

# Partners Praying Together

July 2020 – Covid-19 Special Edition



**B**ECAUSE 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?

**T**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, 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 places now undergoing a second wave of infections; for those who are unable, for any reason, to worship in their churches or synagogues, mosques or temples; for those in authority as they try to balance health of people against the economy. 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 continuing to practise '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 in thanksgiving for resilient and imaginative Christians and congregations in harsh times in this Province.
- ❖ Pray for all our nations here: Syria, the Lebanon, Jordan, Palestine/Israel, Iran, Cyprus, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the Sultanate of Oman, the Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates of Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al Quwain, Ras al Khaimah, and Fujairah.
- ❖ Pray for internally displaced people, especially in Iraq and Syria, and for cross-border refugees everywhere.
- ❖ Pray for Bishop Hosam Naoum, consecrated on 14 June as Coadjutor Bishop in Jerusalem with right of succession.
- ❖ Pray for all ground down by war, civil disorder, irresponsible politics, disease, and fear, that Christ may be their light and their resurrection.

## **The Church of the Province of South-East Asia**

- ❖ We thank the Lord for His steadfast love towards His people, in the midst of shakings, His love is unshakeable, His Kingdom remains. Praise the Lord that many have found the God whom they put their trust in, faithful in providing for them.
- ❖ Pray for the Holy Spirit to guide, direct and empower God's people and the leadership of the Church to strategize for post pandemic life, worship and witness, as the nations in our region are moving into reopening of economy.
- ❖ Pray for God's favour, grace and wisdom on all God's people, that their livelihood will be restored. Pray for those who have lost their jobs or income will experience God's favour and miracles in their lives in the months to come.

- ✦ Pray for all national leaders, that they will act in the best interest of the nations, looking out not for their own interests, but the welfare of the people and the future generations. Remember especially all Christians in politics in the nations, that they will humble themselves before God in the fear of the Lord and make godly choices and responsible decisions for the benefits of the people and the nations.
- ✦ Ask the Lord to extend His grace and mercy to the refugees and illegal immigrants in the region of Southeast Asia. Pray for their protection.

**For access to the electronic version of *Partners Praying Together*, go to [www.abmission.org/partners-praying-together](http://www.abmission.org/partners-praying-together)**

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**A Belgian postage stamp featuring a depiction of ‘A Man for all Seasons’, St Thomas More († 1535) – see 6 July**



**A German postage stamp celebrating the life of St Benedict of Nursia († 550) – see 11 July**



**A Macanese postage stamp celebrating the life of St Ignatius of Loyola († 1556) – see 31 July**

July	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
<b>Wed 1</b>	<p>THE COMING OF THE LIGHT, 1871</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Kenya <i>ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, his assistant bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Melanesia <i>The ACOM Board of Mission</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Fri 3</b>	<p><b>Thomas, apostle and martyr</b> <i>– if not observed on 21 Dec.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rick Lewers, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<p>The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea <i>Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea</i></p>	
<b>Sat 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of the Province of Central Africa <i>The Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Day of Cooperatives (1st Saturday in July)</li> </ul>
<b>Sun 5</b>	<p><b>Pentecost 5 [Ordinary Sunday 14]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of the Province of Myanmar <i>CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks</i></li> </ul>	

July	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
<b>Mon 6</b>	<p>John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyrs († 1535)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church in the Philippines <i>E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Tue 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Brisbane – Archbishop Phillip Aspinall, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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></li> </ul> <p><i>See p. 4</i></p>	
<b>Wed 8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Philippine Independent Church – (Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI) <i>VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Mark Short, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China</li> </ul>	
<b>Fri 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry to the Forces – Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Armed Forces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia <i>Anglican Missions Board, AMB</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Sat 11</b>	<p><b>Benedict of Nursia, abbot († 550)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Population Day</li> </ul>



July	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>Pentecost 6 [Ordinary Sunday 15]</b> <i>Sea Sunday</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Grafton – Bishop Murray Harvey, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Japan (Nippon Sei Ko Kai)</li> </ul>	
<b>Mon 13</b>	Sydney James Kirby, bishop, pioneer of outback ministry and the Bush Church Aid Society († 1935) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia – Bishop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Korea, (Daehan Song Gong Hoe)  <i>TOPIK – the Towards Peace in Korea Initiative of the Anglican Church of Korea</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Tue 14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Bangladesh</li> </ul>	
<b>Wed 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Ceylon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Youth Skills Day</li> </ul>
<b>Thu 16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of North India</li> </ul>	
<b>Fri 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Pakistan</li> </ul>	

July	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate	UN Days
<b>Sat 18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of South India</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nelson Mandela International Day</li> </ul>
<b>Sun 19</b>	<p><b>Pentecost 7 [Ordinary Sunday 16]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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)</li> </ul> <p>See p. 4</p>	
<b>Mon 20</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church of South Sudan <i>The Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Chess Day</li> </ul>
<b>Tue 21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Rockhampton – The Ven Tom Henderson-Brooks (Administrator), the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church of Sudan</li> </ul>	
<b>Wed 22</b>	<p><b>Mary Magdalene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Glenn Davies, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Episcopal Relief and Development (USA)</li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Tasmania – Bishop Richard Conde, the Assistant Bishop, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Canada)</li> </ul>	

<b>July</b>	<b>Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer</b>	<b>Overseas Partner + development arm – where appropriate</b>	<b>UN Days</b>
<b>Fri 24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USPG (UK and Ireland)</li> </ul>	
<b>Sat 25</b>	<b>James, apostle and martyr</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy</li> </ul>	
<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>Pentecost 8 [Ordinary Sunday 17]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life</li> </ul>	
<b>Mon 27</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop John Stead, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa</li> </ul>	
<b>Tue 28</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Jones; Executive Director, Kasy Chambers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mothers' Union</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Hepatitis Day</li> </ul>
<b>Wed 29</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>		
<b>Thu 30</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Day of Friendship</li> <li>International Day against Trafficking in Persons</li> </ul>

July	Lectionary Commemorations and the Australian Cycle of Prayer	Overseas Partner + <i>development arm</i> – where appropriate	UN Days
<b>Fri 31</b>	Joseph of Arimathea; Ignatius of Loyola, priest, and founder of the Society of Jesus († 1556) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Religious Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>		

**Omissions and displacements in July this year –**

26 July: Anne, mother of the BVM

*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.**