



September 2020 – Covid-19 Special

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

- 1. Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?
- 2. ABM prayer theme for each day this month
- 3. Prayer points s from our Overseas Partners
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Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?

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

Activity Partners

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

Relational Partners

- 9. The Amity Foundation an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China
- 10. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia (Anglican Missions Board, AMB)
- 11. The Anglican Church of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui 香港聖公會
- 12. The Anglican Church of Japan, the Nippon Sei Ko Kai 日本聖公会
- 13. The Anglican Church of Korea, the Daehan Song Gong Hoe 대한성공회 (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



The Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia

- ♣ Pray for communities across Aotearoa New Zealand and Oceania that they may be safe in facing the risks of climate change and of Covid-19 spread, noting that both these crises disproportionately affect the poor and vulnerable.
- ♣ Give thanks for all who work to support those at risk, or in need, in our communities.
- ♣ Pray for all those who are anxious, or have tested positive, or are awaiting test results, for Covid-19, that they may have a sense of your peace.
- # Give thanks for communities of faith that are finding and using new ways to worship and to serve within new contexts and various restrictions.
- Pray for those whose lives or livelihoods are adversely affected by factors beyond their control, that they may find support, hope and reassurance.

The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea

- Heavenly Father, our life's sustainer, comforter and healer, through your love and grace may you bless and give life eternal to those who have died and those who are going to die due to the Covid-19 pandemic situation in Victoria, Australia. May your healing power shower upon those who have tested positive and restore them back to full health. In Jesus Christ's mighty name we offer this prayer. Amen.
- ♣ Lord Jesus Christ, giver of knowledge and wisdom, You have blessed and given the fruits of the Holy Spirit to individual people to use and serve humanity in life's adversities, trials and tribulations. We especially pray for virologists in developed countries in their efforts to find a vaccine to cure the Covid-19 pandemic that is affecting humanity globally. Protect, bless and guide them in their work, engagement and cooperation with each other to find quality and long-lasting vaccines for the treatment of the Covid-19 virus. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

- Our heavenly Father, our life's sustainer and giver of abundant life though your creation and providence, we pray in humbleness that you would mercifully restore our lives that the Covid-19 pandemic has brought disorder into and has negatively impacted our normal livelihoods whether we are self-employed, working for another or working as a subsistence farmer. We pray for your love and divine power to bring restoration and normalcy to our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
- ♣ Lord we pray for your whole Church in this trying and challenging time due to the Covid-19 pandemic affecting and infecting people in the world. We turn to you for your mercy and saving grace to resolve it, as the Church intentionally tries to build up disciples through effective evangelism, teaching, healing and prayer. May a vaccine be found to cure and treat Covid-19 affected people and restore them back to health and life. Amen.
- ◆ Our heavenly Father we give you thanks, praise and honour. We praise for giving us special healers and care givers health workers who bringing healing, comfort and compassion to the sick and dying caused by the Covid-19 virus. Lord we ask for saving your grace, protection, and healing. Strengthen them with your divine power in the midst of fighting the Covid-19 spread affecting humankind. Amen.
- God of love, mercy and grace, shower upon us your heavenly blessing, protection, guidance and healing to restore us back to health and ordered life globally. Lord, we humbly thank you for everything you have done, everything you are now doing, and everything you are going to do. In the name of Jesus, we pray with much love and thanksgiving.

The Church of the Province of Myanmar

- ♣ Pray for all those, who are participating in the 21st Century Pinlong Peace Process to be able to get a common Goal and to continue to work for the peace process and to achieve Federal Democracy
- ♣ Prayer for the armed conflicts in Myanmar to totally stop.
- \clubsuit Prayer for those who are affected by the armed conflicts in parts of the country.
- ♣ Prayer for those who lost their jobs because of COVID -19.
- ♣ Prayer for those who are affected spiritually, socially and economically during this period.
- ♣ Prayer for the church to be able to worship together again soon.

The Church of the Province of South-East Asia

- ★ We thank the Lord for His mercy and grace upon the nations in our Province and His Church. During this Covid-19 pandemic, we thank the Lord for the many encounters of His goodness and the nearness of His presence experienced by God's people.
- Pray for the restoration of hope and all that the enemy has stolen from the life of God's people as we are returning to some form of normalcy in our diary lives.
- Pray for the Church that we will continue to experience rebuilding and strengthening from the Lord, so that we might be agents of rebuilding ruined lives, ruined cities and desolations of many generations caused by sins and iniquity.
- ♣ Pray for the Synod of the Diocese of West Malaysia as they nominate candidates for the appointment of the new Diocesan Bishop at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 27th September 2020.
- Pray for the political situation in the nations of the Province of South East Asia, that the Lord will bring stability, peace, righteous governance and justice to these nations.

The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East

- ♣ For the people of the Lebanon at they suffer both acute political crisis and extreme and devastating destruction.
- ♣ In particular for Canon Imad and his people at All Saints', Beirut, where the building has been damaged in the huge explosion at the Port of Beirut very close by, though miraculously not destroyed.
- ♣ In particular also for the Near East School of Theology and its staff and students, clearing up after the multi-storey premises suffered severe effects from the blast.
- For the many countries of our Province to and from which travel is very hard or impossible, and in which life and flourishing are still curtailed.
- For churches that have started to gather for worship again, though much restricted and diminished.
- ♣ For churches that still cannot meet physically, that they may be of good heart and trust in God's purposes of love.

The Episcopal Church of South Sudan

- Pray for relatives of victims who had been killed during the inter-communal fighting in South Sudan, pray for forgiveness between these warring communities.
- ♣ Pray for flood victims in the Upper Nile region, that has caused displacement and suffering, as such many people are in dire need of food and shelter.

- ♣ Pray for wisdom and guidance as the Church in South Sudan prepares for the reopening of worship services as we adapt this new culture.
- ★ We also ask you to pray for protection to both Church and health workers as they always push themselves to counsel and encourage people for safety.
- ♣ Pray for our economic situation, as the burden is too much due to the pandemic.
 Prices are never friendly and many people could not afford to buy the daily ratios.

香港聖公會

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

- ♣ Pray for those who are physically, emotionally and financially affected by the COVID-19, for the frontline medical professional people, and the effectiveness of the government's various preventive measures.
- ♣ Pray for Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council, for their elderly homes, daycare centers and out-reach ministries.
- ♣ Pray for the Very Revd Matthias Der who will be consecrated to Bishop Co-adjutor of the Diocese of Hong Kong Island on 3rd October 2020.
- ♣ Pray for the Election of next Archbishop and Primate of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui on 18th October, and give thanks to the ministry of Archbishop Paul Kwong who shall retire on 1st January 2021.
- ♣ Pray for the peace, stability and harmony in the society of Hong Kong, for the dialogue and reconciliation of people with different political viewpoints.

日本聖公会

The Nippon Sei Ko Kai The Anglican Communion in Japan

- Resumption of communal worship varies greatly across the province; please pray that each church community might be strengthened through this difficult time, and know the comfort and guidance of God's Holy Spirit as they move forward into unknown territory
- ♣ Biennial provincial synod is scheduled to take place October 27-29 and will be carried out online for the first time; please pray that technology will help facilitate this meeting and that attendees will be blessed with patience and understanding
- ♣ Election of a new Primate is due to take place at synod this year; please give thanks for the ministry of Archbishop Nathaniel Uematsu over the past 14 years, and pray for his successor

+	Japan's second wave of Covid-19 seems to be tapering off; please pray for all those
	working in the healthcare industry and medical science as they seek to deal with this
	virus

♣ Please pray for the Japanese government; that it may make sensible decisions as it tries to protect the health of the population whilst at the same time trying to balance economic issues

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Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Tue I	The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee	The Anglican Church of Kenya ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services	
Wed 2	 Martyrs of New Guinea († 1942) The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, his assistant bishops, clergy and people 	The Anglican Church of Melanesia The ACOM Board of Mission	
Thu 3	Gregory of Rome, bishop and teacher († 604) Eliza Darling, pioneer social reformer in New South Wales († 1868) • The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rick Lewers, the clergy and people	The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea See p. 4	
Fri 4	The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people	The Church of the Province of Central Africa The Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program	

Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Sat 5	The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people.	The Church of the Province of Myanmar CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks See p. 5	International Day of Charity
Sun 6	 Pentecost 14 [Ordinary Sunday 23] The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people 	The Episcopal Church in the Philippines E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP	
Mon 7	The Diocese of Brisbane – Archbishop Phillip Aspinall, the regional bishops, clergy and people	The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East The Diocese of Jerusalem's Development Desk See p. 6	International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies
Tue 8	Birth of Mary, Mother of our Lord • The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people	• The Philippine Independent Church – (Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI) VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI)	International Literacy Day

Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Wed 9	The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Mark Short, the clergy and people	The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China	International Day to Protect Education from Attack
Thu 10	Ministry to the Forces – Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Armed Forces	The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia Anglican Missions Board, AMB See p. 4	
Fri II	Mother Esther CHN, Founder of the Community of the Holy Name (Melbourne) († 1931)	The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui 香港聖公會)	
	The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people	See p. 7	
Sat 12	The Diocese of Grafton – Bishop Murray Harvey, the clergy and people	The Anglican Church of Japan (Nippon Sei Ko Kai 日本聖公会)	UN Day for South-South Cooperation
		See p. 7	Cooperation
Sun 13	 Pentecost 15 [Ordinary Sunday 24] Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia – Bishop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal clergy and people 	• The Anglican Church of Korea, (Daehan Song Gong Hoe 대한성공회) TOPIK – the Towards Peace in Korea Initiative of the Anglican Church of Korea	

Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Mon 14	 Holy Cross Day Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people 	The Church of Bangladesh	
Tue 15	John Oliver Feetham, bishop and bush brother († 1947) • The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier, the regional bishops, clergy and people	The Church of Ceylon	International Day of Democracy
Wed 16	 Ninian of Galloway, bishop and missionary († ca. 432) The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart, the regional bishops, clergy and people 	The Church of North India	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
Thu 17	 Hildegard of Bingen, abbess and spiritual writer († 1179) The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people 	The Church of Pakistan	• World Patient Safety Day

Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Fri 18	 John Ramsden Wollaston, priest and missionary of Western Australia († 1856) The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people 	The Church of South India	• International Equal Pay Day
Sat 19	The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, the clergy and people	• The Church of the Province of South-East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore, with missionary congregations in Nepal, Indonesia, Thailand and some parts of Indo-China) See p. 6	
Sun 20	 Pentecost 16 [Ordinary Sunday 25] The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people 	The Episcopal Church of South Sudan The Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA See p. 6	
Mon 21	Matthew, apostle, evangelist, and martyr • The Diocese of Rockhampton – The Very Rev Peter Grice (Bishop-Elect), the clergy and people	The Episcopal Church of Sudan	International Day of Peace

Sept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Tue 22	The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Glenn Davies, the regional bishops, clergy and people	Episcopal Relief and Development (USA)	
Wed 23	The Diocese of Tasmania –Bishop Richard Conde, the Assistant Bishop, clergy and people	The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Canada)	International Day of Sign Languages
Thu 24	The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people	• USPG (UK and Ireland)	• World Maritime Day
Fri 25	 Sergius of Moscow, abbot and teacher († 1392) The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and people 	Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy	
Sat 26	 Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester († 1626) The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people. 	Anglican Discipleship – Jesus- Shaped Life	International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons
Sun 27	 Pentecost 17 [Ordinary Sunday 26] The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop John Stead, the clergy and people 	CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa	World Tourism Day

S ept	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
Mon 28	Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Jones; Executive Director, Kasy Chambers	• The Mothers' Union	International Day for Universal Access to Information
Tue 29	 St Michael and All Angels Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia 		International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste
Wed 30	 Jerome, priest and biblical scholar († 420) Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia 		• International Translation Day

Omissions and displacements in September this year -

13 September: Cyprian of Carthage, bishop and martyr († 258)

20 September: John Coleridge Patteson, first Bishop of Melanesia, martyr († 1871)

27 September: Vincent de Paul, priest, worker with the poor († 1660)

Let our prayer come before you as incense ...

Almighty God, we call out to you as the world continues to suffer under the weight of the coronavirus pandemic. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would the support and sustain the infected. Heal them and help them. Enliven their spirits and give strength to their bodies. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would support vulnerable populations. Defend the elderly and those who live with chronic conditions and diseases. Shield the poor, especially where public health systems are expensive or ineffective. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would confront the shameless who think that physical distancing rules don't apply to them, and the greedy who stockpile toilet paper, face masks and medications, with their imprudence and folly. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would motivate the young and the strong with the desire to help others who are not so fortunate. May they assist, all the while being necessarily cautious. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would shepherd and direct all who are part of governments – local, regional and national – around the world. May they equitably allocate resources for combatting the pandemic. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would enlighten the scientific and medical communities as they seek to find effective vaccines and treatments and as they educate the rest of us about the disease. Give them wisdom, as well as the skill to make their voices heard. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would guide the media, helping them to broadcast up-to-date and correct information in a way that is easy to understand and that does not cause panic. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would give us the desire to stay well informed. May we find relevant local reports which endow us to be good neighbours. Free us from fear, and support us to apply the recommended approaches in our lives, even at a cost to ourselves. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would help all who suffer mental stress at this time, those who feel lonely, fretful, vulnerable or hopeless. Give them what they need. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.

That you would aid all who have lost their jobs or whose jobs are precarious, and those whose businesses are dead or dying. Pity them, and send your Spirit of consolation in their hour of need. O Lord, hear our prayer and let our cry come to you.