's wisdom and innovation to be effective in reaching the lost with the gospel.
- ✚ Pray for healing on many who are emotionally and spiritually affected by the hardship brought by this pandemic. Many God's faithful are struggling with very hard questions. Pray for peace and that they might receive God's comfort.

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

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Australia



A Bulgarian postage stamp featuring a depiction of the Holy Trinity in the style of Rublev's famous icon (see 7 June)



Vatican City postage stamps celebrating the proclamation of the Martyrs of Uganda († 1886) by Pope Paul VI (see 3 June)

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Mon 1	Justin, Martyr at Rome († ca. 176) <i>Week of Prayer for Reconciliation continues</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Kenya <i>ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global day of Parents
Tue 2	<i>Week of Prayer for Reconciliation continues</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, his assistant bishops, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Melanesia <i>The ACOM Board of Mission</i> 	
Wed 3	The Martyrs of Uganda († 1886); Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, martyr († 1977); John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, reformer († 1963) <i>Week of Prayer for Reconciliation ends</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rick Lewers, the clergy and people 	The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea <i>Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Bicycle Day
Thu 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of the Province of Central Africa <i>The Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Fri 5	<p>Boniface of Mainz, bishop and martyr († 754)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of the Province of Myanmar CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Environment Day International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
Sat 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church in the Philippines E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Russian Language Day
Sun 7	<p>Trinity Sunday [Ordinary Sunday 10]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Brisbane – Archbishop Phillip Aspinall, the regional bishops, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East <i>The Diocese of Jerusalem's Development Desk and EpiscoCare in the Diocese of Egypt</i> <p>See p. 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Food Safety Day
Mon 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Philippine Independent Church – (Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI) VIMROD – <i>the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Oceans Day
Tue 9	<p>Columba of Iona, abbot and missionary († 597)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Mark Short, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China 	

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Wed 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry to the Forces – Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Armed Forces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia <i>Anglican Missions Board, AMB</i> 	
Thu 11	<p>Barnabas, apostle and martyr THANKSGIVING FOR THE HOLY COMMUNION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui) <i>See p. 4</i> 	
Fri 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Grafton – Bishop Murray Harvey, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Japan (Nippon Sei Ko Kai) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Day Against Child Labour
Sat 13	<p>Anthony of Padua, missionary and preacher († 1231)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia – Bishop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Anglican Church of Korea, (Daehan Song Gong Hoe) <i>TOPIK – the Towards Peace in Korea Initiative of the Anglican Church of Korea</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Albinism Awareness Day
Sun 14	<p>Pentecost 2 [Ordinary Sunday 11]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Bangladesh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Blood Donor Day
Mon 15	<p>Evelyn Underhill, spiritual writer († 1941)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier, the regional bishops, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Ceylon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Tue 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart, the regional bishops, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of North India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Family Remittances
Wed 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of Pakistan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
Thu 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of South India 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Gastronomy Day
Fri 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Church of the Province of South-East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore, with missionary congregations in Nepal, Indonesia, Thailand and some parts of Indo-China) <p><i>See p. 5</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict
Sat 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of South Sudan <i>The Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Refugee Day
Sun 21	<p>Pentecost 3 [Ordinary Sunday 12]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Rockhampton – The Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks (Administrator), the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Episcopal Church of Sudan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Yoga International Day of the Celebration of the Solstice

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Mon 22	<p>Alban, first British martyr († ca. 209)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Glenn Davies, the regional bishops, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Episcopal Relief and Development (USA) 	
Tue 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Tasmania – Bishop Richard Conde, the Assistant Bishop, clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (Canada) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Nations Public Service Day International Widows’ Day
Wed 24	<p>The Birth of John the Baptist</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people The work and witness of St John the Baptist’s Cathedral, Murray Bridge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USPG (UK and Ireland) 	
Thu 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day of the Seafarer
Fri 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

June	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Sat 27	<p>Cyril of Alexandria, bishop and teacher († 444)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop John Stead, the clergy and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day
Sun 28	<p>Pentecost 4 [Ordinary Sunday 13]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Jones; Executive Director, Kasy Chambers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Mothers' Union 	
Mon 29	<p>Peter and Paul, apostles and martyrs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia The work and witness of cathedrals dedicated to St Peter (Adelaide and Armidale,) or St Paul (Bendigo, Gippsland, Melbourne and Rockhampton) or to both (Willochra) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of the Tropics
Tue 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Asteroid Day International Day of Parliamentarism

Omissions and displacements in June this year –

28 June: Irenaeus of Lyons, bishop and teacher († ca. 200)

Lord Jesus Christ
Son of God
have mercy on your world

We cry out to you, O Christ, for you calm the storm, and give us peace.
Hear us as we pray ...

For all who are affected by Covid-19,
through bereavement or illness, isolation or unease,
that they may find solace and comfort, health and healing:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on your world.

For those who guide the nations at this time,
shaping national policies,
that their judgements may be wise, their decisions prudent:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on your world.

For the World Health Organization and for medical staff,
for epidemiologists and researchers trying to develop a vaccine,
that through the expertise and discernment God has given them
the sick will be restored to health, and the healthy will be protected:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on your world.

For the vulnerable and the anxious,
for the critically ill and the dying,
that they may know the comfort and peace you bring:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on your world.

We entrust ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to God's mercy and protection:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have mercy on your world.