

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 196

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Last week & this, the prayer diary marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January)
We will be using excerpts from the resources on Churches Together in Britain and Ireland [website](#)
We continue to remember those impacted by natural disasters; those currently suffering because of wars and unrest and for all who take decisions around the world.

Sunday 21st January: *The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity continues:*

When he saw him, he passed by on the other side. (Lk 10:31)

May we never turn away from those in need

Lord Jesus Christ, may our eyes not look away, but be wide open to the world around us.

As we travel through life, may we stop and reach out, bind up the wounded and in so doing experience your presence in them. Give us a renewed commitment to journey with you towards unity. Amen.

Monday 22nd:

He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. (Lk 10:34)

Lord, help us see the wounds and find hope

Gracious God,

You who are the source of all love and goodness: enable us to recognise the needs of our neighbour.

Help us to be honest about our need for healing. Change us, so that we can love all.

Help us to overcome the obstacles of division, that we might build a world of peace for the common good.

Thank you for your renewing work in creation and for leading us to a future which is full of hope:

you who are Lord of all, yesterday, today and forever. Amen.

Tuesday 23rd:

Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. (Lk 10:34)

Lord, turn our churches into 'inns', welcoming those in need

God of unity,

In Jesus, you showed us the meaning of hospitality, by caring for our fragile humanity.

Help us to become a community that generously welcomes those who feel abandoned and lost, together building an inn where all are welcomed and loved.

May we become closer to each other as we flaunt your unconditional love in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Wednesday 24th: *(Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932):*

Jesus said: "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour?" (Lk 10:36)

Lord, show us how to respond to our neighbour

Holy God,

your Son Jesus Christ came among us to show us the way of compassion.

Help us by your Spirit to follow his example, to serve the needs of all your children,

and so witness together as Christians to your ways of love and mercy. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Thursday 25th: *(Amy Carmichael, Founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer, 1951)*

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise". (Lk 10:37)

Lord, may our mercy be a sign of your Kingdom

Mothering God, who holds the world in loving embrace, may we care for each other as you do, each and every soul.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, open us to each other and strengthen our bonds of communion and grow us in mutual affection.

Prince of Peace, give us the resolve to live out the Gospel faithfully that we may be radical welcomers and reconcilers.

Friday 26th: *(Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095)*

Pray for Christine Rier in her role as the new Church Buildings Support Officer, based in the Church Buildings Team, supporting church buildings and their communities through the initiative: 'Buildings for Mission'.

Saturday 27th: *(Holocaust Memorial Day)*

Father God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust. In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted, we recognise the evil in our world and ask that you equip us to stand against it. Let us not forget this horrific event in our history just as you have not forgotten the Jewish people in your eternal plan. Thank you that you have overcome this evil through your son, Jesus Christ who makes an atonement for sin and give us everlasting life. Amen.

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