

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 62

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers take forwards the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery focus. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, both locally and globally.

Sun 6th June: (*Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945*) As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray for the **Shrewsbury Deanery**; for Area Dean: Phil Cansdale; Assistant Area Dean: Andrew Knight & Lay Chair: Gill Carding; that the 85,000 people in the Shrewsbury Deanery 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 rural and urban communities; for a church that partners with others seeking the common good, working for justice as people of hope.

Mon 7th: We pray for the **Shaping for Mission** team in the Shrewsbury Deanery and for their facilitator Laura Edwards; for effective collaboration as they seek to work jointly with their neighbouring Deanery of Wrockwardine; for ministry and mission to children, young people and young adults; for increasing partnerships and collaborations across Anglican and other church networks; for creating a culture for fresh expressions to thrive, including online life and for deepening spiritual life across the Shrewsbury churches.

Tues 8th: (*Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, Hymn Writer, 1711*) for Rev. Harry Edwards serving as Lead Chaplain and Spiritual Care Co-ordinator at the Severn Hospice, Bicton Heath; for those reviewing the current Chaplaincy Service and for ways ahead to enable the teams to resource Community Nursing more effectively; for others working in healthcare chaplaincy, including Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Redwoods Centre as they respond to the many local and national pressures.

Wed 9th: (*Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597; Ephrem of Syria, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Teacher of the Faith, 373*) For Rob Hardwick, Bishop of Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, as he prepares to retire in July; for all expressions of global partnerships throughout the Deanery; for developing links with mission agencies.

Thur 10th: For Fi Iddon, Associate Vicar of Trinity Churches, in her ministry with the Chaplaincy to the University Centre, giving thanks for opportunities to support both staff and students over the last year; pray for the chaplaincy, which like UCS itself is in its infancy, as they begin to re-start things which were only fledgling when they had to stop last year. Pray for the introductory session to 'Living in Love and Faith' (LLF) for clergy and licensed lay leaders taking place this morning.

Fri 11th: (*Barnabas the Apostle*) For Shrewsbury School and Revd Alex Aldous, Chaplain; for all the Year 8 pupils at Prestfelde Prep as they leave that they would be suitably equipped emotionally, mentally and spiritually for their new schools, and that the end of year would be a positive send-off; for resourcing of staff and for all suffering from Long Covid. Give thanks for those involved in supporting schools throughout the Deanery, including chaplains, strong church-school partnerships and those who work in schools; for the work of "Shrewsbury Youth for Christ" as they partner with local churches in secondary schools in particular.

Sat 12th: For creativity and boldness in responding to significant numbers of new homes in the Shrewsbury Deanery; for imagination in how best to be and do church in rapidly changing parts of the town, and for resources to be most effective in our ministry and mission. For James Walton, ordained in June and beginning his curacy in Castlefields parish with Fr Simon Sayer.

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