

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 50

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers take forwards the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery focus. Please refer too to the Lent prayers for SfM available <https://bit.ly/3bh3kBA> . As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful too of the implications of Covid-19, both locally and globally.

Sunday 14th March: We pray for the **Walsall Deanery**, described as the largest Deanery in the country; for Rural Dean-Fr Mark McIntyre, Assistant Rural Dean-Emily Reynolds and Lay Chair-Nigel Beck; for the rich variety of approaches to mission expressed through all churches, chaplaincies and fresh expressions as they seek to minister and share the Good News with online and in-person services.

Mon 15th March: Shaping for Mission: We pray for the SfM team in the Walsall Deanery and for SfM facilitator: Simon Foster; for all 14 members of the Shaping for Mission team; for a positive response to the questionnaire which has been distributed to inform the vision setting process; for any anxieties and fears around the SfM process; and for wisdom, prayerfulness, and compassion.

Tues 16th: Chaplains: We pray for the healthcare chaplains working in Walsall Manor Hospital, Dorothy Pattison Hospital and the Palliative Care Centre remembering Joe Fielder, Alison Coles, Keith Duckett and Anthony Swaby; also the University chaplaincy team working with students and staff on Walsall campus, and across the University of Wolverhampton during this difficult time remembering Sarah Schofield, Wolverhampton Uni Lead Chaplain, and her colleagues in the team.

Wed 17th: (*Patrick, Bishop, Missionary, Patron of Ireland, c.460*) **Schools:** Pray for all the schools as they adjust to being back in person & giving thanks for the dedication and hard work of teachers throughout this time; for all those involved with children's youth and family work. Pray too for our Diocesan link with Cork, Cloyne & Ross and also for the Bishop's Staff Meeting taking place today.

Thur 18th: (*Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386*) For the churches which are in **vacancy**; St Paul's at the Crossing & St Luke's (Walsall), All Saints (Bloxwich), St Michael's (Pelsall), Christ Church (Blakenall), St Thomas (Alridge) and Beacon Church (Pheasey). Pray for all those in the Walsall deanery struggling with **financial insecurity**; for the work of the Black Country Foodbanks, Walsall Outreach and the money advice centres, and all organisations seeking to meet these needs.

Fri 19th: (*Joseph of Nazareth*) **Black Country Urban Industrial Mission** – pray for the chaplaincy team made up of lay and ordained, paid and volunteers, who offer a few hours each week to visit employers in industry, commerce and the public sector; pray too for the West Midlands Fire Service stations in the Black Country and those offering chaplaincy.

Sat 20th: (*Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687*) 'Blessed are those whose hearts are set on pilgrimage' (Psalm 84v6) Pray for our Diocesan wide **season of pilgrimage**, for pilgrimages to Lichfield linking in with the unveiling of the statue of St Chad at the Cathedral in June; for the development of a new pilgrimage route from Lindisfarne to Lichfield via Lavington; and for the Two Saints Way to continue being a means of bringing healing, blessing and spiritual resourcing to pilgrims and all communities on the route.

