

PRAYER AND BIBLE READING DIARY
15th JANUARY TO 4TH MARCH 2026

SUN 22 FEB 1st Sunday of Lent Gen 2:15-17 & 3:1-7, Rom 5:12-19, Matt 4:1-11, Psalm 32 We give thanks for all who contribute to our worship: preachers, service leaders, readers, musicians, flower arrangers, cleaners, sides people.

MON 23 FEB Gen 41:25-45, Gal 3:23-4:7, Psalm 11 We pray for King Charles asking that he be strengthened to meet every demand which his office makes. We continue to pray for reconciliation between members of the royal family.

TUES 24 FEB Gen 41:46-42:5, Gal 4:8-20, Psalm 44 We pray for Jennifer as she takes a school assembly today, that the children would respond enthusiastically and learn more about the Lord.

WED 25 FEB Gen 42:6-17, Gal 4:21-5:1, Psalm 6 We pray for all of our treasurers and give thanks for their service. May they be guided as to how best steward the resources of our churches.

THURS 26 FEB Gen 42:18-28, Gal 5:2-15, Psalm 42 So many countries seem to be experiencing unrest and/or war. We pray for armed forces who are protecting their land from attack, for the displaced and homeless, for the injured and bereaved and for negotiators trying to bring peace or a ceasefire.

FRI 27 FEB Gen 42:29-end, Gal 5:16-end, Psalm 22 We pray for all of our armed forces to be well prepared and trained, and ready to deal courageously with any situation that they face. We are thankful for their service and ask for their protection.

SAT 28 FEB Gen 43:1-15, Gal 6, Psalm 63 We pray for all couples attending the wedding preparation sessions today. May each couple be encouraged and strengthened in their relationship.

SUN 1 MAR 2nd Sunday of Lent, Gen 12:1-4a, Rom 4:1-5 & 13-17, John 3:1-17, Psalm 121 We give thanks for the 3 children being baptised at St John's today. May they grow to know and love the Lord Jesus. We pray for their families and godparents as they nurture these children in their faith.

MON 2 MAR Gen 43:16-end, Heb 1, Psalm 32 We pray for government ministers as they make decisions about allocation of funds for our armed forces.

TUES 3 MAR Gen 44:1-17, Heb 2:1-9, Psalm 50 During Lent, let us consider what gifts the Lord would have us offer to build up our churches such that we may all grow in faith and love together.

WED 4 MAR Gen 44:18-end, Heb 2:10-end, Psalm 35 We give thanks for Peter Raine's willingness to keep the benefice website up to date. We pray that the website would be well used and informative, especially for people who are new to the area.

THURS 15 JAN Gen 3, Matt 22:1-14, Psalm 21 We pray for Jennifer as she begins a period of annual leave. We give thanks for her and ask for this time away to be restorative and refreshing.

FRI 16 JAN Gen 4:1-16 & 25-26, Matt 22:15-33, Psalm 67 We pray for those across the benefice who are struggling in body, mind or spirit. May they know the comfort and healing presence of the Lord.

SAT 17 Gen 6:1-10, Matt 22:34-end, Psalm 33 We pray for guidance for the Church of England and the House of Bishops as they lead the church in our nation. We pray for continued work towards transparency and for moral leadership to bring hope to people's lives.

SUN 18 JAN Isa 49:1-7, 1 Cor 1:1-9, John 1:29-42, Psalm 40 We pray for strength and inspiration for Bishop Vincent as he leads the Nyaruguru Diocese in Rwanda and for his wife, Concessa and their family.

MON 19 JAN Gen 6:11-7:10, Matt 24:1-14, Psalm 146 We give thanks for all who serve on our parish councils. We pray for strength and wisdom for those who are working diligently to oppose detrimental planning proposals, which would affect our villages.

TUES 20 JAN Gen 7:11-end, Matt 24:15-28, Psalm 132 We pray for church members who can no longer attend church because of ill health. Guide us in our contacts and visits with them so that they continue to feel part of our communities.

WED 21 JAN Gen 8:1-14, Matt 24:29-end, Psalm 81 We pray for our bishops, Philip, Rhiannon and Kelly as they minister across the diocese.

THURS 22 JAN Gen 8:15-9:7, Matt 25:1-13, Psalm 76 We pray for our church wardens: for strength and perseverance and for unity as they work together to update documentation.

FRI 23 JAN Gen 9:8-19, Matt 25:14-30, Psalm 27 We continue to pray for wisdom and courage for peers in the House of Lords as they scrutinise the assisted suicide bill. We pray that this bill will not be passed.

SAT 24 JAN Gen 11:1-9, Matt 25:31-end, Psalm 122 We pray for Archbishop of Canterbury designate, Bishop Sarah Mullally as she prepares to become the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury.

SUN 25 JAN Isa 9:1-4, 1 Cor 1;10-18, Matt 4:12-23, Psalm 27 We pray for Mata Parish in the Nyaruguru Parish in Rwanda and for success for the project which is underway to refurbish the roof and lightning rod for the church.

MON 26 JAN Conversion of Paul, Jer 1:4-10, Acts 9:1-22, Psalm 67 We give thanks for Paul's ministry, letters and sacrificial ministry to others. May we follow his example in our everyday lives.

TUES 27 JAN Gen 13:2-end, Matt 26:17-35, Psalm 36 Today is Holocaust Remembrance Day. We pray for the survivors of the holocaust and their families and for all who work to prevent prejudice and persecution.

WED 28 JAN Gen 14, Matt 26:36-46, Psalm 46 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble." We pray for those who have been recently bereaved that they would know the Lord's comfort and security as they grieve.

THURS 29 JAN Gen 15, Matt 26:47-56, Psalm 47 We give thanks for NHS staff and emergency responders. We pray for resilience and patience as they work in difficult circumstances and for times of rest and restoration.

FRI 30 JAN Gen 16, Matt 26:57-end, Psalm 65 We pray for peers in the House of Lords debating Clause 191 of the Crime and Policing Bill which would permit self induced abortion at any stage of gestation and for any reason. We pray that this would be strongly opposed.

SAT 31 JAN Gen 17:1-22, Matt 27:1-10, Psalm 68 "Summon your power, O God; show us your strength, O God, as you have done before." We pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted and marginalised because of their faith, that you would protect and sustain them.

SUN 1 FEB 1 Kings 17:8-16, 1 Cor 1:18-end, John 2:1-11, Psalm 36 We pray for St John's church community and for God's blessing on the baptism service planned for today.

MON 2 FEB Gen 18:1-15, Matt 27:11-26, Psalm 1 We pray that, especially during this season of Lent, we would delight ourselves in the law of the Lord and meditate on it day and night, as today's psalm suggests.

TUES 3 FEB Gen 18:16-end, Matt 27:27-44, Psalm 5 We pray for clergy attending the Deanery Chapter meeting today, that they would receive encouragement and inspiration.

WED 4 FEB Gen 19:1-3 & 12-29, Matt 27:45-56, Psalm 119:1-32 We give thanks for the OAP lunch at St Mary's Hall today. May this be a good time of sharing and fellowship.

THURS 5 FEB Gen 21:1-21, Matt 27:57-end, Psalm 15 We pray for our borough and county councillors, that they would make wise decisions for the common good and be good stewards of resources.

FRI 6 FEB Gen 22:1-19, Matt 28:1-15, Psalm 19 We give thanks for signs of spring and new growth and for the beauty of the snowdrops appearing in St Martin's churchyard. May those who come to see them, also be aware of your presence in the church.

SAT 7 FEB Gen 23, Matt 28:16-end, Psalm 23 We pray for people struggling financially that they would be able to trust you for your provision. We pray for local agencies who give financial advice and practical help.

SUN 8 FEB Gen 1:1-2:3, Rom 8:18-25, Matt 6:25-end, Psalm 136 We pray for another project in the Nyaruguru Diocese – the expansion of the capacity of

the cathedral in Kibeho. We praise God that the diocese has outgrown the building.

MON 9 FEB Gen 29:31-30:24, 2 Tim 4:1-8, Psalm 30 We pray for the Lord's leading in the business of St John's PCC meeting today.

TUES 10 FEB Gen 31:1-24, 2 Tim 4:9-end, Psalm 36 We pray for the church wardens and PCC members of Farleigh parish as they meet this evening, for wisdom in all decision making.

We pray for spiritual understanding for the children as they attend Jennifer's school assembly today.

WED 11 FEB Gen 31:25-32:2, Titus 1, Psalm 34 We pray for the deanery synod meeting tonight: for good fellowship and discussion.

THURS 12 FEB Gen 32:3-30, Titus 2, Psalm 37 'Help us to be reverent in the way we live: to be self-controlled and pure.' (see *Titus* 2:3 & 5)

FRI 13 FEB Gen 33:1-17, Titus 3, Psalm 31 Let us be thankful for the kindness and love of God and for all his blessings to us. We ask him to help us to live a life of gratitude, thanking him each day.

SAT 14 FEB Gen 35, Philemon, Psalm 42 We give thanks for our marriages and relationships. May we be loving, quick to forgive and accepting of each other.

SUN 15 FEB Ex 24:12-end, 2 Peter 1;16-end, Matt 17:1-9, Psalm 2 We pray for the 3rd project in the Nyaruguru Diocese – to begin work on the provision of the Diocesan Gatehouse that will provide accommodation for visitors to diocesan headquarters for training and fellowship.

MON 16 FEB Gen 37:1-11, Gal 1, Psalm 44 We ask for guidance for the Candover PCC as it meets tonight.

TUES 17 FEB Gen 37:12-end, Gal 2:1-10, Psalm 48 We pray for the pancake Party at St Leonard's church today. May this be a time of fun but also learning more about our loving God.

WED 18 FEB Ash Wednesday Dan 9:3-6 & 17-19, 1 Tim 6:6-19, Psalm 38 As we begin this time of Lent, let us seek the Lord with our whole hearts, in repentance, prayer and reflection.

THURS 19 FEB Gen 39, Gal 2:11-end, Psalm 77 We pray for guidance for our Prime Minister and all who serve in government. We pray for stability and that they would govern wisely with the finite resources available.

FRI 20 FEB Gen 40, Gal 3:1-14, Psalm 3 We hear many unsettling news items from around the world. We pray for stability in global relationships and for governments to seek the Lord for direction. "From the Lord comes deliverance. May your blessing be on you people." *Psalm* 3 v 8

SAT 21 FEB Gen 41:1-24, Gal 3;15-22, Psalm 71 We give thanks for our links with the Nyaruguru Diocese and pray for financial provision for the projects being undertaken. So far half of the finances have been raised.