

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 61

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 May 30th: (*Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906; Joan of Arc, Visionary, 1431; Apolo Kivebulaya, Priest, Evangelist in Central Africa, 1933*) As we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray for the **Tamworth Deanery**; for Rural Dean: Gary Simmons; Assistant Rural Dean: John Grice & Lay Chair: David Litchfield; that the 74,000 people in the Tamworth 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 31st: (*The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth*) We pray for the **Shaping for Mission** team in Tamworth Deanery and for their facilitator Lindsey Hall; for all in the Deanery to submit to and engage with the challenges and opportunities of this process; we give thanks for the way congregations and buildings have adapted and for where faith has grown and not diminished.

Tues June 1st: (*Justin, Martyr at Rome, c.165*) We give thanks for all staff at the Sir Robert Peel Community Hospital; those working on the wards, in therapies, outpatients, the minor injuries unit and the amazing support staff in all their various roles; we give particular thanks for the way that the communities around Tamworth have given support over the last year with generous gifts and invaluable prayer; for the Reverend Hugh Baker (Team Chaplain) and the Reverend Alison Thorp (Chaplaincy Manager) in their continuing ministry to staff and patient

Wed 2nd: We pray for all churches in vacancy in Tamworth at the present time, both in the C.of.E and for ecumenical partners too in Tamworth Churches Together; for St. Editha's Church Tamworth in the heart of Tamworth still in vacancy; for a positive response to the Team Vicar post advertised for Stoneydelph and Glascote Heath; for the smaller congregations in towns and countryside for whom these times can look very uncertain.

Thur 3rd: (*The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7 and 1977*) The fifth Mark of Mission is to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth; we give thanks for the recent Diocesan forum on the environment and pray for Steve Hollinghurst, Diocesan Evangelism Enabler - Environmental Focus; for Rich Clarkson and Emma Cooksey and all seeking to assist parishes in responding positively to the challenge of this task.

Fri 4th: (*Petroc, Abbot of Padstow, 6th century*) For the 3 church schools and all community schools in the Tamworth Deanery; for rest and refreshment for staff and pupils on half term; for all facing exams and important assessments; for pupil well-being and for all who seek to provide specific support.

Sat 5th: (*Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr, 754*) for the Regional Bishop of Nordkirche, Bishop Kristina Kühnbaun Schmidt; for Bishop Tilman Jeremias with his oversight of the districts of Mecklenburg and Pomerania and his ministries in matters environmental, social and political; for Melanie Dango and Änne Lange as they sustain global partnerships and anticipate opportunities to meet in person

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

