

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 38

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 20th: (*O Clavis David - O Key of David*) We pray for a Diocesan wide response to the urgent task of safeguarding creation; 'Dear Lord, we pray that the worldwide abuse of nature can be addressed and reversed bringing an improved balance of life for humanity that will lead to a greater level of happiness and peace. Come Lord Jesus'.

Mon 21st: (*O Oriens - O Dayspring*) We pray for God's blessing upon 'Shaping for Mission'; for the Cheadle Deanery serving a population of around 42,000 people in the Staffordshire Moorlands; for their Rural Dean Revd Michael Follin, Lay Chair Sylvia Bainbridge and SFM Team administrator Beth Flashman. Pray for ownership of this call to mission amongst the 10 Parishes and 5 Benefices and in particular for SFM Champions to be identified to assist with this.

Tues 22nd: (*O Rex Gentium - O King of the Nations*) Eternal God, beyond the desolation of poverty, of our violence and war, you have given us the vision of the nations at peace with the earth and with one another. Recall us to this your purpose in our day. Prosper the work of the United Nations and its agencies bringing together the peoples of the world in the pursuit of truth and justice, equity and peace, so may the nations be one as you are One, now and forever. Come Lord Jesus.

Wed 23rd: (*O Emmanuel - God is With Us*)

God of wonder and wisdom,
inspiring us with the wonders of the universe,
guiding us with the wisdom of the ages,
be with us now as we call on you,
to be our Wonderful Counsellor,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. (*Revd Chris Thorpe: What's in a Name? Ploughshares and First Fruits 2020*)

Thur 24th: (*Christmas Eve*)

*Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven
in the silent watches of the night,
and now your Church is filled with wonder
at the nearness of her God.*

We pray for all services taking place across our Diocese, in church, other venues and online.

Fri 25th: (*Christmas Day*) For the 2 billion members of the church worldwide as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour; for Archbishop Justin Welby and the 80 million members of the Anglican Communion; for our Diocesan Bishop Michael and Area Bishops Clive and Sarah and Matthew (designate); for the gift of joy as we worship the Christ Child.

Sat 26th: (*Stephen, Deacon, First Martyr*) **Healthcare:** for all in our care homes and nursing homes throughout the Diocese; for staff and residents; for the speedy and effective rolling out of the vaccine programme and for individuals who are experiencing isolation and loneliness.