

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 30th July: (*William Wilberforce, Social Reformer, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833, 1797 & 1846*)

We pray today for:

Revd Preb Martin Rutter, as he retires as Vicar of Great Barr.

Revd Jane Dicker as she retires as Vicar of the benefice of West Bromwich.

Revd Rod Clark, retiring as Rector of St Chad Lichfield & Bishop of Lichfield's adviser in Deliverance Ministry.

Revd David Wright leaving as Team Rector of Central Wolverhampton and Rural Dean of Wolverhampton to be Chancellor of St Paul's Pro Cathedral, Valletta in the Diocese of Europe (Malta).

Monday 31st: (*Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556*)

Prayer of St. Ignatius of Loyola - Diocese of Saint Petersburg. "Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give, and not to count the cost, to fight, and not to heed the wounds, to toil, and not to seek for rest, to labour, and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we are doing your will."

Tuesday 1st August: (*Suggestions provided by Revd David Rajiah, Prayer Coordinator for Diocese of West Malaysia*)

Pray for our friends in the Province of South East Asia: the Dioceses of West Malaysia, Kuching, Sabah and Singapore. Thank God for all the Bishops, Clergy, Deacons and Deaconesses, Lay Pastors and Evangelists who work hard to spread the Gospel and draw people to Christ. Pray for an outpouring of the Spirit on all the churches, that there may be a revival. Ask God to give our Leaders a vision of what He wants to do through this Province; and thank God for all those who have faithfully served Him and gone to be with the Lord. We give thanks for those who quietly serve in our churches and have blessed so many people. May their service and ministry as God's fellow workers be remembered when Thy Kingdom comes. Amen.

Wednesday 2nd:

We pray for Lichfield Deanery, for Rural Dean Revd Lynn McKeon, assistant Revd Abbie Walsh, for Deanery clergy and for all those in positions of leadership within the Deanery. We give thanks for the Shaping for Mission Team, for their time, vision, commitment and discernment, praying for the team as it thinks more strategically about implementing ideas for mission and evangelism within the Deanery, particularly within new housing areas, children's work/schools, and caring for God's Acre; that the churches in the Deanery may engage in all aspects of the churches mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Thursday 3rd: We continue to pray for Lichfield Deanery:

We pray for those parishes in interregna: St Giles Whittington, St Marys Weeford, St Bartholomew Hints, St John The Baptist Shenstone, St Peter's Stonnall and St Chad's Lichfield. praying especially for those who have taken on additional responsibility within their churches. We pray that any necessary re-organisation may move forward expediently. May the people of God's choosing be appointed to these parishes.

Friday 4th: (*Jean-Baptiste Vianney, Curé d'Ars, Spiritual Guide, 1859*) We continue to pray for Lichfield Deanery:

We give thanks for the many social care and support initiatives undertaken by our Deanery Churches. For 'Burntwood Be A Friend', and the local Food Bank and its support of many individuals and families. We pray for volunteers who run 'Community Shops' in the deanery, established over the past couple of years, that they may continue to meet the needs of those who use them, and, in the process, reduce food waste.

Saturday 5th: (*Oswald, King of Northumbria, Martyr, 642*)

Give thanks for John Naylor, as he retires after serving with distinction for 11 years as the chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance, using his gifts to contribute to many aspects of diocesan life.

Pray also for his successor, David Wright, that God will guide and equip him in this new responsibility.

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