

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 121

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

We have been praying last week and this for the Lambeth Conference 'God's Church for God's World' and its impact on the life of the Anglican Communion in the decade ahead. We also remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19; and continue to pray for those in Ukraine suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> July:** *A prayer from The Community of the Gospel, the Episcopal Church:*

O good and gracious God, we come with joyful hearts of expectation, offering prayers to you for unity, strength, and great success at the Lambeth Conference. As the bishops of your church gather to seek your direction, to share with each other & to carry out your will, we pray, dear Lord, that you continue to fill them with the Spirit of love, & that it is manifested in the transformed lives of these shepherds, and the flock to whom they minister. And then, Lord, it is our plea, that the transformed children of your Kingdom would, through missionary zeal, seek to transform others, by your love flowing through us. These mercies we ask, in the name of the one who loved us to death; Jesus the Christ. Amen

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August:** *The Brotherhood of St Gregory, The Episcopal Church:*

O God, by your grace & Spirit you have raised up witnesses and servants in many lands and cultures: Pour out your blessing upon the churches and provinces of the Anglican Communion, and upon their leaders as they gather for fellowship in the Lambeth Conference, that their diversity may enrich their common witness and service to the honour & glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>:** *The Congregation of the Companions of St Benedict, Anglican Diocese of Cameroon, Church of the Province of W Africa*

Lord God, who reconciled people to you through Jesus Christ's intercession and resurrection, you granted us peace in Christ through your blessing to your followers and you call upon us to build peace among human beings, just as your apostle Paul did when he exhorted their followers to be at peace with all people, (Ro 12:18); You call us to pray and supplicate to you with gratitude (Phil 4:6): we pray for peace for all those who will attend the Lambeth Conference and for the life of the Anglican Communion. Yet, let us understand that all genuine reconciliation can only be attained if we ourselves are first reconciled to you: And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philemon 4-7) Amen!

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>:** *The Third Order, Society of St Francis, Province of the Americas, The Episcopal Church:*

Spirit of Love, illumine our hearts & minds to discern the way forward as brothers and sisters ready & willing to respond to the desperate needs of your creation. We recall St. Francis reminds us: 'All things of creation are children of the Father and thus brothers of man. God wants us to help animals if they need help. Every creature in distress has the same right to be protected.' Help us, gentle Spirit, to have the ears to hear the cries of creation, the eyes to see the tears of creatures on the brink and the will to act to heal the suffering all around us. Inspire our time together, dear Lord, to find a way to rekindle the love for all Creation and embrace the care exemplified by indigenous peoples. Spirit of Love, keeper of life, inspire us to keep a loving vigil over the needs of creation and take such action that will truly serve to protect & preserve it. Amen

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>:** *Inter faith relations – A prayer from the order of St Helena, the Episcopal Church.*

Our prayer for the life of the Anglican Communion is that we open our hearts to peoples of other faith traditions: where there is a history of hurt and pain, may we seek reconciliation; where there are differences in beliefs and practices, may we engage in respectful dialogue; where we have been divided in our mission and values, may we strive to transcend these differences in our shared responsibility for peace and for stewardship of this precious earth. We pray for sacred friendships to grow & flourish in our common desire to live holy lives as we seek the divine presence.

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup>:** *A prayer from The Order of St Benedict – Mucknell Abbey, Church of England:*

Holy and loving God, we thank you for calling us to be disciples of Jesus Christ.

As we grow in our discipleship, we ask for the gift of eager curiosity to discover ever deeper and richer meaning in Jesus' way of life and teaching. Give us the grace to recognise their implications for our own attitudes and ways of living, and rather than take refuge in past assumptions, give us the courage to respond to the challenges with trustful obedience. May our discipleship be our increasingly faithful witness to your Risen Christ who dwells in us and to your unbounded love for all your creation. We ask this as members of Christ's mystical body here on earth. Amen.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>:** *The prayer of The Sisters of Jesus Way, Church of England is Jesus' prayer for His Disciples & All Believers John 17:20-22*

"Holy Father protect them by the power of your name – the name you gave me – so that they may be one as we are one. My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me....I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me".