

Northern Synod 2026 Prayer Calendar – Sundays with Dates

A year of prayer, gratitude, and faithful service across our Synod — rooted in Christ and guided by hope.

January 2026

Sun 04 Jan 2026 — New year, fresh possibilities. Praying for a renewed sense of God's Spirit as we move through 2026.

Praying for those communities this year who will be looking for a new minister: Cleveland Pastorate, North Northumberland and Gosforth.

We remember the church community that closed last year, St Cuthbert's, Heaton. Praying for all those feeling vulnerable as we move into 2026.

Sun 11 Jan 2026 — SCM Holy Island: Revd Kay Blackwell, for the work at the St Cuthbert's Centre alongside the Management Group.

Sun 18–25 Jan 2026 — Week of Prayer for Christian Unity — including the work of North East Churches Acting Together (NECAT) and our ecumenical partners. Methodist District Chairs: Revd Jona Sewell and Revd Richard Andrew. Anglican Bishops: Newcastle, Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley; Berwick, Rt Revd Mark Wroe; Jarrow, Rt Revd Sarah Clark; Whitby, Rt Revd Barry Hill. Salvation Army: North East Division Captains John and Naomi Clifton. Roman Catholic Bishops: Middlesborough, Rt Revd Terry Draine; Hexham and Newcastle, Rt Revd Stephen Wright.

Sun 25 Jan 2026 — National Bible Sunday — giving thanks for the living Word that inspires our faith.

February 2026

Sun 01 Feb 2026 — Assembly Executive (6th – 8th). Remembering Churches: Wooler and St James's, Alnwick; CRCW: Fliss Barker. St Mark's, Amble after the retirement of Revd Alison Mills.

Sun 08 Feb 2026 — Racial Justice Sunday — celebrating the image of God in all people. Advocate: Pat Poinen.

Sun 15 Feb 2026 . St Andrew's, Glanton; Longframlington and Rothbury. Minister: Revd Ed Butlin.

Sun 22 Feb 2026 — The Trust: Secretary, Mr Willie Duncan and Treasurer, Mr Gordon Wanless and all trustees. The work of The North East District Council.

March 2026

Sun 01 Mar 2026 — Church Action on Poverty North East. Trinity, Ashington; Trinity, Bedlington; St Andrew's and St Mark's Newbiggin; Seaton Delaval. Minister: Revd Alan McGougan.

Sun 08 Mar 2026 — Preparing for the Synod Meeting (14th). Moderator: Revd Kim Money. Synod Clerks: Lucy Cooke and Lisa McAvoy and Synod Staff Team: Andrew Atkinson; Wendy Watson; Ragen Dorward; Helen Hogg. URC Youth Assembly.

Sun 15 Mar 2026 — Widdrington; St George's, Morpeth; Great Bavington. Minister: Revd Julian Sanders.

Sun 22 Mar 2026 — Our work with Northerly Synods - Moderators: Jamie Kissack; Lindsey Sanderson; Geoff Felton; Mike Thomason.

Sun 29 Mar 2026 — St Aidan's Hexham. Local Church Leader: Linda Gowland. Northumbrian Industrial Mission (NIM) Fiona Usher.

April 2026

Sun 05 Apr 2026 — Easter Sunday rejoicing in the risen Christ, a time of hope and possibility.

Sun 12 Apr 2026 — St Andrew's, Monkseaton and St Columba's, North Shields. Minister: Revd Louise Sanders.

Sun 19 Apr 2026 — Giving thanks for creation and those who care for it (World Earth Day 22 Apr). Celebrating our Synod Environmental Group, alongside our Green Apostle Charles Jolly.

Sun 26 Apr 2026 — Churches: Guisborough; St Andrew's, Nunthorpe and Marton; St Columba's, Billingham; St George's, Hartlepool; St Andrew's Mission, Thornaby; St Andrew & St George Stockton. CRCW: Ann Honey.

In Redcar holding the new LEP Redcar House of Worship and its Minister: Revd Mark Hubbard.

May 2026

Sun 03 May 2026 — Synod on Tour (9th) Stockton Road, Sunderland.

Sun 10 May 2026 — Christian Aid Week (10–16 May). Prayers for global justice and generosity. Commitment for Life Advocate, Maranny Jones.

Sun 17 May 2026 — St John's, Wideopen; St George's, High Heaton and Stamfordham exploring ministry. Interim Moderator: Revd David Grosch-Miller. Superintendent: Revd Tim Woolley.

Sun 24 May 2026 — Pentecost Sunday, the joy of receiving the Holy Spirit. Synod on Tour (30th) St George's, Morpeth.

Sun 31 May 2026 — Trinity Sunday, the wonder of three in one. Children's, Youth and Families Committee. Convenor: Revd Julian Sanders; Field Workers: Hannah Middleton; John Stephenson. Youth Pioneers: Angela Feather; Irene Frith and Tony Harbottle-Noppen and the Youth Ops Team.

June 2026

Sun 07 Jun 2026 — World Environment Day (5 June). Stewarding God's creation with care and courage. Synod on Tour (13th) St James's, Alnwick.

Sun 14 Jun 2026 — Horsley. Bellingham and Wark. Minister: Revd Roberta Ritson. Superintendent: Revd Marie Beard.

Sun 21 Jun 2026 — Refugee Week (15–21 June) and Learning Disability Week (15 - 21 June). Praying for belonging, safety, and dignity for all. Synod on Tour (27th) at Northgate, Darlington.

Sun 28 Jun 2026 — Trinity Gosforth exploring ministry. Deacon: Revd Jill Henderson. Interim Moderator: Revd Joan Grindrod-Helmn. Superintendent: Alison Wilkinson.

July 2026

Sun 05 Jul 2026 — General Assembly (3rd-6th) — praying for wisdom, humility, and vision for the church's mission. GA Moderator: Catriona Wheeler and Moderator Elect: Revd Neil Thorogood and all Church House Staff.

Sun 12 Jul 2026 — Church: St John the Evangelist, Kingston Park. Revd Shena Moray-Evans; Deacon Revd Jill Henderson and the four-way ecumenical partnership.

Sun 19 Jul 2026 — Giving thanks for all Church Secretaries, Elders, Stewards, Trustees. All those who offer loving service.

Sun 26 Jul 2026 — Churches: St Andrew's, Kenton; St James's, Newcastle; Jesmond; West End. Minister: Revd Ryan Sirmons.

August 2026

Sun 02 Aug 2026 — Redcar Missional House, Revd Dr Sue Walker and its residents.

Sun 09 Aug 2026 — Church: St Andrew's, Benton. Minister: Revd Helen White.

Sun 16 Aug 2026 — Safeguarding Officers: Matt Knowle; Helen Berg; Carrie Kaunda. Admin Support: Paula Kitson.

Sun 23 Aug 2026 — Pastoral Committee, all members and Convenor: Revd Kate Hackett.

Sun 30 Aug 2026 — Church of the Good Shepherd, Battle Hill, served by Revd Julie Mooney.

September 2026

Sun 06 Sep 2026 — Mission and Discipleship Committee, Convenor: Revd Sally Bateman.

Sun 13 Sep 2026 — Church: Robert Stewart Memorial.

Sun 20 Sep 2026 — International Day of Peace, that it might become a reality. Fairtrade fortnight begins (21st-4th Oct)

Sun 27 Sep 2026 — Grindon Community Church and the Keld Centre.

October 2026

Sun 04 Oct 2026 — Homelessness Sunday (before World Homeless Day, 10 Oct). Fairtrade Fortnight continues.

Sun 11 Oct 2026 — Waddington Street, Durham; Bethel, Chester-le-Street; Cromer Avenue, Low Fell and Denewell Avenue, Gateshead. Minister: Revd Marcus Hargis. St Andrew's, Crook. Revd Elizabeth Catford and Revd Marcus Hargis. Preparation for Synod Meeting (17th Oct).

Sun 18 Oct 2026 — Giving thanks for all who serve quietly in the church — flower arrangers, coffee makers, stewards, and many others.

Sun 25 Oct 2026 — One World Week (last week of October, near UN Day 24 Oct). Reformation Sunday — remembering renewal and faithfulness to God's Word.

November 2026

Sun 01 Nov 2026 — International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church — standing with those who witness under pressure.

Sun 08 Nov 2026 — Remembrance Sunday — honouring those who gave their lives for peace.

Sun 15 Nov 2026 — Churches: St Margaret's, South Shields; Roker and Stockton Road. Minister: Revd Jane Rowell.

Sun 22 Nov 2026 — Giving thanks for Local and Lay Preachers. Lay Preaching Advocate: Dr Donna Moore. Praying for all retired ministers who continue to serve faithfully.

Sun 29 Nov 2026 — World Council of Churches. Local church connections internationally.

December 2026

Sun 06 Dec 2026 — Lucy Cooke as Learning and Development Officer.

Sun 13 Dec 2026 — Churches: Northgate, Darlington; Zion, Northallerton; Low Row with Keld. Minister: Revd Nadene Snyman.

Sun 20 Dec 2026 — Grateful thanks to all who lead and serve through the Christmas season.

Fri 25 Dec 2026 — Christmas Day — celebrating the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Sun 27 Dec 2026 — Looking to 2027 with peace and renewed hope.

Philippians 4:4–9

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

5 Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.

6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.

9 Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.