

Prayer Diary – April 2026

*Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on Cromer.
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on the Church.
Lord, pour your Holy Spirit on me. Amen*

Please check the Weekly Update for up-to-date news.

USUAL WEEKLY SERVICES AND EVENTS

Sundays

- 8.45 am Traditional Holy Communion at the Parish Church.
- 10.30 am Informal service at the Parish Church, with CCKids
Refreshments after both services.

Both Parish Church services will be streamed on the Cromer Church YouTube channel. (Go to YouTube and search for 'Cromer Church')

- 10.30 am Service at St Martin's with refreshments.
- 6.30 pm The Gathering at the Parish Church

Mondays

- 2.00-5.00pm Free Mustard Seed meals at St Martin's

Tuesdays Small groups meet in the afternoon and evening.

- 9.30 am CC Toddlers in the Parish Hall (term time)
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 7.15 pm CC Community Choir rehearsal in St Martin's

Wednesdays Small groups meet morning, afternoon and evening

- 10.00 am Holy Communion
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Junior School (term time)

Thursdays Small groups meet afternoon and evening

- 9.00 am Mustard Seed at St Martin's
- 10.am-4pm Cornerstone Café
- 2.30 pm Meeting Point in the Parish Hall (term time)
- 2.45 pm Open the Book at the Infant School (fortnightly in term time).

Fridays

- 6.45 pm Choir Practice in the Parish Church
- 2.00 pm Table tennis group at St Martin's

PRAYER SUGGESTIONS FOR APRIL

See below for prayer requests from Mission Partners and others

- Wed 1** Those who do not know the good news of Easter
- Thu 2** Our Easter services
- Fri 3** Mission Partner: London City Mission
- Sat 4** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: Matthew 28v1-10 – The King who lives). Speakers: Paul Neale (Parish Church), Tim Britton (St Martin's)
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 5** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church
- Easter Day** leaders; our children's and youth group leaders
- Mon 6** Peace in the Middle East
- Tue 7** Mission Partner: Michelle Proctor
- Wed 8** Cromer Foodbank, those who work there and its users
- Thu 9** Mission Partner: Good News for Everyone
- Fri 10** Farmers
- Sat 11** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: John 20v19-31)
Speakers: David Masters (Parish Church), John Chandler (St Martin's)
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 12** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; our small group leaders
- Mon 13** Mission Partner: Tearfund
- Tue 14** Our armed forces
- Wed 15** Mission Partner: Mission Without Borders
- Thu 16** Schoolchildren and the challenges they face in our time
- Fri 17** Mission Partner: Teso Development Trust
- Sat 18** Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: James 1v1-8 – Trials and testing). Speakers: Tim Britton (Parish Church), Will Warren (St Martin's)
Pray for our own opportunities for mission
- Sun 19** Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; national church leaders
- Mon 20** Mission Partner: CPAS
- Tue 21** Those who work to prevent the vicious circle of global heating

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Wed 22 | Earth Day |
| Thu 23 | Annual Church Meeting |
| Fri 24 | Mission Partner: Bible Society |
| Sat 25 | Tomorrow's worship and teaching. (Theme: James 1v9-18). Speakers: tbc (Parish Church), Paul Rosier (St Martin's) Pray for our own opportunities for mission |
| Sun 26 | Our services, children's groups and our youth group. Our church leaders; other local church leaders |
| Mon 27 | Mission Partner: Canaan Christian Trust |
| Tue 28 | Cromer Town Council |
| Wed 29 | Crafts2Share |
| Thu 30 | Strength and resilience for those who are being called to follow Jesus for the first time |

PRAYER REQUEST DETAILS

The Persecuted Church

Sudan

Sudan's civil war has created the world's largest humanitarian crisis. The Christian community is hungry, on the run, and facing strong persecution at the same time.

Sudan's brief period of religious freedom has been rowed back, and oppressive 'morality policies' are back in force. Christians can face physical punishment to convert to Islam, with church leaders arrested. Many church buildings have been closed, bombed or taken over by militia groups.

New Christians face rejection from their families and violence from Islamist extremist groups. In a lawless vacuum, they have no protection.

Please pray:

- For a peaceful resolution to Sudan's brutal civil war, and a future for the church;
- For protection over believers who have fled their homes and those who have stayed;
- That Sudanese Christians can show that Jesus' peace is a better way.

Open Doors

Michelle Proctor (SIM) (Contact: Tim Britton)

Michelle writes:

- Please pray for me as I start my role in the SIM UK offices on 14 April.
- Pray for wisdom as I meet with coworkers and we decide what responsibilities I will take on in the people care team.
- Give thanks that I have found a local church to attend with a good Bible study group in village I am living in.

Teso Development Fund (Contact: Frances Britton)

Teso Development Trust has a long-standing relationship with Ngora Freda Carr Hospital which is a church managed hospital founded in 1922.

Serving a poor rural community means that it is hard for the hospital to make enough money for maintenance and other needs as so many of the patients aren't able to fully clear their medical bills.

Over the last few years TDT has supported the hospital to restock the pharmacy, repair the Xray unit and provide some new mattresses and blankets.

Funds have also been provided to re-establish the supply of running water to the wards, a job which involved reconnecting the electricity supply to the hospital and water pump and the installation of an additional 10,000litre water tank. Also, funding has enabled the building of an incinerator to replace the open pit used before.

Pray for good ongoing maintenance of equipment in the hospital. Pray for the medical staff working there and the Christian ethos of the hospital.

Good News for Everyone (Contact: Jenny Jacquier and Jenny Syder)

Local news

This spring we intend to visit hotels not yet visited in North Norfolk to present a scripture pack and ask if they would like Bibles for their rooms.

Please pray for our secondary schools that all would allow us to offer New Testaments to their year 7 students. It is so sad that the Head Teacher of the school will not allow the children to have the opportunity to receive God's Word.

Here is a testimony I have recently received from the Cambridge branch of GNfE:

Harvey Booth in 2024 was so depressed with his life that he almost jumped off a railway bridge in front of a train. He was stopped by a voice, which said, "If you die today you will die in your sins."

Harvey went home and got down a Gideon New Testament given 28 years previously, but never read. In Matthew's Gospel, he read about a man called Jesus who came to earth from Heaven to die for Harvey's sins. He repented and came to believe in the Lord. A few months ago, he was baptised and joined a church in Huntingdon. Praise God there seems to be a quiet revival going on as the Holy Spirit works amongst the young men of our land.

CPAS (Contact: Vivienne Benford)

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25)

While the Church of England faces challenges around clergy recruitment and vacancies, please join with CPAS and thank God for his faithfulness enabling them to continue to appoint mission-focused clergy to their patronage churches. Also pray for these churches as they prepare and celebrate Easter.

Please continue to pray for the Overall Leaders of Venture and Falcon Holidays as they prepare and promote the holidays to churches, families and individuals for summer 2026.

Bible Society (Contact: David Anderson)

In our prayers we should thank God that not only does the Bible Society provide the Bible freely to people in their mother tongue but also many resources to further explore the scriptures. As well as Andrew Ollerton's much acclaimed Bible Course and studies for Lent there are now Easter resources aimed at both children and adults.

Children's resources – 'Follow Me to Easter' - This story invites children to follow Jesus, his disciples and a crowd of animal friends to the cross and the empty tomb. Also provided is 'Free, Fun' which includes Easter activities based on Follow Me to Easter – intended for children at home, church or school.

Adult Resources include 'The John Edition of Rooted' helping to get people to know John's Gospel on a deeper level with this special Easter-themed Rooted journal and ALIVE – Real stories. Real struggles. Real hope. All around us, people are asking deeper questions about hope, purpose and where God is in the mess and wonder of everyday life. The ALIVE series meets people right at the heart of those questions.

Pray that these resources will be well used and helpful.

Tearfund (Contact: Judith Anderson and Lynda Brown)

Ukraine

Tearfund does not usually work in European countries, but the crisis in Ukraine is so acute, that Tearfund is currently supporting local churches, encouraging them to find ways to reach out to their neighbourhoods with practical and spiritual support. One partner is a seminary where, with studies disrupted, the staff and students head out three days a week taking supplies to remote villages. The seminary kitchen opens its doors to over 100 needy elderly people for meals. One prayer request is to meet the needs caused by the current shortage of men. Young boys leaving orphanages need role models, and many women are having to pastor churches in place of their husbands.

Middle East

Tearfund is working with church partners in Gaza and Lebanon, though not in Iran. In Gaza, over 63,000 children are malnourished. In Lebanon, Tearfund-supported churches are providing shelter and assistance to thousands forced from their homes.

Sudan

It has the largest displacement crisis in the world today. Every aspect of life is affected. Tearfund partners are working tirelessly in Darfur, providing assistance to 1500 households.

Please pray:

- that the Sudanese people find in God their helper, comforter, and provider;
- for strength for Tearfund partners as they provide support in incredibly difficult situations;
- that the International community would wake up to the reality of this crisis and pursue a ceasefire and unhindered humanitarian access.

Mission Without Borders (MWB) (Contact: Anne Atfield)

- Please continue to pray for MWB's 'Winter Rescue' projects and for the volunteers in all six countries who are providing fuel for families struggling to heat their homes, particularly for those in Ukraine.
- Please pray for the Christian Outreach team in Moldova, that as they host and speak at Easter events, God's love would be felt by all who attend and the Easter message would continue to have a lasting impact on people's lives. Pray too for their team and the team in Moldova as they plan and write the programmes for the Summer camps.

- Please pray for the planned Agriculture seminar in Moldova, part of the mission's 'Seeds of Hope' project. Help the families who attend as they learn new information and skills and receive packs of seeds and then share their experiences with other families. Pray for all families receiving 'Self-Sufficiency' projects, that they will be helped to gain financial freedom and feel hope for the future.

Canaan Christian Trust (Contact: Evelyn Smith)

We have no bookings for Easter, but many major repairs are taking place. Amongst them is the removal of a worn-out shed and clearing out all the stuff that has accumulated. Another is a big repair which involves new steps being put on the mobile home. New pipes underneath it will also be replaced.

- Pray for volunteers and skilled workmen who are booked to come.
- Pray also for volunteers to come and help. Another big replacement includes a new very big water tank in Canaan itself so that showers and washing machine and dishwasher can all function without running out of hot water .

Please send prayer requests for May to Katharine Checketts by
Monday 20th April