

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; we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those currently suffering because of wars and unrest and for all who take decisions around the world.

Sunday 12th November:

Archbishop Hosam Naoum of Jerusalem has offered the following prayer which is commended for use throughout the diocese:

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths - Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call to you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children - for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Monday 13th: *(Charles Simeon, Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836)*

We pray this week for Rugeley Deanery, for Rural Dean Revd Simon Davis and Assistant, Revd Paul Kelly. Pray for parishes in vacancy: for Rugeley, Brereton and Armitage, that the Holy Spirit will guide them as they seek a new Team Rector; and for the discernment process for Great Wyrley and Landywood currently in vacancy and for Colton House with a vacancy for a House for Duty Priest.

Give thanks for all ministers giving their time so generously to support all parishes in vacancy.

Tuesday 14th: *(Samuel Seabury, first Anglican Bishop in North America, 1796)*

Pray for the members of General Synod, currently meeting in London; and for the members of Lichfield Diocesan Synod who will be meeting on Saturday; that God will guide & inspire their thinking, conversations & decision making.

Wednesday 15th:

We pray again for Rugeley Deanery Shaping for Mission Synod as they meet today at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Etching Hill; and for Simon Foster who will address them on the theme of 'Confidence in Sharing Faith'. Give thanks that Deanery Synod has committed this 3-year cycle to resourcing ministry in the parishes, encouraged by visits from inspiring speakers; and for the way this is bearing fruit in the local parishes. Pray also for those parishes whose spirits are willing for mission, but financial resources are limiting them.

Thursday 16th: *(Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Philanthropist, Reformer of the Church, 1093)*

We pray again for Rugeley Deanery, giving thanks for many new and exciting opportunities across the deanery, to work in school communities, both primary and secondary, church and community schools. Give thanks also for new ministries developing with young people and their families, several amongst pre-school groups, and pray that God will continue to bless this work. Pray also for a Deanery Confirmation to be held in the new year, that candidates will come forward, particularly in the northern part of the deanery.

Friday 17th: *(Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200)*

O holy God, who endowed your servant and bishop Hugh of Lincoln with wise and cheerful boldness, and taught him to commend the discipline of holy life to kings and princes: Grant that we also, rejoicing in the Good News of your mercy, and fearing nothing but the loss of you, may be bold to speak the truth in love, in the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Saturday 18th: *(Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, Philanthropist, 1231)*

Pray for clergy taking up new posts: for Revd Vivienne Flanagan, licenced last week as Chaplain at the Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust;

for Revd Gavin Burnage leaving Walsall St Peter to be Priest in Charge of the Priory Church of St Mary of Mount Carmel, South Queensferry in Edinburgh Diocese;

for Revd Phillip Johnson who was instituted on Monday as Vicar of Eccleshall.

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