

The Anglican Church in Central & Western NSW
Diocese of Bathurst

DIOCESAN PRAYER DIARY

2020



Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
Sing to the LORD, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

Psalm 96:1-2

Revised August 2020

Day 1

National Church: The Primate of Australia, Archbishop Geoffrey Smith and the Secretary of General Synod Anne Hywood. Pray that they will have grace and wisdom for their responsibilities across the Anglican Church of Australia.

Bathurst Diocese: Bishop Mark Calder and Susan and Archdeacon Brett Watterson and the Rev'd Michelle Watterson. Please pray that they will walk closely with God in joyful dependence on him, and daily be transformed into the likeness of Jesus. Pray for wisdom and strength for all they do. Pray that Bishop Mark will teach God's word clearly and preach the gospel boldly.

Bible verse and prayer for today

They appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.

Acts 14:23

*Most loving God,
the hope and joy of all who are
pure, humble, poor, hungry, merciful
and ready to suffer for righteousness sake,
keep us faithful in the love of Jesus
that we may be his twenty-first century disciples.
in his saving name. Amen*

Day 2

National Church: The Diocese of Adelaide with Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, Assistant Bishops Timothy Harris & Denise Ferguson; Assistant Bishop for Aboriginal Ministry Chris McLeod; clergy and people. Pray that they will be faithful shepherds, and that God will bless their work.

Bathurst Diocese: Bishop's Registrar, Karen Trafford and Andrew, Chantal Bremner and those who work in the Bishop's Registry. Pray for wisdom, grace and patience for their work.

Local needs: Pray for wisdom, discretion and courage for our Federal Members of Parliament: Mark Coulton (Parkes), Andrew Gee (Calare) and Michael McCormack (Riverina).

Bible verse and prayer for today

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6

*Loving God,
Impart your wisdom to all who propose policy,
that their promises may serve those in greatest need.
Give integrity to party members,
and keep them from deceit and corruption.
Protect all engaged in public life, with their families, friends and colleagues,
that nothing may demean or do them harm. Amen*

Day 3

National Church: The Diocese of Armidale with Bishop Rick Lewers, clergy and people. Pray the gospel will be proclaimed with power throughout the diocese. Please pray for the appointment process of a new bishop as Bishop Lewers will finish in December 2020.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for the work of Anglicare in our Diocese, that people in need will be helped and that they might see the love and care of the Lord Jesus through the help we bring.

Local needs: Pray for teachers and students in our local schools, TAFEs and University Campuses. Pray for the witness to Christ in these places and for SRE teachers in our schools.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning.

Proverbs 9:9

*Father, we ask you to give students wisdom and guidance in their studies.
Help them to make decisions with your word and bring glory to your name.
Give them clarity so they don't fall into the traps of peer pressure.
Give them insight on how to manage school life
And teach students to listen to your voice, in the din of the schoolyard;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Day 4

National Church: The Diocese of Ballarat with Bishop Garry Weatherill, clergy and people. Pray that they will be sustained and strengthened in their work for the glory of God.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for All Saints Cathedral and ministry in South Bathurst with the Dean, the Very Rev'd James Hodson and Fran, with the Cathedral Chapter. Pray the ministry in Bathurst will grow more effective in proclaiming the good news of Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for the police in our region: in the stations, as they deal with difficult situations, those on highway patrol. Pray for their safety and protection. Also pray for Police Chaplains: Graeme Yager, Bishop Richard Hurford, Michelle Watterson, and Gary Neville.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Matthew 5:9

*O God, the author of peace
and lover of concord,
to know you is eternal life
to serve you is perfect freedom.
Defend your servants from all assaults of our enemies
that we, surely trusting in your defence,
may not fear the power of any adversaries;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 5

National Church: We join with the Church throughout Australia who today pray for the Diocese of Bathurst, Bishop Mark Calder and Susan, the clergy and people. Pray that they will be faithful and fruitful and have the joy of seeing the Lord at work through them.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Blayney (Vacant), Shirley Lewis and Ted, and John Butterworth. Pray that the Lord would sustain Shirley and all who lead services, but particularly, that the Lord would raise up the right person to serve as their new minister.

Local needs: Pray for the nursing, ancillary and domestic staff in nursing homes, hostels and aged care facilities and for the residents. Pray that our older citizens will be cherished and loved and that those who care for them would be given grace and patience.

Bible verse and prayer for today

I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13

*Faithful Lord, living Saviour,
in youth and in old age, from the womb to the grave,
may we know your protection
and proclaim your great salvation
to the glory of God the Father. Amen*

Day 6

National Church: The Diocese of Bendigo with Bishop Dr Matt Brain, clergy and people. Pray that churches would grow and flourish and that the bishop may be given wisdom and strength.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Bourke-Brewarrina with Rev'd John Gaff and Denise, and the Rev'd David Blackmore. Pray for ministry in Brewarrina and Weilmoringle and in the Brewarrina Correctional Centre. Pray that God's people will be built up and that more people will come to know the Lord Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for those who work in local businesses, industry and offices, especially as they interact daily with many people. May Christians who are in business, be strengthened to be honest and caring in all their dealings and be a witness to those who don't yet know Jesus.

Bible verse and prayer for today

But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.

Deuteronomy 8:18

*Jesus, our companion,
when we are driven to despair
help us, through the friends and strangers
we encounter on our path
to know you as our refuge,
our way, our truth and our life. Amen*

Day 7

National Church: The Diocese of Brisbane with Archbishop Phillip Aspinall, Bishops: Cameron Venables, Jeremy Greaves, John Roundhill, clergy and people and Jonathan Holland, Principal of St Francis College. May the leadership be true to God's word and faithful in building up all the churches in the diocese so that Jesus might be clearly proclaimed.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Canowindra, the Venerable Joy Harris and Max, and the joint work of both the Anglican and Uniting Church communities in that place. Pray for effective gospel witness across the parish, that more people will hear the saving news of Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for communities whose population is declining and who are losing their identity. Pray for the villages in the parishes within our Diocese. May people see the hope that Christians have through Jesus and long to know the reason why. May we have a ready answer.

Bible verse and prayer for today

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.

Matthew 5:14

*Loving God,
you treasure the people of our shrinking towns.
We remember the many people who have been
compelled to move, far from families to find work.
We bring before you those who stay,
the unemployed, the community organisations, the townfolk.
Show them how to adjust in creative ways,
that they may serve you and those around them. Amen*

Day 8

National Church: The Diocese of Bunbury with Bishop Ian Coutts, clergy and people. Pray that the Diocese will know the joy of the Lord, and that that joy will be their strength.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parishes of Trundle and Condobolin and the ministry of the Rev'd Brian Schmalkuche. Pray that Brian's visiting ministry will impact people with the gospel.

Local needs: Pray for people we meet when we go to the shops, especially those who work there, God's blessing to be upon them and that we might bless them with kindness also.

Bible verse and prayer for today

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

*God of all who labour and are heavy laden,
awaken within us gratitude for all the forgotten people
who work behind the scenes and receive sparse thanks.
We give thanks for their loyalty and skill
and pray that they will continue to enhance the lives of others. Amen*

Day 9

National Church: The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn with Bishop Dr Mark Short and Assistant Bishops, Stephen Pickard and Carol Wagner, clergy and people. Pray that the leadership will enjoy great unity as they work together, and cause many to rejoice in the good news.

Bathurst Diocese: For the Brotherhood of the Good Shepherd, the trustees and the new chair Francis Dorman and the Company of the Good Shepherd, Principal, the Venerable Grahame Yager and Brenda. Pray for wisdom as the future of this ministry is discerned, for the financial resources to sustain the ministry and that there might be open doors for the message across the area.

Local needs: Pray for our local government, Shire and City Councils and all who represent us; and the officials, and people, who have responsibility for administration. For God's wisdom as they lead us through change. Give thanks for people who look after our roads and those who tend the parks and public gardens in our neighbourhood.

Bible verse and prayer for today

For dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Psalm 22:28

*Bless our local councils we pray
with good relationships, strong accountability,
sound decisions, effective stewardship, and servant hearts.
For the good of our communities
and the sake of those on its margins. Amen.*

Day 10

National Church: The Defence Force Anglican Chaplaincy with Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Defence Forces. Remember those serving overseas and those waiting at home.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for those discerning the call of God on their lives to lay and ordained ministry, and those preparing for ordination. Pray for the Diocesan Ministry Development Officer, Canon Tim Fogo and the newly formed ordination panel that they will have wisdom and insight in their task. Thank the Lord for new candidates for ordination.

Local needs: Pray for those involved in counselling, psychotherapy, mentoring, supervision, and other related disciplines. Pray for clarity, insight, understanding and compassion.

Bible verse and prayer for today

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

James 1:19

*Loving God, you are always near to us, especially when we are weak, suffering and vulnerable.
Reach out to those who experience mental illness. Lift their burdens, calm their anxiety, and quieten their fears.
Surround them with your healing presence that they may know that they are not alone.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Day 11

National Church: The Diocese of Gippsland with Bishop Richard Treloar, clergy and people. Pray that clergy and people will be passionate about proclaiming the good news in word and deed.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Coolah-Dunedoo – wisdom for future ministry. Pray for Mothers Union, AWA and Cursillo within our Diocese that these groups will help people grow in their discipleship and be unified in the gospel our Lord Jesus Christ.

Local needs: Pray and give thanks for all who work in hospitals and medical centres: nurses, domestic staff, catering staff, doctors, research workers, pathology, reception, chaplains, volunteers – for strength and patience. Pray for those patients in hospital who are undergoing treatment, and all on your parish prayer list. Pray for healing and above all, an abundant peace which comes from trusting God.

Bible verse and prayer for today

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free.

Luke 4:18

*Lord Jesus, our true vine,
through your presence may your people
support the weak, encourage the sick,
comfort the dying, guide the confused, heal the broken hearted,
soften hard hearts and sweeten bitter spirits; all in Jesus' name and for his glory.
Amen*

Day 12

National Church: The Diocese of Grafton with Bishop Dr Murray Harvey, clergy and people. Pray that as they restructure the nature of ministry there, that new possibilities and great opportunities will open up for more effective ministry.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Coonabarabran – please pray for a godly and capable new minister. Also, the Rev'd Gloria Shipp and Eddie with Walkabout Ministries. Thank the Lord for her ministry as the Juvenile Justice Chaplain in Dubbo which she has recently relinquished.

Local needs: Pray for those who are driving: for alertness and safety on the road, joy in what they see, cheerfulness as they meet people, happiness in the reunion with loved ones, and rest at the end of the journey. Particularly pray for our bishop and other leaders as they travel in the course of their ministry that they will stay alert and remain safe.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Psalms 119:105

*Loving God,
be with those who travel.
May their journey be one of safety,
may they arrive refreshed and return home,
awakened and enriched by their journey
May you be with them as they go and as they return. Amen*

Day 13

National Church: Ministry with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islands people. The work of the NATSIAC Board: the Rev Gloria Shipp (Chair) and the Rev Daryl McCullough (Secretary) and for the national Bishop for Aboriginal Ministry, Chris McLeod.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Coonamble with Jeff Tym and Wendy. Pray that they will know God's presence and peace as they minister and see the Lord at work through them. As Geoff will retire in September, pray for the parish as they discern God's will for future ministry.

Local needs: Fire fighters and rescue services and paramedics, SES, volunteers and chaplains. Pray for their safety and skill and that their chaplains will faithfully care for them and share the good news of Jesus.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:13

*Lord God, bring us together as one,
reconciled with you and reconciled with each other.
You made us in your likeness; you gave us your Son, Jesus Christ.
He has given us forgiveness from sin.
Lord God, bring us together as one,
different in culture, but given new life in Jesus Christ.
Together as your body, your Church, your people.
Lord God, bring us together as one,
reconciled, healed, forgiven, sharing you with others as you have called us to do.
In Jesus Christ, let us be together as one. Amen.*

Bishop Arthur Malcolm, the first Aboriginal Bishop of Australia wrote this prayer for reconciliation.

Day 14

National Church: Ministry with the Torres Strait Island people of Australia, clergy and people. The BCA National Indigenous Ministry Officer, the Rev'd Neville Naden and Kathryn. Pray that there will be a deeper understanding in our nation of all the issues of our indigenous people, greater equity in sharing resources, and justice for all who have lost lives whilst in custody.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for the parish of Kelso with Canon Tim Fogo and Karen along with the parish of Oberon and the ministry of the governing committee. Pray for wisdom as they discern the best way to do ministry in this area in the future and faithfulness to the gospel of our Lord.

Local needs: For the NSW State Parliament, Premier Gladys Berejiklian and our local members: Paul Toole (Bathurst), Dugald Saunders (Dubbo), Roy Butler (Barwon), Philip Donato (Orange), Stephanie Cooke (Cootamundra). Pray for wisdom and justice.

Bible verse and prayer for today

How blessed are those who keep justice, who practice righteousness at all times!

Psalm 106:3

*Almighty God, send down upon those called to serve in government,
the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice;
that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices
to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Day 15

National Church: The Diocese of Melbourne with Archbishop Phillip Freier and Bishops Genieve Blackwell, Kate Prowd, Brad Billings and Paul Barker. Pray for unity in the diocese centred on the good news of Jesus and a desire to make Christ known.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Cudal–Molong and ministry in that parish. Pray that the Lord would raise up a new minister for this newly formed parish. Pray for the parish of Cowra with John Croudace and Christine and Rhonda Hunt and Lindsay. Pray that the Cowra church would have the resources to support their clergy and have wisdom for discerning the future.

Local needs: Pray for lawyers, solicitors, barristers, judges, magistrates, court officials and for truth and justice with mercy in our land.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

Proverbs 31:8-9

*Lord you know the pressures of this day.
Bless us with calmness and courtesy,
patience and peacefulness,
and may we see in all we meet this day
people made in your image,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 16

National Church: Diocese of Newcastle with Bishop Peter Stuart, assistant Bishops Sonia Roulston and Charlie Murry, clergy and people. Pray for a unity around God's word and the truth of the gospel.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Parkes with Peak Hill, the Rev'd Natalie Quince and Jay, the Rev'd Roger Gregson and Robyn. Pray that the Lord would raise up a wonderful new minister for this parish and give wisdom to the parish and diocesan nominators.

Local needs: Pray specifically for the needs of your church and for your churchwardens and parish council, licensed lay ministers, volunteers, gardeners, maintenance people, office workers, lay chaplains and visitors. Pray that your parish will grow in love and unity in prayerfulness and in joy dependence on God. Pray that the good news of Jesus will be made known through the ministry of everyone in your parish.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

*Lord of the church,
give us true humility
and the grace to love the people
with whom we minister,
as you love us.
Amen*

Day 17

National Church: The Diocese of North Queensland with Bishop, Dr Keith Joseph, clergy and people. Pray that the Lord will raise up people to fill the vacancies in the diocese and cause an excitement about the opportunities to make Jesus known.

Bathurst Diocese: The parish of Holy Trinity Dubbo with the Venerable Brett Watterson and assistant, the Rev'd Michelle Watterson, Deacon Ray Tickle and Lynette, the Rev'd Gloria Shipp and Eddie, the Rev'd Cathy Walker and Peter. Pray that more people in Dubbo will come to know Jesus.

Diocese of Ysabel: Pray for Bishop Ellison and Jesse Quity, the clergy and people for their programs of renewal and outreach and for preparations for visits between our two Dioceses.

Bible verse and prayer for today

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

*God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death:
fill your church with faith and hope for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen*

Day 18

National Church: The Diocese of North West Australia with Bishop Gary Nelson, clergy and people. Thank the Lord for the support of BCA in many parishes and pray that Jesus will be effectively made known in across this vast place.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for youth and children's ministry in our diocese – that young people will be lovingly and carefully encouraged to grow in their love for Jesus and their desire to serve and honour him in their entire lives. Pray for those involved in safe ministry training and professional standards matters, including the Rev'd Peter Barnett – wisdom and grace. Pray for those who have been abused by clergy and lay people in our diocese that they will be comforted and helped.

Local needs: Give thanks and pray for those involved in music in our churches and for those who show the beauty of human creativity in our lives. Pray that our music will both teach our minds and uplift our hearts.

Bible verse and prayer for today

My lips will shout for joy when I sing praise to you—I whom you have delivered.

Psalm 71:23

God, our creator, we thank you for giving joy and delight to your Church through those who you have gifted in music. Lead them to dedicate their talents to your worship, and to serve your people in humility.

Use them to bring echoes and reflections of your beauty to the ears of many, so they may also seek your goodness and truth, to the glory of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Day 19

National Church: The Diocese of Perth with Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy and assistant Bishops: Kate Wilmot and Jeremy James, clergy and people. Pray for unity in the gospel and effectiveness in making Jesus known across the diocese.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for the Parish of Forbes that the Lord would raise up a new minister for this parish. Pray for the Parish of Cumnock and for wisdom in discerning the best way to minister in the future. Pray for the Northside Chapel with Rex Taylor and Rachel that many will be helped to grow in their understanding of and love for the Lord Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for our homes and our family life – that Jesus would be central and pray for those who are homeless that we may play our part in bringing whatever help we can.

Bible verse and prayer for today

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

Psalm 133:1

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
whose son Jesus Christ shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home:
bless our homes, we pray
Help parents to impart the knowledge of you and your love;
and children respond with love and obedience.
May our homes be blessed with peace and joy,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 20

National Church: The Diocese of Riverina with Bishop Donald Kirk, clergy and people. Pray for wisdom for the leadership of the diocese that they will serve their people well and build up the churches across the diocese to the glory of God.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for the Parish of East Orange with the Rev'd Bob Cameron and Fiona, and the Rev'd Noel Clarke and Margo. Pray too for the Chaplain to the Chinese/Anglican fellowship Amy Ho. Pray that this parish will lovingly teach God's word and make more disciples.

Local needs: Pray for world leaders and decision-makers; those who hold power and influence through politics, finance, the media or industry. May we work together for the common good especially as we deal with the impact of COVID-19.

Bible verse and prayer for today

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.

1 Timothy 2:1-2

*May our leaders have the grace and wisdom to act kindly,
learning to discern between what is personal and not.
May they be hospitable to criticism, and not put themselves
at the centre of things.
May they act out of service and not arrogance.
May they be ever mindful that all authority comes from you,
Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Amen*

Day 21

National: The Diocese of Rockhampton and bishop elect the Very Rev'd Peter Grice, and for the clergy and people. Pray that when a new bishop is appointed, there will be unity around their leadership and a passion to make Christ known.

Bathurst Diocese: Parish of Gilgandra with the Venerable Grahame Yager and the Rev'd Brenda Yager, the Rev'd Anne Younghusband and Neville. Give thanks for Grahame's ministry in the parish and for the way he is known and loved in the community and pray that there will be open doors and hearts for the good news of Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for mothers and fathers with young children and for pre-school groups, kindergarten and primary school teachers and those working with children with special needs. Pray for grace and love, wisdom and compassion. And in Christian contexts, that children and parents will be pointed to the hope we have in Jesus.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

Exodus 20:12

*Lord Christ, as we sit at your feet,
teach us your living way; for you are our Word and Wisdom, one God with the Father and
the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.*

Day 22

National Church: The Diocese of Sydney with Archbishop Glenn Davies and regional bishops: Michael Stead, Gary Koo, Peter Lin, Peter Hayward, Chris Edwards along with Archdeacon for women, Kara Hartley, the Dean, Kanishka Raffel, clergy and people. Give thanks for the leadership of Glenn Davies, now extended (due to COVID-19) to February 2021 and pray for great wisdom as the diocese then seeks a new archbishop. Thank the Lord for the generosity of the Sydney Diocese, through whose gift, we are able to support our bishop and registrar.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Grenfell with the Rev'd Ross Craven – strength and wisdom as he also helps out in West Wyalong parish and for the Parish of Warren (without a minister). We pray for members of the Diocesan and Parish appointments boards.

Local needs: Pray for those who speak out against injustice in our society, that we will have hearts and ears to listen and act.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow.

Isaiah 1:17

*Remove from us the heart of selfishness, O God,
that keeps us from caring for the downtrodden,
abused, forgotten, and broken.
Dwell in us so that we see injustice and not turn away
We pray this in Jesus name. Amen.*

Day 23

National Church: The Diocese of Tasmania with Bishop Richard Condie, clergy and people. Ask the Lord that the diocese will be marked by great joy in the gospel and a passion to proclaim it!

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for the parish of Holy Trinity Orange with the Rev'd Mal Dunnett and Rosie. Pray for wisdom in the COVID-19 opportunities to reach more people. Pray too for the parish of West Wyalong, especially that the Lord would raise up the right person as their new minister.

Local needs: Pray for those caught up in addictions to alcohol and drugs, social media, pornography, and other addictions. Pray for those who support them and for the work that people do with twelve step programs. Pray that people would turn to the Lord and that through Jesus, the power and bonds of sin would be broken.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:7

*Gracious God,
thank you for your forgiveness
and your presence.
We thank you for your Son Jesus Christ
who makes disciples out of sinners
and creates new life in tired and barren lives. Amen*

Day 24

National Church: The Diocese of The Murray with Bishop Keith Dalby, clergy and people. Pray for Bishop Keith as he seeks to remind clergy and people of the precious good news of Jesus.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parish of Wellington with the Rev'd Carl Palmer (Deacon-in-Charge). May Carl and Jennie have God's wisdom as they seek to point people to Jesus. Pray for Macquarie Anglican Grammar School, the Head, Mr Craig Mansour, Chaplain Mr Tom Owen, students, parents and staff that this school may be effective in pointing students to the life, joy, peace and hope found in relationship with Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for those facing persecution for following Jesus that they may cling to God and know his strength for standing firm.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:10

*Loving God, we pray for your persecuted church
wherever it worships and works in peace,
and especially where it endures under constant threat.
Give all your people the assurance of your presence and grace.*

Amen

Day 25

National Church: The diocese of the Northern Territory with Bishop Greg Anderson, clergy and people. Praise God for the appointment of the new dean for the cathedral (the Rev'd Rob Llewellyn from the parish of Gloucester) and pray that the Lord would unite bishop, dean and clergy around the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bathurst Diocese: Pray for Bible Study and home groups in our parishes. May we grow in and through our love of the Scriptures and through learning and sharing be more like Jesus. Pray for Orange Anglican Grammar School, the Head, the Rev'd Louis Stringer, students, Chaplaincy Team, staff and parents. May the school be centred around Jesus and help students, parents and staff to understand that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.

Local needs: Pray for people working in the building industry, from planning through to fabrication, those who work in dangerous places and have precise specifications to follow. May the Lord in his kindness protect workers and help people to follow safe work practices.

Bible verse and prayer for today

For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything.

Hebrews 3:4

*Loving God,
your blessed Son worked with his hands in the carpenter shop in Nazareth:
Be present we pray with those who work with their hands
that labouring together with you they may share the joy of your creation,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 26

National Church: The Diocese of Wangaratta with Bishop Clarence Bester, clergy and people. Pray that this diocese will remain faithful to Biblical Christianity and proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parishes in the Cudgegong Valley including Mudgee, Gulgong, Rylstone, Kandos with the Venerable Jonathan Williams, the Rev'd David Craig and Heidi, the Rev'd Bruce Kurtz & Lyndel, the Rev'd David Fry and Nada, and the Rev'd Jorie Ryan and Steve and the people of these parishes. Pray for wisdom and strength in caring for God's people in these communities. Pray for Bishop's Evangelist James Daymond and Brittany (BCA Appointment) that James will excite and inspire people to be involved in making Jesus known.

Local needs: Pray for a passion for caring for God's creation; treating our land with reverence and respect.

Bible verse and prayer for today

For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.
Romans 11:36

*O glorious God,
your whole creation sings your marvellous work; may heaven's praise so echo in our hearts
that we may be good stewards of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 27

National Church: The Diocese of Willochra with Bishop John Stead, clergy and people. Pray that bishop and clergy and lay people will have great joy in the Lord and be unified in their work across the diocese.

Bathurst Diocese: The parish of Narromine with the Rev'd Phil Howes and Sho. Pray that they will see the impact of their work in the lives of those to whom they minister. Pray for the synod of our Diocese, its President, Bishop Mark Calder, chair of committees, Mark Olson, Bishop's Registrar, Karen Trafford, for the clerical and lay secretaries and for the chancellor, Mr John Armfield.

Local needs: For people who work in the coffee shops, restaurants, shops and the retail outlets we visit. Be prayerful for their circumstances. Give thanks for the self-employed and pray for their families as they work long hours. Particularly pray for many businesses impacted adversely by COVID-19, that they will be comforted for and provided [for](#) and that in their hour of need they may long to know more of the hope we have in Jesus.

Bible verse and prayer for today

In the morning, Lord, you hear my voice; in the morning I lay my requests before you and wait expectantly.

Psalm 5:3

A prayer for unity:

*Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles:
I leave you peace, my peace I give to you.
Look not on our sins, our divisions and our confusions
but grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom
where you live and reign forever. Amen*

(APBA p213)

Day 28

National Church: Anglicare Australia, Chair, Bishop Chris Jones, Director Kasy Chambers, Anglicare workers and all to whom they minister. Pray that the love of the Lord will be made known.

Bathurst Diocese: The Parishes of Nyngan with the Rev'd Graham McLeod and the Parish of Cobar (without a permanent minister). Pray that the ministry in these towns will be effective that disciples will grow in their love for Jesus and that many more may become disciples. Pray for retired clergy in our Diocese - giving thanks for their ministries and support.

Local needs: Pray for people who work on the land or whose living depends upon agriculture and farming. Pray for good follow up rain for the remainder of the year and a bumper harvest.

Bible verse and prayer for today

May God give you heaven's dew and earth's richness—an abundance of grain and new wine.
Genesis 27:28

*All things look to you, O Lord, to give them their food in due season:
look in mercy on all your people and hear our prayer for those whose lives and possessions
are threatened by drought. In your mercy restore your creation and heal our land.
So guide and bless your people that we may enjoy the fruits of the earth
and give you thanks with grateful hearts,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (APBA p205)*

Day 29

National Church: Theological Colleges and Church schools throughout Australia: pray that many more will offer themselves as candidates for ministry and that our church schools will not be 'church' in name only, but places where the gospel is proclaimed and lived out.

Bathurst Diocese: Members of Bishop-in-Council and the Bishop's Leadership Team for wisdom and a gospel basis for all their decisions. We also pray for Trustees and members of the Boards of the Anglican Property Trust (APT) and the Anglican Managed Investment Fund (AMIF) along with the Endowment of the See, that they will be wise stewards of all that has been entrusted to them.

Local needs: Pray for the ministries through and in Op Shops around our Diocese, that they will be centres that spread the love of Jesus.

Bible verse and prayer for today

Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Matthew 5:42

*Almighty God,
we thank you for your holy word.
May it be a lantern to your feet,
a light to our paths, and strength to our lives,
in the name of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord*

Day 30

National Church: Mission agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia, that they will be faithful to their charter and effective in proclaiming the gospel and helping those in need.

Bathurst Diocese: For our Covenanting partner, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Bathurst. Bishop Michael McKenna, clergy and people, that Jesus would remain central. And for our working together with the Uniting Church in the Macquarie-Darling Presbytery, that we will be united in purpose around in Jesus and effective in working together.

Local needs: Pray for those who are unemployed or without rewarding work that they will not lose hope but run to Jesus the perfect Hope.

Bible verse and prayer for today

And call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honour me. Psalm 50:15

*Lord, keep us alert:
to the needs of those around us who become lost in modern life
to the overworked person, weary and exhausted;
to the unemployed person, scared and confused;
to the bewildered person who needs encouragement;
and to our own needs as the path becomes rough.
Give us, we pray, not what we ask
but what we truly need.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Day 31

National Church: Christian communities, vowed and lay working within the Anglican Church of Australia, that we would read the Bible and come to God in prayer each day.

Bathurst Diocese: for the Province of NSW with the Dioceses of Sydney, Canberra and Goulburn, the Riverina, Grafton, Newcastle, Armidale and our own Diocese of Bathurst. Pray that we might be faithful and true Anglicans, focused on the truth of God's word and joyful reality of the resurrection of Jesus.

Local needs: Pray for the United Nations: Secretary General Antonio Guterres, for its role as a peace-maker and peace-keeper and in aid. Pray that it will be effective to its aims and objectives, for the good of humanity.

Bible verse and prayer for today

He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

Isaiah 2:4

*Eternal God, in whose perfect realm
no sword is drawn but the sword of righteousness and no strength known but the strength of
love: so guide and inspire the work of those who seek your kingdom
that all your people may find their security in that love that casts out all fear
and in the fellowship revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen*

[The Anglican Cycle of Prayer can be downloaded from the Anglican Communion website](#)