



INTERNATIONAL
ANGLICAN
FAMILY
NETWORK



Calendar of Dates for Prayer and Action

With special thanks to [Christian Concern for One World](#) whose calendar of 'Dates for Prayer and Action' has formed the basis and inspiration for this resource

JANUARY

1 January and the first of each month – Pray and Fast for the Climate

Join people around the world praying and fasting for climate justice. See [Pray and Fast](#). For IAFN stories, see '[Families and the Climate Emergency: Stories of grief, faith, hope and action for climate justice](#)'

1 January
Circumcision/Naming of Christ

An opportunity to pray for birth registration, which gives the right to an official identity and legally recognised name, for all children. Information at <https://www.unicef.org/protection/birth-registration>. For IAFN stories, see '[Count Every Child: Birth registration, the passport to citizenship](#)' and '[Birth Registration: Church responses](#)'. For resources, see <https://iafn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/universal-birth-registration.aspx>

6 January Epiphany	During the Epiphany season, could your church reflect on the journeys of the Holy Family following the Wise Men's visit ... and the journeys of refugees today? For IAFN stories, see ‘I Will Welcome the Stranger: Showing compassion, mercy, love and hospitality among asylum-seekers, refugees and internally displaced persons’
24 January International Day of Education	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/education-day
25 January Conversion of St Paul	Some churches remember Paul's conversion on this day. It is an opportunity to pray for God to turn the hearts of persecutors and protect communities and families experiencing persecution.

FEBRUARY

6 February International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/female-genital-mutilation-day , https://www.28toomany.org/ . For an IAFN story about FGM, see ‘The Family: A reconciling community’
8 February Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking/St Josephine Bakhita Day	Resources listed at https://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/human-trafficking.aspx . For IAFN stories, see ‘Church Responses to Human Trafficking’
12 February Red Hand Day Campaign	A time to pray for an end to use of child soldiers. Information at https://www.unicef.org.uk/publications/childsoldiers-briefing/ . For an IAFN story about child soldiers, see ‘Reconciliation and the Family’

MARCH

8 March International Women's Day	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/womens-day . Women's World Day of Prayer takes place on the nearest Friday. Materials from World Day of Prayer
21 March World Down Syndrome Day	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/down-syndrome-day
22 March World Water Day	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day
24 March World Tuberculosis Day	Information and materials at Stop TB Partnership, WHO, https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-tb-day/2019

APRIL

7 April
World Health Day

Information at <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-health-day/2021>. A chance to raise issues of access to healthcare. For IAFN stories, see '[Promoting Health in Families: Good news stories from around the Anglican Communion](#)' and '[COVID-19, Church and Family: Responding creatively in a time of pandemic](#)'

25 April
World Malaria Day

Information from <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-malaria-day/world-malaria-day-2021>

MAY

5 May
International Day of the Midwife

Information from [International Confederation of Midwives](#). Opportunity to focus on maternal and child health.

15 May
International Day of Families

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-of-families>. Information about the International Anglican Family Network, stories and resources at <https://iafn.anglicancommunion.org>

JUNE

1 June
Global Day of Parents

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/parents-day>. For IAFN stories, see '[Family, the Gift of Dignity](#),' and '[Families Under Pressure: How can churches respond?](#)', and '[The Family: A reconciling community](#)'

4 June
International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/child-victim-day>. Materials at <https://iafn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/ending-violence-against-children.aspx>

5 June
World Environment Day

Materials at <https://www.climatesunday.org> and at <https://www.anglicancommunion.org/media/349314/World-Environment-Day-2019-Resources.pdf>. For IAFN stories, see '[Families and the Climate Emergency: Stories of grief, faith, hope and action for climate justice](#)'

12 June
World Day against Child Labour

Materials at [International Labour Organization](#)

13 June
International Albinism Awareness Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/albinism-day>. For an IAFN story, see '[Anglicans helping families accept children with albinism in Tanzania](#)'

19 June International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-sexual-violence-in-conflict-day .
20 June World Refugee Day	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/refugee-day . For IAFN stories, see ' I Will Welcome the Stranger: Showing compassion, mercy, love and hospitality among asylum-seekers, refugees and internally displaced persons '
23 June International Widows Day	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/widows-day
JULY	
30 July World Day Against Trafficking in Persons	Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/end-human-trafficking-day . Resources listed at https://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/human-trafficking.aspx . For IAFN stories, see ' Church Responses to Human Trafficking '
AUGUST	
August World Water Week	For dates and resources, see Ecumenical Water Network and Christian Concern for One World . Pray for water conservation and safe access to clean water for all
1 to 7 August World Breastfeeding week	Set every August for the first seven days of the month, World Breastfeeding Week highlights the benefits of breastfeeding to the health and welfare of babies, and seeks a wider push for maternal health, focusing on good nutrition, poverty reduction and food security. Resources at https://waba.org.my/wbw/ .
9 August International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	Information at Anglican Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries , and https://www.un.org/en/observances/indigenous-day and Indigenous Climate Action
12 August International Youth Day	Could youth in your church lead prayers for young people worldwide? Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/youth-day . For IAFN stories, see ' A Youthful Church '
19 August World Humanitarian Day	Pray for humanitarian workers' efforts worldwide. Information at https://www.un.org/en/observances/humanitarian-day . Prayer resources at Christian Concern for One World

SEPTEMBER

1 September to 4 October
Season of Creation/Time for Creation

Includes Day of Prayer for Creation on 1 September. Resources at <https://seasonofcreation.org> and <https://acen.anglicancommunion.org/resources.aspx>

8 September
World Literacy Day

Pray for education locally and worldwide. Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/literacy-day>

OCTOBER

1 October
International Day of Older Persons

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/older-persons-day> and [Help Age International](#). For IAFN stories, see 'Valuing Our Elders'

5 October
World Teachers Day

Information at <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/worldteachersday>

10 October
World Mental Health Day

Information at <https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-mental-health-day>

11 October
International Day of the Girl Child

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/girl-child-day>. See 'Improving the Choices and opportunities for adolescent girls: A toolkit for faith leaders'

15 October
International Day of Rural Women

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/rural-women-day>

16 October
World Food Day (part of the Churches' Week of Action on Food)⁴

Materials at [World Council of Churches](#). Information at <http://www.fao.org/world-food-day/en>

17 October
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty>. Pray and act together with antipoverty groups locally and globally

NOVEMBER

19 November
World Toilet Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/toilet-day>

20 November
World Children's Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-childrens-day>

25 November to 10 December
Sixteen Days of Activism against
Gender-based Violence

(Includes the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November.)
Resources at <https://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/resources/the-16-days-of-activism.aspx>.
Publications in multiple languages at <https://bit.ly/3xRXccU> ('Domestic Abuse and COVID-19: How Churches can respond') and <https://bit.ly/3rkNkWY> ('God's Justice: Just relationships between women and men, girls and boys') Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/ending-violence-against-women-day>.
IAFN stories at 'A Shadow Pandemic: How Anglicans are responding to the increase in domestic abuse and gender-based violence in the time of COVID-19' and 'Violence and the Family: Action plan for the churches to tackle abuse'

DECEMBER

1 December
World AIDS Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-aids-day> and <https://www.unaids.org/en>. Worship materials at [World Council of Churches](#)

3 December
International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-of-persons-with-disabilities>

10 December
Human Rights Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/human-rights-day>

18 December
International Migrants Day

Information at <https://www.un.org/en/observances/migrants-day>

26 December
St Stephen's Day

Many churches remember St Stephen, first martyr. An opportunity to pray for those who suffer for their faith in Christ.

28 December
Holy Innocents

A day to pray for children who are victims of persecution, oppression and conflict.