Diocese of Hereford ... Sunday Prayers (24th March to 5th May)

24TH MARCH - PALM SUNDAY

Anglican The Province of West Africa.

Hereford Pray for all that encourages and nurtures vocation, and all who

advise and mentor those who feel a call to ministries of various kinds,

and help them to access training and experience.

Porvoo Sweden: Lund; Ireland: Cashel, Ossory & Ferns; England: Ely.

The Wider View Pray for world peace, for the many nations divided by civil conflict,

and for those attacked by others. Pray for efforts to provide refuge and humanitarian aid to those trapped in war zones or forced to

leave their land and homes.

This Week In **Holy Week** give thanks that Christ in human frailty walked the road

we walk; may we walk in the way of his suffering, and come to share

in his resurrection.

Today is **World TB Day**: pray for the co-operation needed among nations, and the investment, to ensure this disease is beaten.

Monday is **FND** (Functional Neurological Disorder) Awareness Day.

Pray for better access to specialist and appropriate care for all who

contract this dangerous and disabling disease.

Purple Day (Tuesday) raises awareness of epilepsy: pray for all who

live with this condition, and for their care and support.

In the week of the **Chrism Eucharist** pray for all who exercise ministry and that our churches may be a serving and healing presence in the

communities in which we minister.

Wednesday is **World Theatre Day**: pray for all who bring theatre to our communities, giving thanks for the Hereford Passion earlier this month, in which the story of this week was vividly told anew.

31ST MARCH - EASTER DAY

Anglican The Province of the West Indies.

Hereford The Ledbury Deanery.

Porvoo Ireland: Armagh; Denmark: Funen.

The Wider View Pray for Bishop Elisabeth and all our partners in Nuremberg, as they

face the challenge of falling revenues post-Covid, and re-organise parishes and cut posts. Pray for the parish of Langwasser, twinned with St Laurence's Church, Ludlow, who face a long vacancy following the

retirement of Pastor Jörg Gunsenheimer..

This Week On **Easter Day** may the glory of the Resurrection touch our hearts

afresh, restore our hope and inspire us to praise and service.

May **All Fools' Day**, Monday, remind us that the foolishness of God is wiser than all human wisdom. Like Paul may we be ready to know

nothing but Christ, and him crucified.

Tuesday is **World Autism Acceptance Day**. People with autism still face barriers and discrimination. Pray for better understanding, and for

guidance and support.

April is **Stress Awareness Month**, a significant public health challenge; pray for stress to be taken seriously as a health issue, and for dialogue and safe space.

As **Parkinson's Awareness Month** begins, pray for all who live with the disease, and for better awareness of its signs, to enable early diagnosis and therefore a better quality of life.

International **Children's Book Day** is on Tuesday: pray for all who encourage children to read, and for all who write for children.

Pray that those who visit our churches at Easter may feel welcomed, affirmed and refreshed.

7TH APRIL - EASTER 2

Anglican The Episcopal Anglican Province of Alexandria.

Hereford Pray for our ministry with children, young people and families; also

for our church schools, and all that helps develop fruitful links

between church and school.

Porvoo Sweden: Uppsala; Wales: Llandaff.

The Wider View Pray for the national vaccination of children campaign in Tanzania,

instituted after measles outbreaks in various parts since 2022. There is still some mistrust of vaccination: pray that all children may

receive the healthcare and protection they need.

This Week On World Health Day, with the theme "My health, my right," pray

that the right of people everywhere to access quality health services, safe drinking water, clean air and good nutrition may be upheld by

all, and for all in our world who lack good basic healthcare. Tuesday commemorates **Dietrich Bonhoeffer**, a founder of the

Confessing Church that opposed the Nazi regime. Pray for all who in faith stand against oppression and in support of the marginalised.

campaigns and information to ensure awareness and early diagnosis.

raith stand against oppression and in support of the marginalised. Pray for people receiving treatment for **bowel cancer**, and for

William Law, remembered on Wednesday, wrote 'A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life' and other works that influenced the leaders of the great Evangelical Revival of the 18th Century. May thankfulness to God be the basis from which all our work and witness springs, a

theme in much of Law's writing.

As schools start their **summer term**, pray for all who teach and all who learn, and for those with important exams ahead.

14TH APRIL - EASTER 3

Anglican The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia.

Hereford The Leominster Deanery.

Porvoo England: Derby; Ireland: Clogher; Denmark: Aalborg.

The Wider View Pray for the Wilhelm-Löhe-Schule and the Hans Sachs Gymnasium in

Nuremberg and their contacts, past and present, with schools here; pray for the growing number of schools linked through Coventry's

International Cross of Nails (ICON) fellowship.

This Week

Monday is **Microvolunteering Day** - "bite-sized, on-demand, no commitment actions that benefit a worthy cause." Pray for all who do give of their time and ability as volunteers, and for more to join in. Tuesday is **World Voice Day**. May we may use our powers to speak and communicate with care and consideration.

Wednesday is **World Haemophilia Day**. Pray for a better awareness of these inherited disorders, for better diagnosis and for the millions

who remain without access to care and treatment.

Pray for **Early Years Teachers** and for nursery and early years reception provision in our schools, in the very important first years. Pray for those who provide and maintain **sports facilities** in our towns and villages, and those who teach and coach young people.

Pray for all who care for and use our village and community halls.

21ST APRIL - EASTER 4

Anglican The Anglican Church of Australia.

Hereford Pray we may develop and improve shared ministry in our churches,

and for the Local Ministry Scheme.

Porvoo England: Blackburn; Scotland: Brechin; The Lutheran Church in Great

Britain.

The Wider View The issue of migrants in small boats remains in the news, and is likely

to feature as an election issue. Nearly all who come in boats seek asylum, with some two-thirds of claims typically accepted, but there remains a backlog of unprocessed claims. The "peak season" for such crossings begins in May. Pray for all in genuine need of refuge.

This Week

Pray for those running in today's **London Marathon**, especially for

those running to help charities.

International Mother Earth Day (Monday) seeks to raise awareness of the challenges we face, and of our responsibility to the natural world, and to future generations of humanity.

Tuesday is **St George's Day**: pray we may be proud of our heritage, and may we express our national pride in a generous spirit that honours the rights and freedoms of all.

Beep Beep Day in Wednesday aims to teach young children basic road safety skills, and to ensure parents and carers know what is good practice.

Thursday is **World Malaria Day**: pray for the continued fight against this major killer disease, and for the investment and political commitment will be needed for effective prevention and control. The poet **Christina Rossetti** is remembered on Saturday. Give thanks for all who by their poetry inspire our thought, prayers and praise.

28TH APRIL - EASTER 5

Anglican The Church of Bangladesh. Hereford The Ludlow Deanery.

Porvoo Sweden: Gothenburg; Scotland: Glasgow & Galloway.

The Wider View Pray for the "Train a Priest" scheme in Tanzania supported by our diocese to pay fees for students from our four link dioceses to train at St Mark's Theological College, Dar es Salaam. Pray for continued support and for all currently training for ordination.

This Week

This is the World Day for **Safety at Work**. Pray for all whose work involves risk and danger, and for the highest standards of safety. Time for a Cuppa Week begins on Wednesday, an initiative of Dementia UK. Pray for a greater understanding of dementia in its various forms, and for all living with dementia, friends and families. **Philip and James**, apostles commemorated on Wednesday, played their part in the founding of the Church. Pray that in our day we may be true to the example of faith, courage and devotion set by those first Apostles.

Thursday, including the election of Police Commissioners locally. Pray for all who experience mental health problems in early motherhood - depression and anxiety are the most common mental health problems in pregnancy. Pray for care and support. Pray for all working to improve the cleanliness of our rivers and streams. Outfalls of sewage and runoffs from agricultural land have had a greater impact after the unusually wet winter and early spring.

Pray for the **local elections** take place in many parts of the country on

5TH MAY - EASTER 6 ROGATION SUNDAY

Anglican Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brasil.

Give thanks for the ecumenical, interfaith and international links that Hereford

help define and locate us as a diocese; pray their development.

Porvoo England: Southwark; Norway: Björgvin.

The Wider View

Climate change is having a negative impact on all forms of farming in Tanzania. There is an increased frequency of extreme events, such as drought and flooding, and a decline in soil fertility. Pray for small farmers struggling to cope with change, and for families divided as men migrate to urban areas in search of employment.

This Week

On **Dawn Chorus Day**, give thanks for the beauty of birdsong, and pray for the protection of songbirds and their habitats.

At Rogationtide, pray we may serve our Creator in our careful use of what he has placed into our hands.

As we approach the "**Thy Kingdom Come**" days of prayer starting on Ascension Day, may we draw closer ourselves to God as we consider those we shall pray may come to know him better.

Tuesday is World **Asthma Day**. Pray for all who live with asthma, for their care and treatment, and for cleaner and healthier air.

Pray for the work of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent, in places of need and trouble around the world.

On Ascension Day, may we honour Christ as our King, and wait in hope and prayer for the gifting of his Holy Spirit.