

# Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

During these weeks the prayer diary reflects the challenges of facing Coronavirus with our sisters and brothers across the world; the call to be a people of hope.



**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May: CHURCHES:** We join with all churches locally nationally and globally as we pray for God's kingdom to come: 'Almighty God, your ascended Son has sent us into the world to preach the good news of your kingdom: inspire us with your Spirit and fill our hearts with the fire of your love, that all who hear your Word may be drawn to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen'. (*Collect for Thy Kingdom Come*).

**Mon: COMMUNITIES:** For the many groups and organisations in the Diocese and beyond who are involved in #peopleofhope. Transforming Communities Together have also hosted a 'Faith and Finance' conversation over video call, bringing together leaders of multiple faiths online to discuss each faith's teachings on money and how they can increase financial resilience in the Black Country. Please pray that the many wonderful conversations had will continue to improve multi-faith working.

**Tues: SCHOOLS:** Father God we seek your blessing and support for all those who have the responsibilities of being Governors or Trustees of our schools. At this trying time may they reach unanimous decisions – prompted by a desire to serve. Grant them all the wisdom that comes only from you to see beyond their own understanding. May the decisions made help children and staff to stay safe and feel supported. We pray for and name any staff governors we know as they wrestle with their two roles. We pray and also name any from our own churches who serve as governors.

**Wed: AROUND THE WORLD:** Let us pray for the world wide Anglican Communion giving thanks for the bonds which bind its member churches and for our solidarity and fellowship at this time. We give thanks for the weekly video based worship service and for the ministries of all who were involved in this week's annual service praying particularly for the Primate of Honk Kong, Archbishop Paul Kwong in his role as Chair of the Anglican Consultative Council and for Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon and his role as Secretary General of the Anglican Communion.

**Thur: PRISONS:** We pray for prisoners – that in the loneliness and isolation of lockdown, they may know peace and hope; particularly for those prisoners wrestling with having lost a family member – that they would be able to grieve safely, to know the love and light of Christ in the darkness and despair. We give thanks for all volunteers who are part of the chaplaincy teams and remember them at a time when they can't go into prison, and may be feeling a sense of loss at not being able to fulfil their ministry.

**Fri: HEALTHCARE:** For all working in healthcare services at the present time, especially those on the front line caring for patients and their families. We pray for all hospitals and hospices throughout our Diocese (*name those in your region.....*) and in particular we continue to pray for the ministries of all in the chaplaincy teams at the University Hospitals of North Midlands particularly Revd Leo Varquez, Revd Vivienne Flanagan & Ms Alison Phillips. May God bring healing to all suffering from Coronavirus and defend and protect all working within this environment.



**Sat: Apolo Kivebulaya, Priest, Evangelist in Central Africa, 1933 AROUND THE WORLD:** For our Link Diocese of Matlosane, for Bishop Steve Diseko and for Canon Marshall Guma in his role as convenor of the Covid-19 response team, for all clergy in their parishes and chapelries dealing with the issues of Lockdown and for those in vulnerable contexts that you will bring comfort and hope to those who are experiencing loss, apprehension and fear.

Feedback and prayer requests welcome [philip.swan@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:philip.swan@lichfield.anglican.org)

The Anglican Cycle of prayer: <https://bit.ly/3anQUWG> Information regarding Coronavirus from the Church of England including helpful prayer and liturgical resources: <https://bit.ly/33PHxMZ>