

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 126

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 4th September: (*Birinus, Bishop of Dorchester (Oxon), Apostle of Wessex, 650*)

Pray for Revd Will Drain, who will be licensed on Tuesday as Vicar of St Lawrence Biddulph; and for Revd Hannah Lins who will be licensed on Thursday as Priest-in-Charge of Bicton, Montford with Shrawardine and Fitz (Benefice) and of Leaton & Albrighton with Battlefield (Benefice).

Monday 5th:

Pray for the people of Pakistan as they suffer heavy floods triggered by torrential rains across the country, Moderator of the Church of Pakistan, Bishop Dr Azad Marshall said: *While the level of devastation will not be known until the flood waters recede, it is obvious that the people of Pakistan, especially those living in remote areas, are going to need a lot of help. Our hearts grieve over the loss of lives and the devastation caused by this natural disaster and we pray for God's mercy and grace on our beloved country ... our resilient nation will rise up to the challenge and together we can alleviate the suffering of our countrymen.* Remember also our CMS mission partner, Freda Carey, and her colleagues, as they work in education and training for Christian ministry in Lahore.

Tuesday 6th: (*Allen Gardiner, Missionary, Founder of the South American Mission Society, 1851*)

As a new school year begins, pray for all Christians involved in our church schools; remembering especially: Revd Charlotte Cheshire who will be licensed today as chaplain to Holy Trinity Academy, Hadley, and for Revd Andrew Cranston who will be commissioned on Friday as Chaplain of Oswestry School.

Lord Jesus Christ, as a child, you increased in wisdom and stature, you listened to your teachers and asked them questions. Bless those who learn that they may grow in the knowledge of their Maker, Redeemer, Life-giver, and of your glorious world we live in. Bless those who teach, that they may share the wisdom they have received from above and that they may do their work with patience and love that reflect your mercy that endures forever Amen

Wednesday 7th:

Pray for Trysull Deanery: Rural Dean, Revd Julia Cody, Assistant, Revd Richard Reeve, Lay Chair Richard Pithers & Assistant, Cyril Randles; giving thanks for the amazing service of Church Wardens and PCC members.

Pray for all parishes in vacancy: Smestow Vale Team with vacancies at Wombourne and Swindon & Himley and for Revd Richard Fisher, Team Vicar; Pennfields Parish as Revd Tim Eady prepares to retire; for Tim and his wife Julie as they move to Yorkshire and adjust to retirement. For St Chad's, Pattingham which has been in vacancy for over a year. Pray for all discussions concerning future ministry as part of Shaping for Mission.

Thursday 8th: (*The Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary*)

Pray for Newcastle Deanery: Rural Dean, Revd Andrew Dawswell, Assistant, Revd Simon Maddison and Lay Chair, Chris Gill; giving thanks for the licensing today of Revd Dot Woods as self-supporting Associate Minister of Betley and Madeley; pray for her, for their recently appointed Children, Youth and Families' Minister, Ruth Fish and for Vicar, Revd Tim Watson. Pray also for Chesterton & Knutton, at different stages of the vacancy process; and for the 3 new curates and their families as they continue to settle in.

Friday 9th: (*Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880*)

We pray for tomorrow's [Crossroads Vocations Conference](#) organised by the Vocations & Training team via Zoom, to help people explore their calling to ministry. We pray for all who will share in Bible study, reflection and group discussions around the theme of 'Stories of Calling in the Bible,' looking at how God calls the most unlikely people to extraordinary ministries; and for all seeking God's guidance on the next steps for their lives.

Loving God, as we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, help us inhabit his passion for mission and pastoral care. As we respond to God's call on our lives, may we embody a deep love for Christ and his people. May we always remain humble and faithful in our vocation and ministry; we ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Saturday 10th:

Pray for all who will take part in [Ride & Stride](#) today, giving thanks for the [Staffordshire Historic Churches Trust \(SHCT\)](#), and for the funds raised, which provide for the maintenance and upkeep of many churches across the diocese. Pray that those who provide refreshments and act as stewards will warmly welcome all visitors to their churches; and pray for all who walk or ride, that they will be inspired by the churches they visit, and will have a sense of God's presence over many, many years of worship in those buildings.

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.