

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 117

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

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 3rd July: *(Thomas the Apostle)*

We pray for Stafford Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Richard Grigson, Assistant, Revd Martin Strang, Lay Chair, John Clark and Assistant, Stuart Hodson; giving thanks for all those beginning new ministries this Pentecost, especially the newly ordained. Pray for them and also for those who are facing difficulties in ministry. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance for all across the deanery who are seeking the way forward.

Monday 4th:

We pray for Revd David Clark who will be licensed today by Bishop Matthew at St Thomas, Walton as Associate Minister of Berkswich; and for Revd Cath Leighton who will be licenced tomorrow by Bishop Clive at St John the Baptist, Armitage as Team Vicar of Brereton and Rugeley with Armitage. Pray also for churches across the diocese who will be taking part in Srebrenica Memorial Week from 4-11 July with a theme, this year, of *Combatting Denial: Confronting Hatred*. (*Remembering Srebrenica [website](#)*)

Tuesday 5th:

We remember the Christians around the world who face persecution because of their faith in Jesus Christ - estimated to be around 360 million or one in seven. Pray for all those who will be taking part, today & tomorrow, in an international conference hosted by the UK Government to promote freedom of religion or belief. (*Earlier this year, General Synod backed a [motion of support](#) - brought by members from our diocese - for all experiencing persecution*)

Wednesday 6th: *(Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535)*

We pray for Stoke-on-Trent Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Shaun Morris, Assistant, Revd Dave Street, Lay Chair, Mike Whittaker and Assistant, Des Cotton; giving thanks for opportunities for churches to work alongside their local communities, particularly in preparation for the [Better World Festival](#). Pray for those parishes in vacancy: Mow Cop, Hartshill, Penkull & Trent Vale, Longton Hall, Fenton and Mount Pleasant. Give thanks for the members of Bishop's Council and pray God's blessing on them as they meet today,

Thursday 7th:

Pray for Katharine House Hospice; giving thanks for Revd Kathy Jones, new Family Support Team leader, as she guides, trains & supports staff & volunteers through restructuring; for Revd David Clarke, a recent & valued addition to the Chaplaincy team; for staff & volunteers who have embraced a new way of working as opportunity to learn new skills to support all those who use the Hospice. Pray for long serving volunteers who have now decided to take a different path; for the Embrace & Hospice at Home teams working in the community, caring for end-of-life patients in their homes & supporting their families; for the counselling team as they explore thoughts & feelings with those diagnosed with serious illness, also families & friends, pre and post bereavement.

Friday 8th July:

We give thanks for our fledgling link with the Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross. Pray for Revd Julia Cody, link working group leader, as she spends part of her sabbatical in that area this month - and that others from both dioceses will be led to make parish to parish links.

Lord Jesus, you are the vine; may we remain rooted in you, each congregation a branch, linked to each other in you. Holy Spirit, flow through us, enabling our friendship to flourish, as we learn about and from each other; and commit ourselves to pray for each other. May we enjoy fruit as you grow your Church and Kingdom in and through us all. We ask this for your glory, Amen. (*Extract from the Perton & Carrigaline Twinning Prayer*)

Saturday 9th:

Pray for the online Intercultural Church Conference 2022 today - a one-day event from the Evangelical Alliance to promote the significance and application of an intercultural approach to church in the UK - in a season when there is division and polarisation in both church and society. Pray for the speakers and delegates, that all will leave equipped with biblical convictions behind an intercultural approach to church; confident in best practice and connected with others on the journey. (<https://www.eauk.org/>)

Pray for all members of General Synod as they meet - that there will be a sense of gracious generosity and understanding as views are exchanged and important matters are discussed and decisions taken.

For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican 12cycle of prayer:

anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx

Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer Wednesday 19th - Thursday 20th October 2022, 12 noon to 12 noon.