

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 and 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 23rd July: (*Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373*)

We pray today for Revd Phil Robertson, as he retires as vicar of St Jude Wolverhampton and also as assistant rural dean of Wolverhampton, giving thanks for his faithful service and ministry, and asking God's blessing on the next chapter of his life.

Monday 24th: (*Suggestions provided by Revd David Rajiah, Prayer Coordinator for Diocese of West Malaysia*)

Compassionate God, we pray for families across our diocese, as they prepare for the summer break from school. We recognise that whilst some are looking forward to rest and relaxation, others will be stressed by the need to juggle working life and child care. We remember the families where lack of money creates tensions, and who will be relying on food banks; where good spaces for children to play are limited and for children who will be anxious and afraid and longing for the security of school life. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Tuesday 25th: (*James the Apostle*)

Pray for the rural dean of Leek, Revd Nigel Irons, vicar of St. Edward's Church, Leek, who is at present on extended study leave until the end of August; for Revd Darren Fraser, also on extended study leave and for the parishes of St. John's Knypersley and Christ Church Biddulph Moor and for the church wardens and those providing cover during Nigel and Darren's absence. Pray for the newly appointed officers of the Deanery Synod and for all new members elected to serve for the first time this year.

Wednesday 26th: (*Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary*)

Give thanks for those in the diocese who advise parishes about reducing carbon footprint. Pray that they might discern the way forward and allocate grant funding wisely, to meet targets set by General Synod for reducing our carbon footprint by 2030. [Click here](#) for further details.

Pray also for the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting today; providing practical and administrative support across the diocese and helping parishes to care for and develop church buildings and churchyards.

Thursday 27th: We continue to pray for Leek Deanery:

Pray for the clergy in the deanery who will be enjoying a holiday between now and September.

Pray for those who have school age children and those whose partner has to take their holiday during the summer school holidays.

Pray for the retired clergy and others, such as Readers, who will be ensuring that every parish is covered for Sunday worship and for weddings and funerals during this busy month.

Pray for parishes which will be running holiday clubs & other forms of outreach, during the summer break.

Friday 28th: We continue to pray for Leek Deanery:

Pray for parishes in the deanery directly affected by proposed changes, at present out for consultation by the Church Commissioners; and for Bishop Matthew, Archdeacon Megan and rural dean Nigel, as they oversee the future structure of the deanery. Pray for clergy in the deanery who will have to take on additional responsibilities under the proposed changes and for parishes where their present vicar will have to be shared with another parish for the first time. Pray for parishes whose incumbents are shortly to move on, especially the parish of St. Luke's & St. Paul's, Leek and for Revd Matt Mallins & his future ministry.

Saturday 29th: (*Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord*) We continue to pray for Leek Deanery:

Pray for the church schools in Leek Deanery; for head teachers and for foundation governors. Pray for new teachers taking up posts in September and for children who will be starting at a new school in September.

Pray for those children who will receive their GCSE and A Level results in August.

Pray for those who will be going to university, college or into the world of work this autumn.

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For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx