

## 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.*

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### 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 Drainey; Hexham and Newcastle, Rt Revd Stephen Wright.

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

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### February 2026

**Sun 01 Feb 2026** — Assembly Executive (6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup>). 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.

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**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.

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 **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 (14<sup>th</sup>). 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.

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 **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.

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 **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 (30<sup>th</sup>) 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.

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 **June 2026**

**Sun 07 Jun 2026** — World Environment Day (5 June). Stewarding God's creation with care and courage. Synod on Tour (13<sup>th</sup>) 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 (27<sup>th</sup>) at Northgate, Darlington.

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

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 **July 2026**

**Sun 05 Jul 2026** — General Assembly (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>) — 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.

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## **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.

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## **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 (21<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Oct)

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

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## **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.

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### **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.