

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 125

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 suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 28th August: *(Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher of the Faith, 430)*

Pray for Walsall Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Mark McIntyre, Assistant, Revd Emily Reynolds & Lay Chair, Nigel Beck; giving thanks for the recent Deanery Lay Conference. Pray God's continued blessing on the ministries of lay leaders across the deanery and for all about to embark on Reader training, that the conference will have enriched and encouraged their ministries and enabled new friendships to be formed. Give thanks for Revd Lisa Mitchell newly licensed to St John's, Walsall Wood; pray for parishes, chaplaincies & fresh expressions within the deanery, especially those in vacancy: Tynings Lane, St Mark's Shelfield, Christ Church Blakenall and St Chad's Beechdale.

Monday 29th: *(The Beheading of John the Baptist)*

Today, we pray for our friends of the Nordkirche where a promotion of human rights for refugees is underway. By way of a bus tour, numerous locations are being visited; workshops and engaging activity ideas for congregations will be offered. The timing and starting point of this promotion acknowledge the 30th anniversary of the "Sunflower House" siege which took place in Rostock where stones and incendiary devices were thrown out of the crowd against refugees sheltering there. Please pray for positive results influencing hearts and minds.

Tuesday 30th: *(John Bunyan, Spiritual Writer, 1688)*

Give thanks for the work of Transforming Communities Together, whose mission is to partner with others, seeking the common good, working for justice as people of hope, so that communities may flourish and those who are vulnerable, isolated, and disadvantaged might enjoy life in its fullness. Pray especially for an informal [information session](#) being held today via Zoom to encourage parishes in providing local Places of Welcome. May all who take part find new ways to connect with their community that are enjoyable, impactful and sustainable. [Transforming Communities Together](#)

Wednesday 31st: *(Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 651)*

Prayer by St. Aidan of Lindisfarne:

Leave me alone with God as much as may be.
As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore,
Make me an island, set apart,
alone with You, God, holy to You.

Then with the turning of the tide
prepare me to carry Your presence to the busy world beyond,
the world that rushes in on me
till the waters come again and fold me back to You.

Thursday 1st September: *(Giles of Provence, Hermit, c.710)*

We pray for Eccleshall Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Doug Heming & Lay Chair, Jonathan Jones; praying that individuals and churches of the deanery can find the strength to embrace any necessary change & find the good in new opportunities. Give thanks for the ministry of Revd Nigel Cemas as he retires, that he may enjoy having time for himself & his family; and pray for the parishes of Chapel Chorlton, Maer & Whitmore as they begin an interregnum. Pray for Revd Alison Thomas, being licensed today as Interim Minister of Holy Trinity Eccleshall and St Chads Slindon, that she will help to prepare for a new full-time minister as we grow & develop into the future.

Friday 2nd: *(The Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 and 1942)*

Loving God, we thank you for the martyrs of Papua New Guinea, who remained faithful in their ministry in danger and even to death; may their witness strengthen your church today in service and courage, and in the power of the Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Pray for all who continue to be persecuted for their faith, that God will give them the courage to act and speak out as inspired by the Spirit despite the dangers they face, and that He will bless and protect them.

Saturday 3rd: *(Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 604)*

We remember families across the diocese in any kind of need, mindful of the additional financial pressures on them during school holidays, and as they prepare for children to return to school next month. Give thanks for the varied help offered by many churches through food banks and the like, and pray that their compassion and generosity will reflect God's love to the communities they serve. Pray especially for the Uniform Banks operating in Chell Parish and through Churches Together in Lichfield, including St Michael's Church, that the donations made and the support offered will enrich the lives of all involved and help grow God's Kingdom of love.

For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx
Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer Wednesday 19th – Thursday 20th October 2022, 12 noon to 12 noon.