

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 84



Our prayers, again this week, are for COP26 and have been prepared for personal or corporate prayer, in the Cathedral and around the Diocese of Lichfield. They can be used flexibly, and adapted in response to developments at the conference.

Sunday 7th November: *We pray for world leaders:*

that they may all work together, through the decisions taken, to protect the planet and all life within it. *Lord, in your mercy*
We pray for the Church: may we discern our roles and tasks arising from the decisions taken at COP26 and take action to achieve them. *Lord, in your mercy...*

We pray for the world; that our collective actions will begin the long process of repair to the damage we have caused and that God will help us become better stewards. *Lord, in your mercy...*

We pray for our parishes and local community: that decisions taken in our parish life will help us live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the earth and all life within it. *Lord, in your mercy...*

O God, who calls all people to justice and care for the earth, hear and grant these prayers. Through Christ our Lord. Amen¹

Monday 8th: *Theme - limiting global emissions to 1.5 degrees*

- 70% of the world's economies have committed to this on paper; pray their plans and actions will make this a reality.
- Pray that richer nations and financial institutions will help finance poorer nations to develop the technologies to provide cleaner energy.
- Pray for Green jobs to be created across our world, bringing hope to millions of lives.
- Pray for end to investment in all forms of fossil fuels²

Tuesday 9th: *Theme - stewardship of nature as God intended*

- Pray for the protection of threatened habitats across our world, in particular the rain forests.
- Pray for the rewilding and restoring of habitats so that we allow nature to restore eco systems and create sustainable agriculture across the world.
- Pray for Christian organisations engaged in encouraging our stewardship of God's creation, including A Rocha UK, Tear Fund, Operation Noah, and many others.
- Pray for our farmers as they will have to change practices in the coming decades.²

Wednesday 10th: *Theme - extreme weather events*

- Pray for National and local Government leaders as they plan for more extreme weather events.
- Pray for those who determine planning decisions for new developments, that they will plan for extreme weather events
- Pray for those affected across the world by flooding and forest fires.
- Pray for those parts of the world for whom rising sea levels could be catastrophic.²

Thursday 11th: *Theme - Climate and Environmental Scientists*

- Give thanks for the gift of science that has allowed us to see how our use of fossil fuels is affecting people and nature around the globe in the present and the future.
- Prayer for scientists working of new IPCC reports on the impact of Global Warming and ways to mitigate against its worst effects due to be released next year.
- Pray for scientists and engineers who are using their creativity to develop ideas and technology that will help reduce the intensity of Climate Change and moderate its impact.
- Pray for a new generation of scientists who have an appreciation of the wonder of creation and are motivated to find ways to protect both people and the whole community of creation.²

Friday 12th: *Theme - role of the Christian community*

- Pray for the Holy Spirit to awaken the hearts of all Christians to our complicity in harming God's creation and then to see ourselves as those who should lead by example.
- Pray for our church communities to invest in green solutions within our buildings and land, and a willingness to share best practice.
- Pray for Christian voices to speak up against the injustice of climate change as it effects the poorer nations disproportionately, and for richer nations to financially support green solutions across the world.²

Saturday 13th:

Loving God,

We praise your name with all you have created.

You are present in the whole universe, and in the smallest of creatures.

We acknowledge the responsibilities you have placed upon us as stewards of your creation.

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 as they seek to embrace the changes needed to foster a more sustainable society.

Instil in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the poorest and most vulnerable, and commit their nations to the care of Our Common Home.

We ask this through Our Lord Jesus Christ your Son. Amen ([COP26-Prayer-Card-v3.1-no-crops.pdf](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/COP26-Prayer-Card-v3.1-no-crops.pdf) ([cbcew.org.uk](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)))

¹Adapted from [COP26 prayers of intercession | CAFOD](https://www.cafod.org/); https://www.baptist.org.uk/Articles/617657/COP26_A_BUEN.aspx;