

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 56

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 25th April: (*Mark the Evangelist*) We give thanks for the Diocesan Day of Prayer and for all who participated in prayer; today we pray for the **Oswestry Deanery**, for Rural Dean-Paul Darlington, Assistant Rural Dean – Harvey Gibbons and Lay Chair- Jacqui Clarke; praying for the town of Oswestry and all the surrounding villages including those which straddle the Welsh border; for ministry within the 20 churches and for good links with the 8 church schools.

Mon 26th: Shaping for Mission: for the SfM facilitator Steve Hollinghurst and for the SfM team; for confidence in the gospel and making it known; for all matters around multi-generational church; for wisdom to see the best way forward with all the buildings to be used for discipleship, evangelism and training.

Tues 27th: (*Christina Rossetti, Poet, 1894*) for Matt Barkley in his role as Pioneer Youth Minister for Oswestry Rural Youth Church; that he may be resourced and guided by God's Spirit in this ministry; praising God for the growth seen during 2020 and the relationships made with families and young people; that relationships may be made by local churches with those who have had little contact previously with their local church and have connected through ORYC events and are now seeking.



Wed 28th: (*Peter Chanel, Missionary in the South Pacific, Martyr, 1841*) pray for Matthew Gobbett, a former St Chad's Volunteer from Moose Jaw in Saskatchewan, who was based at Holy Trinity Church, Oswestry; giving thanks for the positive experience of Christian formation he received and for him as he discerns God's way forward; for the Bishop of Qu'Appelle Rob Hardwick as he retires in July.



Thur 29th: (*Catherine of Siena, Teacher of the Faith, 1380*) for the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital and for Revd Simon Airey in his work as Chaplain; for all who have experienced high levels of stress over recent months and for the staff and patients as they adjust to changing circumstances.

Friday 30th: (*Pandita Mary Ramabai, Translator of the Scriptures, 1922*) **Schools:** For the eight church schools in the Deanery, for Oswestry School and the spiritual needs of the teachers and pupils giving thanks for the resumption of chapel services after a gap of over a year.

Saturday 1st May: (*Philip and James, Apostles*) for Oswestry Deanery as it moves towards the vision setting phase of Shaping for Mission; for those leading and participating in the centrally organised Vision Setting sessions.

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

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Diocesan Day of Prayer. For reports, photos and words of encouragement visit the Diocesan [Facebook Group](#)