

Day **Please pray for the diocese, its officers, and mission priorities**

1  **The Bishop in Vellore and his wife** (currently Bishop Rajavelu and his wife, Padmini)  
Pray also for the Diocesan Vice President and the Secretary

2 **Work of the gospel, church planting, and building up new congregations** – many new churches are under construction, and several missionaries are sent out to work with unevangelised villages

3 **Those recently baptised and confirmed** – mass baptisms are common, particularly in newly evangelised villages.

4 **Women’s empowerment**  
- particularly supporting young women from poor families to develop their skills

5 **Work with those who are suffering and work amongst the rural poor**  
-relief work includes supporting some of the poorest and outcast people, and giving a helping hand to rural communities through cows and goats

6 **The Women’s Fellowship** – which is linked to the Mothers’ Union – supports women’s empowerment projects

7 **The Diocesan Youth Board**, working with young people across the diocese

8 **The work amongst Sunday Schools** – an important part of diocesan life

9 **Development of Lay people** – the diocese relies on a large number of lay people to help run the churches and teach the congregations – catechists, Bible women, missionaries, all play their part, alongside many other people in each church.

10 **The Diocesan Treasurer** and the growth and stability of funds and finance. The diocese has plans to develop a plot of land it owns as a commercial property, in order to raise the income of the diocese. Please pray for this project.

Day **Please pray for the institutions of the diocese**  
The Diocese has an ambitious priority to get many of its educational establishments upgraded, so that the qualifications of the students are recognised nationally and internationally

11 **The Elementary and Secondary Schools in the diocese** Many of these are found in the villages and work amongst the poorest people. The diocese is seeking new sources of funding to keep the school hostels open

12 **Voorhees College, Vellore** Voorhees College is a Higher Education college, making Higher Education available to able but poor students.

13 **Katpadi Industrial Institute.** Within the diocesan plans, it is hoped to be able to have this training college, mainly for young men, upgraded to a technical college

14 **Katpadi Agricultural Institute** – many of the surrounding villages depend on the well being of the Katpadi Agricultural Institute at Kassam

15 **Women’s Industrial Institute in Palamaneer** Please pray for the future direction and development of this training centre for teenage girls.

16 **The School of Nursing at Ranipet** It is hoped to upgrade this to a College of Nursing, so that students study BSc nursing

**The School of Nursing at Vandavasi**, training Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (18 month course)

17 **The Beattie Memorial Teacher’s Training Institute at Ranipet** . Again, this is hoped to be upgraded to offer B Ed courses

18 **The hospitals at Vandavasi and Ranipet** These local hospitals do invaluable work both in their towns and in outreach work in the surrounding villages

19 **Anbu Illam, in Vellore** working with children with cerebral palsy, offering children hope

20 **Adiakalam HIV/AIDs programme** which helps to support those who are affected by HIV AIDs,, family members and also to educate others about it

Day **Please pray for all those who minister in the diocese**

21 **Other institutions located in the diocese**

- the CMC Hospital and College
- The Christian Counselling Centre
- Karigiri Hospital

The diocese works alongside these institutions and receives much support from them.

22 **The pastors of the Diocese and their families** – many of the pastorates cover several villages. Often there is no adequate pastorate house so pastors have to live some way from their pastorates

23 **Training and support for junior pastors.** The diocese is particularly keen to offer opportunities for development and study to younger pastors, to help enhance their ministry

24 **The Northern Area, its pastorates and Area Chairman.** Many of the pastorates in the Northern Area are in Andra Pradesh and the predominant language is Telagu

25 **The Southern Area, its pastorates and Area Chairman.** The southern area is arid and a much poorer area than the rest of the diocese

26 **The Central area, its pastorates and Area Chairman**

27 **The Western area, its pastorates and Area Chairman.** The pastorates in the Western area cover the remote hill areas of the Jawadi and Yelligiri hills

28 **The Arcot Theological Seminary**, newly reopened to train lay people, and its Director

29 All those who work in the Diocesan Office in Vellore

30 The work of the Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council – supporting all the churches in Cambridgeshire, and looking to offer pastoral support in all the areas of new housing

31 The Vellore Link Support Group and those who help to sustain the link. Other partners with the Diocese of Vellore, including the Reformed Church of America

## Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council and Diocese of Vellore, Church of South India

The link between Cambridgeshire Ecumenical Council and the Diocese of Vellore was inaugurated at Bar Hill Church in September 1992. Since then three covenants between the areas have been signed (January 1998, January 2005, January 2012).



In the covenant, we agree to

- pray regularly for one another
- work together to strengthen the links of Christian Fellowship
- exchange ideas and learn from each other's Christian experience
- give mutual support and encouragement to one another



The Diocese of Vellore was inaugurated on the 26th of January 1976. It is the youngest of the Church of South India dioceses and was created out of the western half of

the Diocese of Madras, as part of the CSI policy of creating small dioceses for better pastoral provision and administrative purposes.

The territory covered by the diocese is the area first evangelised by the American Arcot Mission (Dutch Reformed Church in America). The Arcot Mission was active from 1853 until 1954, when it was dissolved and all its activities were brought under the control of the Church of South India. Many of the institutions in Vellore Diocese still bear the names of their American Mission founders such as Scudder, Beattie, Wyckoff, DeValois and Honnagar.



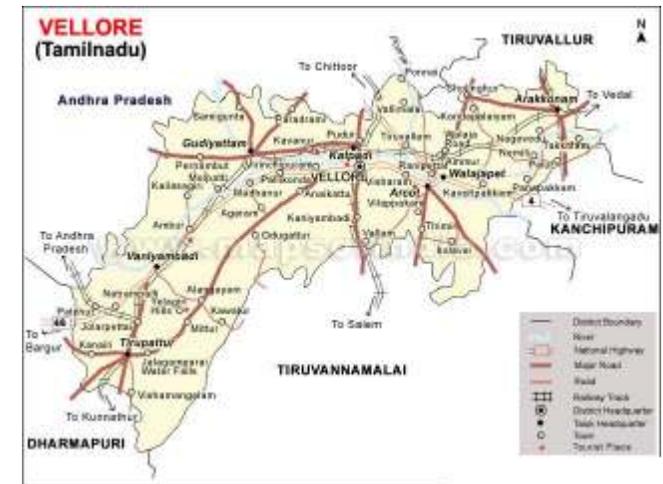
The motto chosen for the Diocese was "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (based on Galatians chapter 6 verse 14). Its emblem includes a banyan tree - the tree under which the Scudder brothers prayed before they

decided to begin their work in the area of Vellore. Vellore Diocese is predominantly rural and crosses the state boundaries of Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh; this means it is a bilingual diocese (Tamil and Telugu). More than 90% of the Christians come from the oppressed Dalit community. Rt. Rev'd Rajavelu became the sixth Bishop of Vellore in July 2012.

## Praying for the Diocese of Vellore



A guide to help us pray for the whole of the Diocese of Vellore each month.



Map shows the district of Vellore. The diocese extends beyond some of these boundaries.