

Our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally & globally; we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world, and for the people & leaders of Russia.

Sunday 28th May: *(Very Revd Bob Key, who leads in Thy Kingdom Come across the Anglican Communion, has written this year's Novena, which ran from Ascension Day to Pentecost - Copyright © 2023 by Thy Kingdom Come)*
God gave the whole world the right to hear the Gospel without having to learn another language or a whole load of theological shorthand. So often our language is aimed at insiders, those who are already members of the club. Jesus didn't do that and Pentecost sends us to do the same.

Continue to pray that the precious people we have been carrying to Jesus in our prayers these last 11 days may respond to His great love and receive His new life. Pray that we may Live the Kingdom clearly and simply 'So the world may believe.' John 17:21.

Monday 29th:

We pray for Trysull Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Julia Cody, currently on study leave, Assistant, Revd Richard Reeve, Lay Chair, Richard Pithers, and deanery secretary Jane Woolf. After many years of service, we give thanks for the wisdom and commitment of Cyril Randles, Assistant Lay Chair, who has decided to retire from this role, and we pray for his successor. We think of all those in key roles, such as PCC members, in our parishes as they take up their responsibilities with enthusiasm, energy and fresh eyes. Amen

Tuesday 30th: *(Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906)*

Pray for Revd Graham Wigley who will be licensed today as Interim Minister with responsibility St Andrew with Christ Church, West Bromwich. Pray also for Revd Martin Ennis as he retires this week; giving thanks for his ministry as both Vicar of Tividale and as Rural Dean of Wednesbury.

Wednesday 31st: *(The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth)*

We continue to pray for Trysull Deanery:

We pray for Revd Joshua Blunt as he begins his ministry as Associate Minister with responsibility as Resident Minister at St Joseph's Merry Hill. We give thanks for the congregation at St Joseph's as they welcome him and his family into the area and community. We pray for all the clergy and congregations in the Penn Fields team as they continue to work together encouraging more people, especially the younger generation, to know the love of Christ. Amen

Thursday 1st June: *(Justin, Martyr at Rome, c.165)*

We continue to pray for Trysull Deanery:

In a few weeks' time, Archdeacon Julian will be undertaking his visitation to the deanery. We pray for him and those preparing and taking the service and for all the churchwardens and clergy attending. We thank God for all elected to the role of churchwarden and their desire to work closely with the incumbent. We particularly pray for wardens and people of the parish of St Chad's Pattingham, still in vacancy, and for St Benedict Biscop in Wombourne awaiting, with excitement, the arrival of their new rector, Revd Julia Cody.

Friday 2nd:

Pray for pioneer ministers, especially for Laura Lenander, who has always felt really called to be a part of the revitalisation of the church. She is in the final year of a pioneer curacy, and at present seconded to cover a large town centre church whilst the vicar is on sabbatical. Give thanks that this is going well and pray for wisdom that Laura will be able to discern what God is calling her to in the future.

Saturday 3rd: *(The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7 and 1977)*

O God, by whose providence the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church: Grant that we who remember before you the blessed martyrs of Uganda, may, like them, be steadfast in our faith in Jesus Christ, to whom they gave obedience, even unto death, and by their sacrifice brought forth a plentiful harvest; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

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