

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 36

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 6th December: (*Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*) We pray for God's blessing upon 'Shaping for Mission', that our 28 Deaneries will 'be confident in the Gospel'; for the Wulfrun Deanery, Wolverhampton serving a population of around 122400; for Revd Nick Watson, Area Dean, and Lay Chair, Mike Hotchkiss; for the Churches, Church Schools, Chaplains and Fresh Expressions in the Deanery.

Mon 7th: (*Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Teacher of the Faith, 397*) Give thanks for the ministry of the Rt Revd Bishop Chris Harper, the first Indigenous Bishop of Saskatoon, Canada; we pray for him and the Synod Staff including Canon Lorea Eufemia and Archdeacon Alex Parsons as they seek to respond to the challenges of Covid-19; for Bishop Chris as he shares insights into First Nation issues with members of this Diocese today on Zoom.

Tues 8th: (*The Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*). God, you ask us to become part of your family, to allow Jesus to live in our lives. Help us to hear your voice leading us, and, with Mary, to say 'yes' to you, through Jesus, who is the shoot from the stump of Jesse. Amen.
(*Revd Chris Thorpe: from Jesse tree, Ploughshares and First Fruits 2020*)

Wed 9th: Healthcare: for all hospital staff, whatever their role – for emotional, physical and spiritual resilience under constant and ever-changing pressure. Pray for all at the Burton, Tamworth and Lichfield hospitals, including Rev Hugh Baker, Rev George Crossley (CofE) and Fr. Fabian Adindu (RC), in their ministries as part time chaplains.



Thur 10th: Following the circulation of the Church of England's 'Living in Love and Faith' teaching and learning resources, exploring questions of human identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage, we pray for a commitment to go deeper into scripture, to seek God's wisdom and understanding, and to prayerfully discuss these matters.

Fri 11th: The fifth Mark of Mission within the Anglican Communion is to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. We pray for our Diocesan wide response to this urgent task, for the Diocesan Environmental Group and our Environmental Team of Richard Clarkson in his role as Diocesan Environmental Officer and his colleagues Emma Cooksey, John Polhill and Steve Hollinghurst; for the development of more Eco Churches; and all seeking to work through what this means to us in our evangelism and discipleship.

Sat 12th: Our Diocesan vision is 'for a church that partners with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope'; for Debbie Huxton who works as the Mothers' Union Modern Slavery Campaigner for Transforming Communities Together; for engagement with and positive outcomes as a result of the current 16 Days of Activism against gender based violence.