



Weekly Intercessions



in the Scottish Episcopal Church
in the Charges of St Margaret, Renfrew & St John, Johnstone
Week beginning Sunday 27 March 2022

Lent 4

The aim of this leaflet is to help you pray at home as part of the Worldwide Anglican family in the Scottish Episcopal Church. Please use this sheet in conjunction with weekly Pewsheets and the SEC Daily Offices of Morning and Evening Prayer.

You can follow these Daily Offices online at
www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/daily-offices/

where you will find Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer each day of the week. All the Psalm and Bible texts are automatically there for the day and any commemoration or Festival.

Zoom Morning Prayer is on the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83241840407?pwd=YnBqWkxEeW5NMlBuTDRmbDc0cFZhUT09>

Tel: 0131 460 1196 Meeting ID: 832 4184 0407 Passcode: 076546
and *6 to unmute on the 'phone

www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk

Prayer for Ukraine



PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

O God, the divine seeker, you are light to the lost, bread to the hungry, deliverance to the captive, healing to the sick, eternal vision to the dying, and harbour to every soul in peril.

Gather all those who are facing fear, hunger, oppression, death and injury through war and violence into the community of your mercy and grace.

We lift up to you those in Ukraine and throughout the world who cry for justice, peace and renewed hope.

Grant us the strength and will that with grace and compassion we may respond with your love.

Amen.

Some prayers for use during the pandemic

God of all mercy and compassion,
life and death are in your hands.

Hear our prayers in this time of illness and infection,
of isolation, fear, and uncertainty:

for the sick, and those weighed down by pain, distress,
loneliness, and anxiety;

for all who care for them, conscious of the risks they bear;

and for those who have responsibility for public health and social order.

Hear the cry of the afflicted and let them be comforted,

so that all who suffer may come to know
that they are joined to the sufferings of Christ,
who gave his life for the salvation of the world;
and by your blessing on them and those who care for them,
may they be restored, according to your will,
to soundness of body and mind,
and offer you joyful thanks in your Church.
Through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God for ever and ever.

God of our Salvation,
you have ordained that we should serve you
in serving one another.
Look upon this nation,
burdened at this time with many cares and anxieties,
with infection, sickness, and untimely death.
Grant us grace to work together,
with honest and faithful hearts,
each caring for the good of all;
that, striving first for your kingdom and its righteousness,
we may have added to us all things that we need
for our daily sustenance
and the common good.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(Based on a prayer of Geoffrey Fisher)

O God, whose love we cannot measure,
nor even number thy blessings:
we bless and praise thee for all thy goodness,
who in our weakness art our strength,
in our darkness, light,
in our sorrows, comfort and peace,
and from everlasting to everlasting art our God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, world without end.

(Supplement to the Indian Book of Common Prayer)

The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked (John 20. 19)

Ever-present God,
be with us in our isolation,
be close to us in our distancing,
be healing in our sickness, be joy in our sadness,
be light in our darkness, be wisdom in our confusion,
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,
that when the doors reopen we may with the zeal of Pentecost
inhabit our communities and speak of your goodness
to an emerging world.
For Jesus' sake.

(A prayer by Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark)

Faith in action (March) – Asylum Seekers

Before presenting some possible suggestions about how to help the plight of asylum seekers it is important to consider several popular myths found in the printed media. Many newspapers place particular rhetorical emphasis on the 'hordes' of people attempting to seek asylum in the 'soft touch' UK. However, the actual proportion of people applying for asylum to the UK is actually a minute percentage of the overall worldwide number of asylum seekers and the UNHCR calculates that the UK receives less than 0.5% of the total world population of refugees.

Another common view in the press is that asylum seekers drain the resources of local authorities which could have been spent on tax-paying citizens. However, this is again fallacious, since funding for asylum seekers comes from central Government, not local authorities' budgets. Finally it is vital to emphasise that despite media attempts to demonise asylum seekers, the vast majority of people seeking asylum are genuine, scared and desperate people who are seeking refuge often from countries where their basic human rights are not respected. Of the thousands of people who apply for asylum, only a thousand or so come to Scotland each year. However, due to government re-organising, this number is set to rise over the next few years.

So, what can we do? It is important to keep yourself informed and up to date with accurate statistics and information about asylum seekers. You can do this very easily by contacting and/or applying for a free e-mail newsletter from the Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium which will give you accurate coverage of the state of affairs in Scotland.

You may wish to try the following:

- pray for asylum seekers
- become a member and support the work of the Scottish Refugee Council
- if a student get in touch with Student Action for Refugees
- donate clothes, blankets, baby clothes, toys and non-perishable foods to charities caring for refugees
- join the Scottish Detainee Visitors' Scheme and visit Dungavel detention centre and support those living there
- write to your MP and MSP regarding the plight of refugees in our country
- become a mentor to an approved refugee as he/she seeks employment

A Prayer

Almighty God,
through your Son, Jesus Christ we are called to
serve the marginalised and vulnerable within
our society.

Give us Your gift of Grace that we might share in
the plight of all asylum seekers and refugees
and open our hearts to them, that Your love
may be known:
through Christ our Lord.
AMEN

Intercessions in the United Charges of St John's Johnstone & St Margaret's Renfrew

Sunday 27 March 2022 intentions – Lent 4

In the Anglican Communion pray for

The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma)

In the SEC we pray for

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: The Lutheran Church in Great Britain.

- St Mary the Virgin, Hamilton; St Andrew's, Uddingston (Matthew Little).
- Episcopalians in isolated parts of the country.
- In the SEI: The Associate Tutors

We pray for the international leaders working for a peaceful outcome in the Ukraine situation and for the people fleeing as refugees.

We pray for Great Britain in welcoming the fleeing refugees as they seek safety and hope.

We pray for an end to the coronavirus pandemic throughout the world.

We pray for those named on our pewsheet – for health, healing, and wholeness in their lives - body, mind and spirit.

We pray on this Mothering Sunday for all “children” visiting and contacting parents today – may today be a day of blessing for all who mark the moments that this day brings us.

In our communities

We pray for people who are thinking of returning to the life of faith as we remember the prodigal son returning to his Father – may they receive the welcome God offers them in those who meet them at the doors of our churches.

We pray for one another as we get used to unrestricted worship in the coming weeks.

We pray for all the households of Renfrew, Inchinnan, Bishopton, Erskine, Johnstone, Kilbarchan and Lochwinnoch facing financial worries because of our current national fuel and food rises in costs.

We pray for our elected Councillors in their work of building up the common life.

Monday 28 March intentions - *comm - Patrick Forbes, Bishop, 1635, and the Aberdeen Doctors, Teachers of the Faith*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kobe – The Nippon Sei Ko Kai

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

- Interfaith Relations (Maggie McTernan).
- Christ Church, Lanark (Drew Sheridan, Robert Burgon, Richard Evans).
- St Paul and St John the Evangelist, Monklands (Kirstin Freeman).
- In the SEI: Members of the Management Committee

In our local Charges

We pray for our ecumenical partners as preparations are made for observing the days of Holy Week together

We pray for St Johns as it looks ahead to the start of the renovation works after Easter.

We pray for each other as we observe the season of Lent – may it be a time of blessing to us all and we pray for the Lent Groups meeting this year.

We pray for the success of the Bishop's Lent Appeal "Children in Crisis" and the SEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

In our communities

We pray for the Library Services as new reforms are under consideration across the UK at this time.

We pray for those who provide support to the homeless and those who are asylum seekers and refugees at a time of individual trauma and fear.

We pray that as we contemplate the parable of the Prodigal Son this week we pray for courage to serve those members of our communities with the open love of the Father in Jesus' parable.

We pray for the local Fire services looking after our areas.

We pray for new priests to apply for the posts being advertised across the diocese at this time.

Tuesday 29 March intentions - *comm - John Keble, Priest, 1866*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Koforidua – The Church of the Province of West Africa (Ghana Province)

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: General Synod Office (John Stuart, Secretary General).
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Provincial Standing Committee & Provincial Boards.
- Chaplaincy in Hospitals, Education and Commerce.
- Anglican Chaplaincy, University of Glasgow (Kelvin Holdsworth, Oliver Brewer-Lennon).
- In the SEI: Revd Dr John McNeil Scott and the staff of the Scottish URC College

In our local Charges

We pray for the spiritual growth of all our Charge members as we observe Lent this year in this fourth week of the season

We pray for our Eucharistic Assistants as they begin to resume their work again this coming Sunday and as we begin to get the opportunity to receive communion in both kinds – may they help us to draw closer into the presence of Christ during our times of gathering.

We pray for the outworking of the 10 Points of Guidance on the Climate Crisis as all our Charges consider their engagement with the changes we are called to consider in our buildings and our lives.

In our communities

We pray for Outreach Workers in their work to offer help and support to people in need.

We pray for students in their learning and development and their lecturers and pastoral carers.

We pray for the Lent groups taking place tomorrow at ST Johns and St Margarets.

Wednesday 30 March intentions – *feria*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kolhapur – The (united) Church of North India

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- The Methodist Church in Scotland (Mark Slaney).
- The United Reformed Church (Paul Whittle).
- EMU Partnership Agreement.
- In the SEI: Mixed Mode Supervisors and Placement Supervisors

In our local Charges

We pray for each other that we may keep a good LENT in 2022 and for our Lent groups taking place today.

We pray for peace in the Ukraine and for all those people who have loved ones who have been injured in the warring, and those fleeing to seek a place of safety.

We pray for the world leaders in the sanctions and decisions they are making to try and bring a resolution to the events that are happening. We pray for single people in our Charge lives that we may delight in the gifts and talents they bring to our Churches lives.

In our communities

We pray for Union Officers in the work of negotiations to bring supportive working practises across all sectors to provide security and care in the work place.

We pray for Safe Houses for people who have suffered Domestic Violence.

We pray for our governments in dealing with the international leaders in bringing a resolution to the Ukraine situation and helping those trying to flee for a new life.

Thursday 31 March intentions - feria

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kollam – Kottarakkara – The (united) Church of South India

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- The Anglican Communion.
- The Primates' Meeting.
- The Anglican Consultative Council (Alistair Dinnie).
- In the SEI: SEI staff

In our local Charges

We pray for St Johns Vestry as they think about how to discern God's call to use the renovated building after Easter – may we have vision and clarity of thought.

We pray for the young people who are part of our Charges' lives may they be encouraged to join in the life of the Province in the Youth Camp.

We pray for our Ecumenical Partners in mission as we look towards gatherings to mark Holy Week this year.

We pray for a desire to see our Charges grow in numbers.

We pray for a vision for the future of our Charges, and an understanding of God's call to us in the coming years.

In our communities

We pray for labourers, trades-people, delivery drivers, postal deliverers and those who look after our open spaces.

We pray for people who are seeking a job at this time.

We pray for people who staff 'help lines' to offer support to people in the community.



Friday 1 April intentions – feria

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kondoia – The Anglican Church of Tanzania

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Scottish Episcopal Church: Those in training for ordained and lay ministries.

- Bishop Gregor Duncan, Bishop Idris Jones, Bishop Gordon Mursell, all retired clergy and those in Post-Retiral Ministry.
- The Church of Scotland.
- The Roman Catholic Church in Scotland.
- In the SEI: Niccolò Aliano, Diocese of Edinburgh, Mixed Mode ordinand

In our local Charges

We pray for our engagement with the season of Lent in 2022 and all who are fasting on this Friday in Lent

We pray for young people in our Charges – may they grow into maturity of faith in Christ Jesus

We pray for the life of our Region of Renfrewshire

We pray for our National response to the fleeing Ukrainian refugees and Scotland in being a leading light in providing support and help.

In our communities

We pray for the gift of enlivened faith in our Communities.

We pray for people living with physical pain in their bodies and the health staff who help them manage it function well day by day.

We pray for the local hospitals and their recruitment for new staff and the care they offer their staff.

We pray for our giving to the Bishop's Lent Appeal and the SEC Ukrain Humanitarian Appeal.

Saturday 2 April 2022 intentions – *feria*

In the Anglican Communion we pray for

The Diocese of Kongor – The Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan (Jonglei Province)

In the SEC

- Bishop Kevin Pearson, Bishop of the United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.
- Porvoo Link: The Estonian Evangelical Lutheran Church.
- Pastoral Assistants, Eucharistic Assistants, Worship Leaders and Spiritual Companions in the Diocese.

- North Ayrshire Team: St Andrew's, Ardrossan; St Peter's, Dalry (Lee Johnston, Linda Whitby, Margaret Williams).
- In the SEI: Val Cameron, Diocese of Edinburgh, diaconal ordinand
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In our local Charges

We pray for Bishop Kevin in his ministry across our Diocese and as he leads us through the coming weeks and months – we pray for his safety in travelling around to visit the

We pray for all members of the Scottish Episcopal Church, that we may keep a good Lent.

We pray for the growth of our Charges: may St Johns renovation works come to safe completion and may St Margarets reach out in fresh ways to the people of Renfrew.

In our communities

We pray for all social clubs and communities who are seeking to keep people happy and engaged with life.

We pray for Scotland in the preparations of welcoming Ukrainian Refugees.

We pray for our First Minister Nicola as she leads Scotland.

We pray for renewed vision for the future of our Charges as we look to serving Christ as we emerge from the pandemic.

We pray for a peaceful end to the warring in Ukraine and for our World Leaders as they seek to negotiate a way forward and offer a home to those who are fleeing – may we be generous with our homes, our space, our time and our money as we seek to offer support to those whose lives have been devastated.



We Pray for Alton Abbey as they consider the way ahead, and the future ministry offered there.

May the Abbot, Chapter and Governing Body have courage and wisdom in the decisions they face.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our Prayer

From Alton Abbey Hampshire – Benedictine Foundation

Prayers of Union

For those in pain or sorrow:

For those in doubt or fear:

For all bishops, priests and deacons:

For all monks and nuns:

For all members of our Confraternity:

For the unity of all Christians:

May all who honour you,

Saint Benedict, Father of monks,

Mother of Jesus, pray.

Know the power of your prayer.

Pray for us and all children.

Lord, arouse in your Church

the spirit which guided our holy father Benedict.

Fill us with that spirit and grant that we may love what he loved and put into practice what he taught.

Help us to be steadfast in the service of your will,

that we may grow in number and holiness.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



Leading your Church
into Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings growth to your
Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to you,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Everybody is invited and welcome
but household by household and online
at this time of COVID-19 sadly!



The SEC is dedicated to becoming a welcoming, open and inclusive spiritual environment for all people- irrespective of gender, sexual and sexuality identities. We seek to offer a place for you to connect with the true self that we believe God has made you. If you feel different – welcome! We are different because we believe that as we walk with Jesus Christ together our lives are transformed and find fresh meaning and purpose, sharing in the gift of life as we know it now. You have found a new home and family to grow and flourish- welcome!



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