

## **For your prayers**

*God of love, may we serve you radically, going beyond what is expected of us to love and serve those around us. As we look towards Good Friday, we think about the sacrifice you made for us. We ask that you help us to live sacrificially in response. May we follow and serve; lovingly, graciously and wholeheartedly.*

Today the Primates' Task Group calls for a period of prayer and repentance in the Anglican Communion. Pray for Archbishop Justin, for our bishops Graham, Alan and Jonathan. Pray for our vicar, Janet, and for Assistant Priest, Hilary, as they strive in these exceptional times to minister to the people of these parishes. Continue to pray for Christians living in fear of persecution or death, because of their faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pray for our world, for a restoration of peace in all areas where there is war, conflict or tension. Continue to pray for the people of the Middle East, particularly in Syria, and for all living in the troubled parts of Africa. Pray for all risking their lives to support them, for peace-keepers, aid-workers and the voluntary medical services. Pray that people of differing ethnic groups or faiths will learn to live together in peace and harmony. Pray for all who are making crucial decisions over the coronavirus pandemic, may they always seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit and work for the good of all people.

Pray for God's blessing on our homes, for our loved ones, families and friends, for the cleansing and renewing activity of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Pray for all families which are apart. Pray for paramedics, and for all in our local medical centres and hospitals who are under tremendous pressure at this difficult time, particularly those who are in direct contact with patients displaying contagious symptoms.

Pray for all sick and suffering persons everywhere. Pray for the patients in the Community Hospital and for the residents of our nursing and care homes. Pray for all vulnerable children and adults, and for all who care for them. Pray for the elderly and for all with respiratory ailments which put them at greater risk of infection from the coronavirus, for their families and all who care for them. Remember all whose names are placed on our Intercessions Boards.

**THE SICK** – Henry Clark, Darcey T aylor, Pernille Henman, Judy Ison, Michelle Morano, Pauline Henman, Mary Avis, Sarah Inman, Andrew Nairn, John Hoskin, Gill Ching, John Harris. Pray also for Lucy Wilkinson, Judy Walder, Toni Groom, Jenny Luck, Neil Hopkins, Paul Goodman, Rick Richards, Rosemary Skea, Beverley Gardam, Elizabeth Fooks, Brian & Audrey McGuinness, Revd Tim Lawes, Frances Smith, Pat Inman.

**THE DEPARTED** – Vic Tucker, Elaine Spittles, Veronica Maslen, Patricia Cocksedge.

Pray for all mourning the loss of a loved one.

Please refer to the Diocesan website, [www.dioceseofnorwich.org](http://www.dioceseofnorwich.org) for additional prayers.

## **The Parishes of Swaffham and Sporle**

Vicar: Rev'd Janet Allan

Assistant Priest: Rev'd Hilary De Lyon

Readers: Julia Richardson, Andy Mash

[www.swaffhamparishchurch.org](http://www.swaffhamparishchurch.org)

**Parish News for week beginning 29.03.2020**

*In accordance with the Archbishops' instruction, St. Peter & St. Paul, Swaffham, and St. Mary the Virgin, Sporle, are closed until further notice*

### **Sun 30.03.2020 9.30am Passion Sunday**

Revd Janet will celebrate the Eucharist from the Vicarage on our behalf and livestream it on Facebook on this site.

### **VE Day Celebration**

We have heard from the Swaffham Town Council this week that the planned VE Day celebrations have been cancelled.

### **Covid-19 contact**

As we have reached the stage where we have been instructed to close our churches we would like to be able to offer prayers with you. Please email Revd Janet at [revdjanetallan@gmail.com](mailto:revdjanetallan@gmail.com) with your name, phone no. Email address and home address indicating if you would like to receive a prayer booklet. If you are not on email Revd Janet can be reached on 01760 622241.

Revd Janet would also like to be contacted if you would be willing to volunteer to bring shopping to a self-isolating person. (To be left at the door, no direct contact would be required or expected.) You would be contacted to reaffirm your availability before being asked to assist.

### **The 2020 Bishops' Lent Appeal**

This year's Diocesan Lent Appeal is focussed on the Diocese of Dogura in Papua New Guinea with which the Norwich Diocese is linked. The appeal is to raise funds for them to purchase a vehicle. There is no transport to and from major towns in an essentially rural area. The Rt Revd Tennyson Bogar, Bishop of Dogura, has said it is one of the most urgent needs of the people at this time. The Norwich Diocese wishes to support their ministry as they provide education and essential medical attention for their local community. At present, unreliable external transportation often makes people late for crucial appointments and meetings, as well as separating the schools and medical staff from easy access to much needed resources. A car would be a huge support for them so that they will be able to reach those around them, lend aid, give support and share the Gospel. You can make a contribution by sending your donation to Norwich Board of Finance, Diocesan House, 109 Dereham Road, Easton, Norwich. NR9 5ES.