

Our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the many varied roles and ministries. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally and globally. Let us also continue to pray for those in Ukraine who suffer grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 8th May: *(Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, c.1417)*

Today we remember our companion diocese of Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan; praying especially for Bishop Helen, born in Nuneaton, UK; and giving thanks that we are now able to discuss the possibility of visits to each other's dioceses again. As we continue to grow in our cross-cultural relationships, pray for wisdom for all our Mission Teams across the globe, that we will grow together in peace and harmony to mutually flourish in the kingdom of heaven, meet, greet, and establish new disciples in the name of Christ.

Monday 9th:

Pray for Samuel Ntoyimondo, chaplain to HMP Swinfen Hall; giving thanks that they now have no new covid cases in the establishment either from staff or prisoners and that finally they have managed to hold services and Bible study in chapel every Sunday morning and Tuesday afternoon after a long time during the pandemic. Pray for the new Governor who arrived in August 2021 and for the Prison Management Team, who face a difficult task not only to manage the day-to-day activities and ever-changing challenges, but also have to deal with their own anxieties.

Tuesday 10th:

We pray for West Bromwich Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Ron Farrell and Lay Chair, Hazel Bloxham; giving thanks for the measure of renewal known post-Covid, and for the faithfulness in the Deanery of officers, workers, and priests. Pray for those parishes which have been hardest hit – that they may soon see green shoots. We also pray that the right candidates will see the advertisement for the extended parish of St Andrew's and will be moved to apply.

Wednesday 11th:

We pray for Wulfrun Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Ian Poole, Assistant Revd Sue Boyce and Lay Chair, Mike Hotchkiss; giving thanks for the unity of heart and mind currently being experiencing both in Chapter and Deanery Synod.

Pray that the deanery would continue to grow in its vision together as it anticipates new clergy being appointed in due course.

Thursday 12th: *(Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952)*

We give thanks for the Community of Chaplains and remember them especially as they prepare to meet this evening at Shallowford House. Pray for Megan Smith, recently appointed Archdeacon of Stoke, who will be sharing something of her previous experience as a university chaplain. Pray for those who will take part, chaplains from every field across the diocese, that this will be a time of rest, reconnection and reflection for them all.

Friday 13th:

We pray for Edgmond & Shifnal Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Matthew Lefroy, Assistant, Revd Mary Thomas and Lay Chair, Malcolm Maclean; giving thanks for the progress made in planning how the two clusters in the deanery might foster greater cooperation and collaboration.

Pray that none will lose sight of their overall vision for the Deanery in the increased business and activity as individual parishes 'open up' more and more following Covid.

Saturday 14th: *(Matthias the Apostle)*

Loving God we pray for the Vocations Quiet Day to be held today at St Thomas' & St Andrew's Church, Doxey. We thank you for the innumerable gifts that you have given to us and pray that you will help us know what it means to abide in you and love our neighbours as you love us.

We pray particularly for those exploring vocation, that you may speak to them in the silence of their hearts so that they may be strengthened in their identity in Christ. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.