

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 46

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

Our prayers take forwards the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery focus. As People of Hope we remain mindful too of the implications of Covid-19, both locally and globally. We take note too of the Archbishops' Call to Pray for the Nation this month particularly at 6.00pm.

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February:** (*Racial Justice Sunday; Cyril and Methodius, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869 and 885; Valentine, Martyr at Rome, c.269*) Our Diocesan vision is '**for a church that reflects the richness and variety of the communities we serve**': for Revd Pamela Ogilvie and Archdeacon Julian Francis as they lead the Task Group seeking to make our Churches, Deaneries and Diocese authentically and visibly committed to justice and inclusion for people of every ethnicity and culture; for an informed and faithful outworking of all we have learned through Black Lives Matter over the past year.

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup>:** (*Sigfrid, Bishop, Apostle of Sweden, 1045; Thomas Bray, Priest, Founder of the SPCK and the SPG, 1730*) We pray for the **Wem and Whitchurch Deanery**; for their engagement with Shaping for Mission; for their Rural Dean: Revd Adam Clayton and Lay Chair: Roger Ashton; for the SfM Team and for courage and clarity as they meet; for the congregations of the 21 Churches as they minister within a largely rural context and for the 12 Church Schools; for all Chaplains and Fresh Expressions within the Deanery. We give thanks for USPG and all mission agencies and charities supported by churches in the Deanery and pray for a willingness to share in God's mission world-wide.

**Tues 16<sup>th</sup>: Shaping for Mission:** for all clergy and lay leaders of the Wem and Whitchurch Deanery to engage and work together as they discern the way forward with Shaping For Mission; that churches may look to the future, to see where God is already at work and where God might be leading; for SfM Deanery Facilitator Simon Foster and the next team meeting.

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup>:** (*Janani Luwum, Archbishop of Uganda, Martyr, 1977*) For Revd Deborah Walton and the congregations of Prees, Edstaston and Whixall; for Deborah in her Deanery-wide mission appointment, as Chaplain to the Deanery's two secondary schools; for Sir John Talbot School, Whitchurch, for Mr Tim Stonall: Headteacher, staff and pupils; for Thomas Adams School, Wem, for Mr Mark Cooper: Headteacher and all staff and pupils.

**Thur 18<sup>th</sup>:** For head teachers and members of senior leadership teams who have to lead school communities in these changing times as they seek to support teachers, staff, parents and pupils; for those who have had little or no holiday or rest since the summer break; for pupils isolated from friends, teachers and the holistic learning environment of school, especially as we approach the anniversary of the first lockdown; for all struggling with motivation, well-being and mental health.

**Fri 19<sup>th</sup>:** For the Fauls, Tilstock and Whitchurch Benefice; for Revd Canon Judy Hunt and curate Revd Sam Johnson; for the patients, relatives and staff at The Community Hospital and local Care Homes; for outreach to families through the weekly video for families and children started recently by Sam; for the Time Together group for those with dementia and their family members as it continues fortnightly by Zoom or phone.

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup>:** For churches throughout the Deanery to respond to the challenges of climate change; 'Dear Lord, we pray that the worldwide abuse of nature can be addressed and reversed hopefully bringing an improved balance of life for humankind that will lead to a greater level of happiness and peace'. (*Roger Ashton from this Deanery*)

**Week Beginning 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021**