



Interim Newsletter Advent 2020

In the Shadow of Coronavirus

We wanted to alert you to a number of opportunities to engage with the worldwide church. This seems so particularly important as we seek together to respond to the challenges of the pandemic.

We give thanks for the development of vaccines, yet are very aware of enormous difficulties in ensuring that poorer and less powerful countries have equal access to these.

Using the prayer for Friday 27th November from the Diocesan Prayer Diary:

*We give thanks for the development of **Covid-19 vaccines**; we pray for those continuing to research and trial these; that these vaccines may be made available to the world's poorest people; we pray for the Anglican Communion Health and Community Network and the Anglican Communion Science Commission, working together on Anglican responses to the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Reconciliation, Hope and New Advent

An introduction to indigenous culture and spirituality.

Monday 7th December at 3:00pm (local time for Bishop Chris 9:00am) via Zoom

This is the first of three sessions to be led by Bishop Chris Harper, the first indigenous Bishop of Saskatoon, Canada. Saskatoon is close to the Diocese of Qu'Appelle with which we have enjoyed a longstanding Companion Diocesan Link.

Bishop Michael is delighted that Bishop Chris has agreed to share his experience and wisdom and is looking forward to taking part in this experience of learning together. This is a remarkable opportunity to learn from and share our questions with someone whose life experience connects with many of the complex issues with which we are dealing.

To register your interest and request the Zoom link, please contact:
denise.keen@lichfield.anglican.org.



Anticipating Advent



Saturday 28th November
18:30pm (GMT) 19:30pm (CET)

Sharing the Journey of Discipleship and Preparing for Christ's Return

A Lichfield/Nordkirche Partnership Advent Service
Developed from an Original Idea
by Canon Robert Parsons

There will also be a Workshop at 3:00pm
focusing on the 'O' antiphones used in the last seven days of Advent.

The Anticipating Advent Service will be followed at 7.30pm by 'Tea and Stollen', fellowship and chat.

All are very welcome to take part in this important annual expression of our partnership with the Nordkirche.

Please contact: terry.bloor@lichfield.anglican.org to request the Zoom link.



Partnership for World Mission

The annual PWM conference is, like so much else, taking place via Zoom. This means we have the privilege of meeting and listening to a wide range of speakers from around the world. PWM is the Church of England network for affirming and developing our global partnerships.

The speakers will include:

The Rt Revd Shourabh Pholia, Bishop of Barisal, Bangladesh; The Revd Kofi DeGraft Johnson, (General Secretary of the Council of Anglican Provinces in Africa); Revd Canon Carole Wardman, Bishops' Adviser for Church & Society, Church in Wales and Paul Tester, Mission Development Manager for Latin America, Church Mission Society

The worship, too, will reflect the rich variety of the worldwide church. You are very welcome to participate in this conference whether or not you have ever had any dealings before with PWM.

No charge will be made, however, you will need to register in advance.

The conference will take place on Zoom in 4 x 2 hour sessions over the 2 days.

To book please click on the link below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2020-partnership-for-world-mission-conference-brave-new-world-tickets-121166745999>

Shaping for Mission

Shaping for Mission is a deanery-based initiative which you may have already come across.

Whilst formal Companion Diocesan Links are very important, World Mission is actually much bigger than this because God is far bigger and wider.

We are keen to be able to identify and celebrate the wide range of links, connections and friendships that people already have worldwide, whether with mission partners, organisations or charities.

We would like to include these occasionally in the Diocesan Prayer Diary as an expression of celebrating where we **find God already at work in the world.**

Do please contact us to share details of your existing links which might be extended across your deanery, with your input and help: denise.keen@lichfield.anglican.org



Day of Prayer

We were very encouraged by the response to this call to pray together for the fulfilment of our shared Diocesan Vision as we take forward 'Shaping for Mission'. The 24 hourly slots were all filled by individuals and groups often representing areas of ministry in the Diocese, by parishes and teams, and by different Deaneries.

We were delighted that our global partners and friends from Qu'Appelle, Canada; Nordkirche, Germany and the Province of South East Asia were able to take part – their support was particularly valued during the night hours!

News of how the day progressed was posted on our [Diocesan Facebook group](#), including photographs, short videos and personal reflections on the experience. See the [list of scheduled contributors](#) and more [feedback from the Day of Prayer](#), as well as our plans to pray weekly for the Deaneries with the help of the [Diocesan Prayer Diary](#).

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[World Mission website](#)

[Diocesan Prayer Diary](#)

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

THE SMALL PRINT

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