

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 223

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the [Shaping for Mission](#) process, and the resulting strategic framework, within the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously along with the people & leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine and Israel.

Sunday 28th July: *(Excerpt of a prayer from the Council of Christian Churches in France (CECEF))*

Father, you have called all nations to form a people of praise to celebrate you; look now on France, hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Pour out your Holy Spirit on all those working for the realization of the games, and on the athletes from all over the world. Grant them the virtue necessary to give the best of themselves. May athletes get the support - in times of joy and trial, of successes and failures – from their loved ones, their coaches and our prayers. Help the French people, Lord, as they welcome all those who have come; brought together in the common passion for sport with the motto of the Olympic Games "faster, higher, stronger - together", let them together convey your love for every human being. In Jesus name we pray, Amen

Monday 29th: *(Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord)*

O God, heavenly Father, your Son Jesus Christ enjoyed rest and refreshment in the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany: Give us the will to love you, open our hearts to hear you, and strengthen our hands to serve you in others for his sake; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

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

God our deliverer,

who sent your Son Jesus Christ to set your people free from the slavery of sin:

grant that, as your servants William Wilberforce, Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson toiled against the sin of slavery, so we may bring compassion to all and work for the freedom of all the children of God;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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

We pray for our partner Diocese of Hyderabad, Pakistan, led by Bishop Kaleem John:

Pray for the clergy, mostly working in remote and isolated areas with very limited resources. Diocesan schools provide education to around 2030 children, many of whom would not otherwise have access to education. Pray for provision of the resources needed to pay staff fairly, for training opportunities for teachers (there is no standardized training, as in the UK), and for educational resources which will enable the children to learn well. Pray also for the youth leadership programme, that young adults will grow strong in their faith and grow to be ambassadors for Christ in their communities.

Thursday 1st August:

We pray for Tutbury Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Dr Robin Trotter and Lay Chair, Dr Doug Brown, giving thanks for their leadership and service to the deanery.

Friday 2nd:

Pray for Lichfield and Hereford dioceses as they work together on the formation of a new Muti Academy Trust – Shropshire Church of England Academies Trust - which is expected to launch this autumn with eight primary schools. In particular, this exciting project needs a variety of skilled and talented people to support it as Trustee-Directors. Pray that people of God's calling will volunteer for these important roles.

For further information, see the vacancy listing [here](#).

Saturday 3rd:

We continue to pray for Tutbury Deanery; in particular for two parishes in vacancy:

St Chad's Burton and St Mary's Stretton; with their diverse challenges and opportunities.

Give thanks for all who continue to serve and lead in these churches, and especially for those who were involved in last week's holiday club.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android [click here](#)

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