

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 131

**Our prayers this week mark Prisons Week, journeying through hostility, stigma & despair to move towards hope with thankful hearts for all that is possible; taken from the [website](#), where further information can be found. We pray also for prison chaplains across the diocese. We remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19 locally & globally; and continue to pray for all in Ukraine and the people & leaders of Russia.**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>:** HOSTILITY... *As Jesus made his way to Jerusalem, He went along the border between Samaria and Galilee. Luke 17:11* A prison volunteer's prayer:

Lord Jesus, you knew how it felt to be in hostile territory. Send your Holy Spirit to be with everyone who is experiencing fear today and especially those spending their first night in prison. Stay close to guide and strengthen them so that they in their turn may open their hearts to know you, to love you, to serve you and to thank you. And we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

At the start of World Homeless Week, please remember those who need food, comfort, shelter and sanctuary and all who are working for justice for all. <https://churchhomelesstrust.org.uk/>

**Monday 10<sup>th</sup>:** SUFFERING...*Jesus was going into a village when He was met by ten men suffering from a dreaded skin disease. They stood at a distance and shouted, "Jesus! Master! Take pity on us!" Luke 17:12.* A prisoner's prayer:

Oh God, you know how depressed I get. You know how time passes so slowly for me. You know how at times I feel bitter and resentful. I am lost without you. Oh God help me to welcome those who offer friendship, to look for those who need to be comforted, so that in giving I might have no time for loneliness. Thank you for promising never to leave me alone, that in quietness and rest I shall find your strength.

Pray for Revds Christine Simpson & Mark Kinder at HMP/YOI Stoke Heath & David Howard at HMP/YOI Brinsford

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>:** COMPASSION...*Jesus saw them and said to them, "Go and let the priests examine you." Luke 17:14.* A victim of crime's prayer:

Father, we bring before you all those in prison. You never turn anyone away who comes to you for help. You have the power to change lives, and so we pray you will reveal Jesus to them. Touch them deeply Lord and bring healing and deliverance to their lives, fill them with hope for the future. We give you thanks for all your love and goodness. Amen.

Pray for prison chaplains Revds Sarah Morris and Elaine Wykes at HMP Drake Hall.

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>:** HEALING ... *On the way they were made clean. Luke 17:14.* A prisoner's prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for reaching down into the pit and saving me; for healing the pain and self-destruction and setting me on a new path. A path of peace, peace with myself, with You and with those I love and have hurt. Help me to continue, to be grateful each day for what I have received.

Pray for prison chaplains Revds Ned Kelly at HMP Stafford and Drew Walker at HMP Dovegate.

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup>:** GRATITUDE... *When one of them saw that he was healed, he came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself to the ground at Jesus' feet and thanked Him. The man was a Samaritan. Jesus said, "There were ten men who were healed; where are the other nine? Why is this foreigner the only one who came back to give thanks to God?" Luke 17:15-18.* A family member's prayer:

Forgive me Lord, for all that I am and all that I'm not. Praise you Lord, for all that I am and all that I'm not. Thank you for these kind-hearted people who've helped me through the toughest time in my life. Give us patience when we are tested. Help us see there is no point being lost in bitterness, when we should be grateful to be alive.

Pray for chaplains Revds Samuel Ntoyimondo at HMP Swinfen Hall and Taiwo Olumuyiwa at HMP Oakwood.

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup>:** SENT... *And Jesus said to him, "Get up and go;" Luke 17:19.* A prison chaplain's prayer:

Dear Jesus, you told the healed man to get up and go, now I am asking You to help me go and do the same; that in this place I might carry Your message of love, kindness, gratitude, forgiveness and, especially, compassion to all. Help me to encourage all I work with, to grow in love for you, for others and most of all for themselves, and may your kindness grow and flourish.

Pray for prison chaplain Nigel Haywood at HMP Featherstone.

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>:** HOPE ... *"your faith has made you well." Luke 17:19* A prisoner's prayer:

Heavenly Father, I thank you today for the gift of faith You fill my heart with; a faith that is helping me to hear and believe the 'words of life' that only Jesus can speak; to respond in obedience to His words of salvation and healing, forgiveness and cleansing, of grace and mercy. Words of invitation, comfort and acceptance in every place and circumstance I am in. Bringing hope and love in the Holy Spirit's light.

Pray for prison chaplains Revds Vanda Perrett, Jeff Cuttell and David Howard at YOI Werrington.

**For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: [anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx](http://anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx)**  
Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022, 12 noon to 12 noon. Has your deanery booked a slot yet? Please plan to join in prayer in the diocese's virtual prayer room via Zoom. Further details available from [Denise Keen](#) or the Day of Prayer webpage.