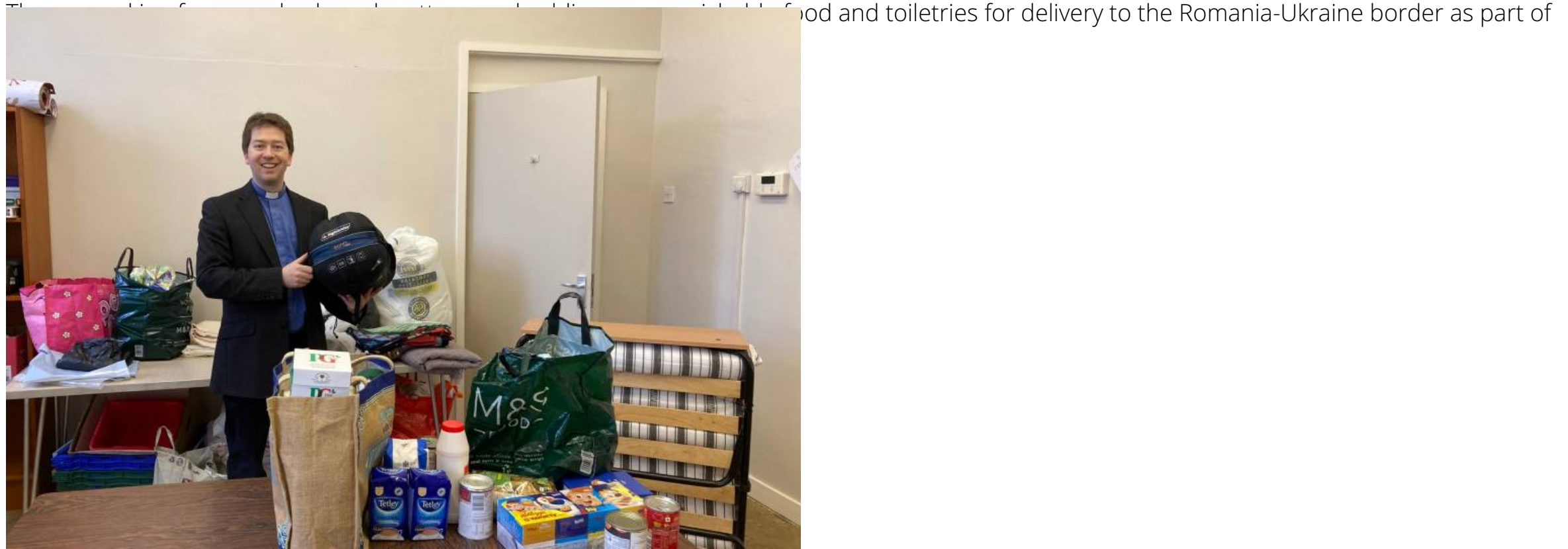


Churches across England have been combining prayer for Ukraine with practical help for refugees and others suffering because of the Russian invasion.

At Kings Lynn Minster in Norfolk - which held a prayer vigil on Sunday hearing first-hand accounts via members of the local Ukrainian community - members of the public have been donating to the UNHCR Emergency Appeal for Ukraine.

Also in Norfolk, donations are being dropped off at St Peter's church in the village of Kimberley (part of the Barnham Broom benefice) as part of a collection organised by the local Polish community.

In the diocese of Newcastle, Prudhoe Parish Church has been running a busy drop-off centre for supplies for Ukrainian refugees.



Morpeth Parish has created a Peace Wall, with young people lining the church railings with ribbons as part of its 'Prayers for Peace' project.

In south London, St Clement with St Peter Church, East Dulwich, is supporting a collection of essentials items – from bandages and first aid equipment to powdered food and torches – organised by the local Polish centre.

And the Croydon Health Services Chaplaincy is asking people to drop off essential items such as clothing and bedding as well as holding prayer services.

In the Parish of Berkswich in Stafford, in the Diocese of Lichfield, worshippers are raising money for the First Baptist Church in Wroclaw, Poland, which is transforming its school's classrooms into dorms to welcome Ukrainian refugees (see below).

Vicki Adamson, from Berkswich, previously taught English at the school when she lived there.

Her husband, Fr Graham Adamson, said: "The very classrooms which Vicki taught in are now being filled with bedding and other furniture to

at this time, and are raising money to assist them in providing



Meanwhile Lichfield Cathedral has announced it will be holding weekly prayers for Ukraine, every Thursday between noon to 12.30pm and has set also up a prayer station will also be available during its opening hours.

Other cathedrals taking action include Chester which is collecting money for the UNICEF fund. Clergy will be joining a vigil in Town Hall Square at 5.30pm on Friday followed by Evensong at 6pm in the cathedral.

Church schools have been playing their part. Among them Primrose Hill Primary Academy in Lydney, Gloucestershire, which has been collecting supplies to take to a drop off point in Bristol.

Meanwhile churches across the country have been holding prayer vigils and rallies in support of the people of Ukraine. Among them St George's Church, East Boldon, in the Diocese of Durham, is holding vigils today.

And St Nic's church in the centre of Durham helped organise a community rally in support of Ukraine. Tomorrow there will be a vigil at Bradford Cathedral at 6pm (also online) and on Sunday churches in Brighton will be joining a vigil organised by Brighton and Hove Interfaith group at Hove Methodist church. 8pm to 9pm.

Exeter Cathedral and Cathedral Isle of Man in Peel are among churches are holding special prayer events at 6pm today, as part of Prayers Across Europe for Peace in Ukraine organised by the Church of England's Diocese in Europe.