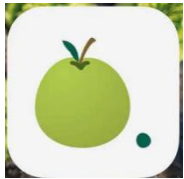


Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 18

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 2nd August: CHURCHES: As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray that the two million people in our diocese encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities. We pray for a church that partners with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope, particularly as we seek to respond with compassion and wisdom during the Covid-19 pandemic.



Mon 3rd: COMMUNITIES: Staff at the Lichfield Diocese Mothers' Union and Transforming Communities Together have endorsed a new Farmers Welfare App from the Clewer Initiative helping farmers and farm workers understand their rights and responsibilities and protect or report abuses relating to modern slavery. Pray for the bringing to justice of all engaged in exploiting vulnerable adults and children through human trafficking and modern slavery.

Tues 4th: (*Jean-Baptiste Vianney, Curé d'Ars, Spiritual Guide, 1859*) **SCHOOLS:** After a very long and difficult term we give thanks for the dedication and commitment of teachers and all school staff throughout this pandemic. We give thanks for the provision made for vulnerable children and children of key workers and pray for staff and pupils in those schools which have remained open, including throughout the school holidays. We hold before you members of the Diocesan Board of Education and pray for their resourcing: Claire Shaw (Director), Alex Wolvers, Matthew Welton, Lysay Jennings, Steve Rayner, Paula Lloyd and Ade Wharmby.

Wed 5th: (*Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642*) **AROUND THE WORLD:** In the Anglican Church of Canada we pray for Bishop Chris Harper, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Saskatoon and for Bishop Rob Hardwick, the clergy and people of the Diocese of Qu'Appelle; for their protection and resourcing in this stage of the pandemic; for the continuing work of reconciliation and healing of relationships with First Nation Communities; praying for the ministry of All Saints Cathedral in Regina and their food distribution programme.

Thur 6th : (*The Transfiguration of Our Lord*) **PRISONS:** We pray for prisoners and staff in our prison communities who have become unwell due to COVID-19, that they might know healing; that staff might know resilience and energy following this prolonged period of intensely demanding service; for prisoners wrestling with having lost a family member that they may be able to grieve safely. We pray this week particularly for Rev'd David Farley and the rest of the chaplaincy team at HMP Stoke Heath, and for Rev'd Jeffrey Cuttell & Rev'd David Howard and the rest of their chaplaincy teams at HMYOI Werrington.

Fri 7th : (*John Mason Neale, Priest, Hymn Writer, 1866*) **HEALTHCARE:** For all working in healthcare services at the present time, especially those on the front line caring for patients and their families; for those having to make difficult decisions or redesign services to meet a constantly changing need. For everyone as they balance their work with personal and family needs. In particular we pray for the Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust remembering Revds Alison Coles, Keith Duckett and Anthony Swaby in their chaplaincy roles, and for the Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Trust and chaplains Revds Petro Hryziuk and Mervyn Williams.



Sat 8th : (*Dominic, Priest, Founder of the Order of Preachers, 1221*) **AROUND THE WORLD:** In Kenya, Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit has launched a province-wide emergency appeal to support the work of the province's development arm. We join with him and the church in Kenya in continuing to pray for God's sustenance and protection over all peoples of the world during this global pandemic, for unity and a common mind and for an opportunity for countries to unite and address a common course, for the Church to walk with all Kenyans in addressing these disruptions, partnering with state agencies and other stakeholders.

For further resources for praying for the world wide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: <https://bit.ly/3anQUWG>