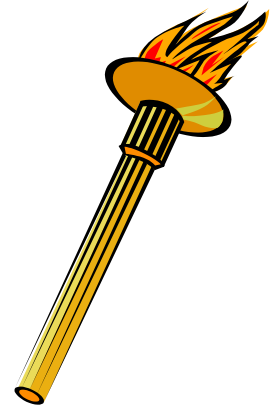


# London 2012 Prayer Relay

The Olympic Games will be held in London from 27<sup>th</sup> July to 12<sup>th</sup> August followed by the Paralympics on 29<sup>th</sup> August to 9<sup>th</sup> September. These events bring a wonderful opportunity for the Church to engage in mission in all sorts of various ways with our local communities. Every mission opportunity needs to be supported and undergirded by prayer.

The Fellowship of Diocesan Prayer-ers have been invited to take a lead in this vital and powerful ministry; to pray for the various parish initiatives and for hospitality, generosity of spirit and protection for the nation.



**The Rochester Diocese Prayer Relay**  
**will be launched on**  
**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2012**  
**in Rochester Cathedral**  
**during Evensong**  
**at 3.15pm to which you are invited**

The idea is that there will be a Prayer Baton (an Olympic Flame lamp) which will move from Deanery to Deanery in the weeks before the games begin. Within each Deanery it is hoped that the Diocesan Prayer-ers Rep and the Parishes will be able to organise for prayer to happen for the Games each day of their allocated week before handing 'over the baton of Prayer' to the next Deanery. We do hope your parish will be able to take part.

There are 17 Deaneries in our Diocese and the Prayer Relay will start with Rochester Deanery in the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> February; passing on to Gillingham for the week beginning 26<sup>th</sup> February; and so on: Strood 4<sup>th</sup> March; Gravesend 11<sup>th</sup> March; Cobham 18<sup>th</sup> March; Dartford 25<sup>th</sup> March; pause for Holy Week and Easter holidays; Shoreham 15<sup>th</sup> April; Malling 22<sup>nd</sup> April; Paddock Wood 29<sup>th</sup> April; Tunbridge Wells 6<sup>th</sup> May; Tonbridge 13<sup>th</sup> May, Sevenoaks 20<sup>th</sup> May; pause for The Queen's Diamond Jubilee; Orpington 10<sup>th</sup> June; Erith 17<sup>th</sup> June; Sidcup 24<sup>th</sup> June; Bromley 1<sup>st</sup> July; finishing in Beckenham Deanery during the week beginning 8<sup>th</sup> July.

We are very excited about this Prayer Relay as we feel that it will encourage more awareness of the importance of prayer and that we have a vital role to play in the prayer covering for the Olympics.