

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 133

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 23<sup>rd</sup> October:

It helps, now and then, to step back and take the long view. The Kingdom is not only beyond our efforts; it is even beyond our vision...Nothing we do is complete...No program accomplishes the church's mission. No set of goals and objectives includes everything. This is what we are about: We plant the seeds that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development...It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest... *(Extracts from a prayer by the late Bishop Ken Untener of Saginaw)*

Monday 24<sup>th</sup>:

In the aftermath of the terrible monsoon flooding that has devastated vast areas of Pakistan in recent months, we pray for the millions who have lost their homes and livelihoods and those suffering with cholera, malaria, diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases as a result of drinking contaminated flood water. Pray for God's help, strength and provision for the Government of Pakistan and the aid agencies involved in this huge relief operation. *(Taken from the Feba [prayer guide](#))*

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>: *(Crispin and Crispinian, Martyrs at Rome, c.287)*

We give thanks for all the staff in the different departments of Lichfield Diocese's Secretariat, for the gifts God has blessed them with and the conscientious way in which they carry out their work on a daily basis. We ask for your wisdom for those dealing with difficult decisions or wondering how to tackle something new, for those battling with cash flow issues and the budget deficit, and for those dealing with very heavy workloads and seeking to set sensible priorities. We also pray for diligence, wisdom and clarity for all preparing for Diocesan Synod next month. Amen.

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup>: *(Cedd, Abbot of Lastingham, Bishop of the East Saxons, 664)*

We give thanks for the many ways churches across our diocese are seeking to serve and bless their communities, sharing the gospel of love in very practical ways through food, uniform and hygiene banks and through places of welcome and warmth.

Heavenly Father, help us to acknowledge the injustices made manifest by the current crisis; to meet them with a thirst for righteousness; and to respond with a commitment to change. Help us to see hope dawning even in the darkest moments, to nurture empathy, to reject greed and to embrace compassion. Remind us of Jesus' command to 'love one another as I have loved you.' Amen. *(Adapted from the Trussell Trust [prayer guide](#))*

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>: *A Prayer for Ukraine from Archbishop Justin Welby and Archbishop Stephen Cottrell:*

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup>: *(Simon and Jude, Apostles)*

Almighty God, who built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the chief cornerstone: so join us together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>: *(James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, Martyr in Uganda, 1885)*

We pray today for the recently formed Shrewsbury and Wrekin Deanery, following the union of the previous Shrewsbury and Wrockwardine deaneries; and for Rural Dean Revd Simon Sayer and Assistant Revd Fi Iddon, both licensed last week.

Give thanks also for the service and ministry of Revd Edith Quirey and pray for her as she retires as Priest-in-Charge of Hodnet Benefice, and as she continues to have permission to officiate.

**You can get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically through the free PrayerMate app on iOS and Android. For further information please [click here](#).**

**For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: [anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx](http://anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx)**