



# 2020: Some Dates for Prayer and Action January to March

## Collated by CCOW for Use by Churches

“Special Sundays” and days around which churches might wish to focus prayer and/or action on a particular topic are in regular type: **green** events relate to environment and food issues; **blue** to peace and peacemaking; **red** to health, **light blue** to Fair Trade. Some global events about which churches might wish to pray are in italics. Major events in the Church Year are in white on coloured backgrounds. Links go directly to resources for the given days (except where those are not yet available)

We hope this will be of use to churches planning their year and to people leading prayers and activities. To send in corrections or to suggest events/ resources for inclusion, email [info@ccow.org.uk](mailto:info@ccow.org.uk). To read or sign up to receive our weekly prayer email, go to our website, [www.ccow.org.uk](http://www.ccow.org.uk).

## JANUARY

**1 January & first of each month – Pray and Fast for the Climate.** Join people around the world praying & fasting for climate justice. Info: [Pray and Fast](#)

### 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. [UNICEF](#), [Anglican Communion](#)

### 6 January – Epiphany/Theophany (Orthodox)

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?

### 7 January – Christmas (Orthodox)

### 12 Jan 2020 – Plough Sunday

Also Plough Monday, Plough Wednesday. Pray for all who farm worldwide. Resources: [Arthur Rank Centre](#)

**18 to 25 January – Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity** Theme: ‘Unusual kindness’ (local theme) ‘They showed us unusual kindness’ (intl theme). [Materials from CTBI \(local version\)](#), [World Council of Churches](#)

### 19 Jan 2020 – Peace Sunday

Theme: Peace as a journey of hope' Materials: [Pax Christi](#)

**21 to 24 Jan 2020 – World Economic Forum Annual Meeting (Davos)** Theme: ‘Stakeholders for a Cohesive and Sustainable World’ [Official Website](#)

### 25 January – Conversion of St Paul

Some churches remember Paul's conversion on this day. It's an opportunity to pray for God to turn the hearts of persecutors ... and to pray for Syria & the Syrian church

### 27 January -- Holocaust Memorial Day

Theme: ‘Stand Together’ Materials: [Holocaust Memorial Trust](#)

### 26 Jan 2020 -- World Leprosy Day

Also observed 30 Jan. Theme: ‘Do you know what you think about leprosy?’ Materials from [Leprosy Mission](#), [Internat'l Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations](#)

## FEBRUARY

### 1 February – Pray and Fast for the Climate

**2 or 9 Feb 2020 – 4th Anniversary of Eco Church** Could you hold a special service? Take a look at the [Eco Church worship resources](#) and maybe combine with an event for Show the Love (below)

### 5 to 29 February – Show the Love Campaign

This year's [campaign](#) from Show the Love (Climate Coalition) Includes a video and other materials. Useful for schools and churches.

### 8 February – Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking/St Josephine Bakhita Day

Materials from the [Santa Marta group](#) and [Australian Justice and Peace Office](#). See also 23 August.

### 9 Feb 2020 – Racial Justice Sunday

Information: [CTBI's Racial Justice page](#)

### 9 Feb 2020 – BMS Day of Prayer

[Materials from BMS World Mission](#)

### 12 February – Red Hand Day

Campaign/pray for an end to use of child soldiers.

### 20 February – World Day of Social Justice

[Info from the UN](#); opportunity for prayer and action on a range of social justice issues. Suggestions: [Joint Public Issues Team](#), [National Justice and Peace Network](#).

### **23 February 2020 – Church Action on Poverty Sunday**

Theme: 'Speaking Truth to Power: Putting Faith into Action' [Materials : Church Action on Poverty](#)

### **24 Feb to 8 March 2020 – Fairtrade Fortnight**

Focus on cocoa and women's empowerment.  
Materials from the [Fairtrade Foundation](#), [Traidcraft](#) and [CCOW](#).

### **26 February 2020: Ash Wednesday**

During Lent might you try a new rhythm of prayer? Read 'Saying Yes to Life' or another Lent book? Work towards being plastic-less or meat-free? Establish new patterns of giving to charity? See also our [guide to online Lent resources](#)

## **MARCH**

**6 March 2020 -- CAFOD Lent Fast Day** [Materials: CAFOD](#)

**6 March 2020 – Women's World Day of Prayer**  
Theme: Rise! Take your mat and walk!' (prepared by women of Zimbabwe) [Materials from WWDP](#)

**6-15 March 2020 - British Science Week**  
Pray for scientists and engineers, especially those whose work relates to complex ethical issues

**8 March – International Women's Day**

**9 to 20 March 2020 – UN Commission on the Status of Women. Theme: Beijing+25 (2020)'** [Official Website](#)

**22 March -- World Water Day**  
Theme: 'Water and Climate Change' Info/materials from [UN Water](#), [Anglican Communion Environmental Network](#) & [Water Aid](#)

**22 March 2020 - Mothering Sunday**  
Resources from [Mothers' Union](#), [Children's Society](#)

**24 March – World TB Day**  
Theme: It's time' [Materials: Stop TB Partnership](#)

**25 March - International Day of Remembrance for the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade**  
Theme: 'Confronting Slavery's Legacy of Racism Together' [UN info](#).

**28 March 2020 – Earth Hour**  
Annual moment of witness, focusing attention on the need to protect nature. [Info from Earth Hour](#)