

Lichfield Diocese Day of Prayer October 23/24

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

(The following resources for prayer have been compiled for use during the 24hr Day of Prayer though they can still be used on a daily basis.
More details: <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/event.php?event=161>)

"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."

Our Diocesan Vision prayer provides the basis for our prayers. Do spend time focussing on and praying through the different parts of this prayer; include local details and adapt it to your context.



Sunday 18th October: We pray for our Diocesan Bishop The Rt Revd Dr Michael Ipgrave, for our Area Bishops and Archdeacons – Bishop Clive Gregory (Wolverhampton), Bishop Sarah Bullock, (Shrewsbury) and Bishop elect Matthew Parker (Stafford) and for our Archdeacons - the Ven Dr Sue Weller (Lichfield), the Ven Julian Francis, (Walsall) and the Ven Paul Thomas, (Salop); for our Cathedral – Dean

Adrian Dorber and Canons Andrew Stead, Gregory Platten and Jan McFarlane and all involved in the mission and ministry of the Cathedral; for Robert Mountford, Regional Ecumenical Officer and for developing ecumenical relations; for Neil Spiring, our Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser, and his team to ensure that safeguarding is deeply embedded in our church culture and practice.

Mon 19th: COMMUNITIES: for the Transforming Communities Together Team in their work of 'Supporting people and communities to thrive and flourish'. We pray for the team members: CEO: Rev Dr David Primrose, Emma Smith, Shaz Akhtar, Rev Cassius Francis, Gurj Shergill, Debbie Huxton, James Henderson, Helen Titterton, Su Parker, Mike Bridgewater, Sarah Thorpe, Jon Miles and TCT Trustees; for the many ways they are impacting the people and communities in this Diocese particularly in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic: for Just Finance Black Country, Preventing Shocking Debt, Black Lives Matter Initiatives, Modern Slavery, Mothers' Union Modern Slavery Campaigner, Faith and Finance. Jesus Money, Hate Crime, Black Country Near Neighbours, **#peopleofhope**, Places of Welcome, Real People Honest Talk, Black Country Modern Slavery, Wolverhampton and Walsall Anti-Slavery Partnership (WASP), Homelessness Networks & Forums, Wolverhampton Poverty Truth and Food Poverty.



Tues 20th: SCHOOLS: We pray for the staff, pupils and families of our 206 schools; for the 45,000 pupils in our church schools, for Claire Shaw the Director of Education, for the Diocesan Board of Education and the St Chads Academies Trust. We thank you God for the gift of education – help us never to take it for granted. In line with the Church's vision for education we pray that adults and children may flourish, having an opportunity to live life in all its fullness. And we pray that our schools will find the support they need in our diocese, our churches and through our clergy to:

Day of Prayer October 2020

- Educate for wisdom, knowledge and skills: enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.
- Educate for hope and aspiration: enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.
- Educate for community and living well together: a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.
- Educate for dignity and respect: the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.

Wed 21st: AROUND THE WORLD: We give thanks for our part in the worldwide church. We pray for the wider Anglican Communion seeking to respond to the challenges and suffering caused by Covid-19; for wisdom and resilience for Archbishop Justin Welby; for all our global partnerships remembering Bishop Steve Diseko and all in the Diocese of Matlosane, South Africa; for Bishop Rob Hardwick and all in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, Canada; for our brothers and sisters in the Nordkirche, in Northern Germany; for the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, the Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton and for the developing friendship between the church families of The Carrigaline Union in that Diocese and The Church At Perton; for Archbishop Melter Tais and the province of South East Asia as we pray for Christians in Malaysia; for our links with Anglican Mission Agencies remembering particularly USPG and CMS; for all overseas links and charities with which our parishes are connected.

Thur October 22nd: CHAPLAINCY: There are over 70 chaplains in our Diocese. We pray for them in the particular challenges they face at this stage of the pandemic as they make difficult decisions or redesign services to meet a constantly changing need; for those based in schools, colleges and universities as they embark on a new term; in business and workplace environments; in hospitals and hospices (name those near to you); in prisons and young offenders institutions (remembering HMP Drake Hall, HMP Stafford, HMP Stoke Heath, HMP Swinfen Hall, HMYOI Werrington and HMP Dovegate) and all in the armed forces and emergency services; pray too for all who are part of chaplaincy teams in a voluntary capacity and for those with a developing sense of vocation and service.



Fri 23rd: 'We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities': for The Revd Pamela Ogilvie and Archdeacon Julian Francis as they prepare to lead a Task Group seeking to make our churches and our diocese authentically and visibly committed to justice and inclusion for people of every ethnicity and culture.

Sat 24th: SHAPING FOR MISSION: pray for this newly launched programme and for all Deaneries as they seek to discern a vision for sustainable mission in the future, that we may learn from the creativity and adaptability with which we have responded to Covid-19, and respond faithfully to the serious financial challenges yet being intentional as we seek to play our part in God's mission. Pray too for all existing mission projects, pioneer ministers and fresh expressions.

Generous God, You have provided for your people in every generation. In our faithlessness you remained steadfast. In our obsession with scarcity you provided abundance. In our anxiety you offered us freedom from fear. In our despair you gave us hope. We receive your gifts, believe your promises and trust you for the future.

May we cease trying to fix the church and join with you in loving your world. May we hear your call to fullness of life and share it with others. May we be shaped by the Good News of Jesus, the light of the world And may we seek your kingdom as People of Hope. **Amen.**