

PRAYER AND NEWS UPDATE

ABOUT THREE
THOUSAND WERE
ADDED TO THEIR
NUMBER THAT DAY.

ACTS 2:41



A COVID-safe drive-in church service at St Paul's Leamington Spa, a CPAS patronage church.

LATEST UPDATE:
SUPPORTING THE MINISTRIES OF CPAS

Every church
a pathway
to faith



Every leader
a catalyst for
evangelism



Every child
the chance to
explore Jesus



Every Christian
a courageous
witness



CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Our mission is to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ through the ministry of local churches.

REVIVAL BORN OF PRAYER



The story of evangelical revival in the middle of the 19th century is a fascinating read for all of us who are interested in church growth. Firstly, it strikes me that this was not just 'in house', but rather a society-wide transformation that included the launch of schools, the reformation of working conditions and the furtherance of global missions. Secondly, that it was born in prayer: more specifically, it was born in the prayers of normal people in local situations.

In the Midlands, a Warwickshire woman held cottage prayer meetings in a number of local villages. In Wiltshire, half a dozen villagers met together to pray in their local chapel. In Northern Ireland, a warehouse worker called James McQuilkin met with three of his friends in an old schoolhouse to pray for the lost. And in each case, what followed was an extraordinary harvest of souls entering the kingdom of heaven.

Martyn Lloyd Jones once suggested that revival is a return to the 'old well' of Pentecost. And if Acts 2 is our template, then we once again note the prayers of 'normal' people in a local place. The disciples were not national leaders, religious figures or nobility. They were everyday people – called by God and hungry for his kingdom. And it was their prayers that God answered – and 3,000 came to faith in Christ.

Thank you for using this update to guide and inspire your prayers for CPAS. Let's pray together that God will do a saving work in the lives of men, women and children across the UK and Republic of Ireland.

A blue ink handwritten signature that reads "John Dunnett".

John Dunnett,
General Director

All Bible quotations taken from
the New International Version.



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28 FEBRUARY – 6 MARCH

LEEDS DIOCESE CURATES

This weekend, I am looking forward to meeting online with over 60 curates from Leeds diocese to deliver training on team building, enabling others and mentoring.'

Graham Archer, Director of Ministry



Graham Archer,
Director of Ministry

YOU ARE
A LETTER FROM
CHRIST, THE RESULT OF
OUR MINISTRY, WRITTEN
NOT WITH INK BUT WITH THE
SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD,
NOT ON TABLETS OF STONE
BUT ON TABLETS OF
HUMAN HEARTS.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:3

Prayer points:

- The weekend is for curates at all stages of curacy. Pray particularly for those at the start of their first role, and those nearing the end who are looking for their first incumbency.
- Pray that the curates and all those they invest in will be like 'letters from Christ' (2 Corinthians 3:3), bringing glory to God and drawing those around them to Christ.
- CPAS' Lead On email will be sent to nearly 7,000 leaders this Wednesday, with an article on church planting and a review of Justyn Terry's The Five Phases of Leadership. Pray that this blesses thousands of leaders.

7-13 MARCH

ARROW LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The 24 Christian leaders were due to take part in their second residential this week. This has been moved online, with Bible teaching from Jonathan Lamb and sessions from Sandra Cobbin, Ian Parkinson, James Lawrence and Jo McKee.

HIS
COMPASSIONS
NEVER FAIL. THEY
ARE NEW EVERY
MORNING; GREAT IS YOUR
FAITHFULNESS.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23

Matt Hustwayte, new
Arrow Programme Manager



Prayer points:

- Pray for Sandra, Ian, James and Jo as they deliver input on personal development, leadership, evangelism and personal vision. Pray also for Jonathan as he leads the Bible teaching.
- Ask God to bless new Arrow Programme Manager Matt Hustwayte as he oversees the practical arrangements and technical set up for the first time.
- The participants represent a range of contexts with seven vicars, eleven curates, four youth and children's ministers, a pioneer minister and a chaplain! Pray for them as they apply the teaching to their daily roles.

14-20 MARCH

SCHOOL VENTURES

With COVID-19 restrictions making residential weekends impossible at time of writing, we are using this unexpected season to deepen church-school and diocesan partnerships and develop our materials.

School Ventures



BUT THE
PLANS OF THE LORD
STAND FIRM FOR EVER,
THE PURPOSES OF HIS
HEART THROUGH ALL
GENERATIONS.

PSALM 33:11

Prayer points:

- Ask that relationships between the churches and schools would deepen in this time, paving the way for more School Ventures and giving children more chances to explore the Christian faith.
- Pray for staff as they work on materials, training, handbooks and administrative processes in preparation for School Venture weekends starting again.
- Ask God to plant seeds for growth now as we seek to reach our goal for 2025 of running School Ventures for over 3,000 children from 100+ schools with involvement from 50+ churches.

21-27 MARCH

RESILIENCE

This week, James Lawrence is leading sessions for clergy on the topic of resilience:

- **Worcester diocese** (Tuesday):
How we can build our 'resilience quotient' by doing a few simple things.
- **Norwich diocese** (Wednesday):
Handling expectations – our own and those of others.



I WILL
STRENGTHEN
YOU AND HELP YOU;
I WILL UPHOLD YOU
WITH MY RIGHTEOUS
RIGHT HAND.

ISAIAH 41:10

Prayer points:

- Ask that these training events will help clergy in Worcester and Norwich dioceses to build resilience in order to handle tough situations now and throughout their ministry.
- The pandemic has added a new level of stress on clergy. Ask God to help those struggling with exhaustion, low motivation and mental health issues.
- Pray also for the Patronage trustees as they meet on Thursday to shortlist for vacant roles at CPAS patronage churches.

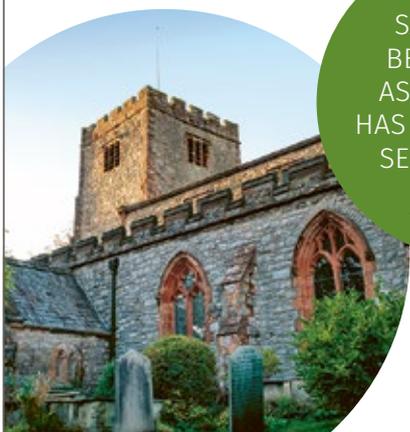
28 MARCH – 3 APRIL

ULVERSTON PARISH CHURCH

Led by Alan Bing, Ulverston Parish Church in Cumbria has been serving the community and sharing God's love in a number of new and creative ways during the pandemic (see next page).

JESUS SAID, 'PEACE BE WITH YOU! AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME, I AM SENDING YOU.'

JOHN 20:21



Prayer points:

- Ask that God would use all that the church is doing in this time to bring many, many more people to a living faith in Jesus Christ.
- Pray for those who are part of the church family, but who are unable to take part virtually or in person at this time. Pray also for the church's outreach to young families.
- Give thanks for Alan, along with youth minister Ruth, curate Madi (pictured left) and other leaders who serve Ulverston and the wider deanery and mission community.

Madi Simpson, Curate (left)
Alan Bing, Rector (pictured on next page)

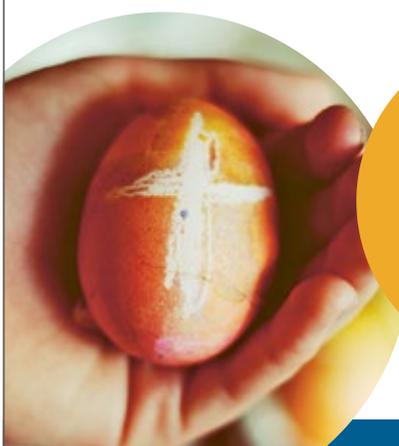
4-10 APRIL

EASTER VENTURES AND FALCONS

Although it is unlikely at time of writing that Easter Ventures and Falcons will take place as residential holidays, there are plans in the pipeline to run online events full of creativity, fun and faith.

HE IS NOT HERE; HE HAS RISEN, JUST AS HE SAID. COME AND SEE THE PLACE WHERE HE LAY.

MATTHEW 28:6



Prayer points:

- Ask God to guide and bless the leaders of the scheduled holidays as they engage with the 8-18s and show them what life with Jesus is like.
- Pray that momentum will not be lost as young people are unlikely to be able to attend Ventures and Falcons in person. Ask that friendships would flourish online.
- Some of the Easter Venture and Falcon leaders also run holidays in the summer. Pray for them as they plan amid change and uncertainty.

FROM THE FRONT LINE



Alan Bing, Rector of Ulverston Parish Church in Cumbria, shares how the church has been reaching out during lockdown.

'In addition to putting worship and activities online, we have been making an extra effort to reach out to our community during lockdown: podcasts and packs for youth and children, phone calls and shopping for the elderly and those shielding, and videos for schools.

'Video assemblies have been welcomed by far more schools than we would normally have reached.

'Other highlights have been our creative, physically-distanced pumpkin party in church, and being able to welcome the Ulverston Food Waste Project into our parish centre, which helps to get food where it's needed and reduce landfill.

'We have found that reaching digital non-natives has been a challenge. We would now love to reconnect with those who have not adapted to online worship nor come back to the church building, and also find ways to build relationships with those we've connected with for the first time.'

Ulverston Parish Church is one of 690 CPAS patronage churches across the UK.

Thank you for your faithful prayers for our work. We'd love to pray for you and your church too! Please email Caroline Davenport (cdavenport@cpas.org.uk) or call the number below to be included in our staff prayers.



Our vital gospel ministry would not be possible without our generous supporters. To make a donation, please visit www.cpas.org.uk/give, send a cheque payable to CPAS or call 0300 123 0780. Thank you.

A BIG THANK YOU!

We're thrilled to announce that an incredible **£67,176** was raised for CPAS, Ventures, Falcons and School Ventures through the Big Give Christmas Challenge. We were also delighted to receive many gifts from those giving to CPAS for the first time.

Thanks to your generous support, we can do so much more to enable men, women and children across the UK and Republic of Ireland to hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ in 2021 and beyond.



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