

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 225

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 11th August: *(John Henry Newman, Priest, Tractarian, 1890)*

God of all wisdom, we thank you for John Henry Newman, whose eloquence bore witness that your Church is one, holy, catholic and apostolic, and who made his own life a pilgrimage towards your truth. Grant that, inspired by his words and example, we may ever follow your kindly light till we rest in your bosom, with your dear Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit, where heart speaks to heart eternally; for you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Monday 12th:

We pray for Walsall Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Preb Mark McIntyre and Lay Chair, Mr John Maye, giving thanks for their leadership and service to the deanery. Pray for the deanery as it seeks to discern how the strategic framework will shape the life of the church in the Borough of Walsall; and for a fresh understanding and courage in discipleship together.

Tuesday 13th: *(Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910)*

Life-giving God, you alone have power over life and death, over health and sickness: Give power, wisdom, and gentleness to those who follow the lead of Florence Nightingale, that they, bearing with them your presence, may not only heal but bless, and shine as lanterns of hope in the darkest hours of pain and fear; through Jesus Christ, the healer of body and soul, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Wednesday 14th: *(Maximilian Kolbe, Friar, Martyr, 1941)*

Pray for the encouragement and development of partnerships across the Anglican Communion, that we may learn from one other and support each other in working for God's kingdom. Pray for the role of Partnership for World Mission (PWM), as it links the General Synod and the National Church Institutions with the Mission Agencies and the Diocesan Companion Links. Pray for Canon John Hall, volunteer with PWM, as he seeks to draw together those responsible for global companion links in each diocese. Pray for the Ven Dr Sue Weller, the Bishop's Advisor for World Mission; the leaders of each working group for the diocesan companion links; and all involved in parish-to-parish links as they all seek the best way to work with our global links for mutual support and encouragement.

Thursday 15th: *(The Blessed Virgin Mary)*

We continue to pray for Walsall Deanery where, during these early months of the summer, there has been a spike in violence on the streets. Pray for peace and reconciliation in our communities; praying especially for those whose lives have been devastated as a result of gang violence, shooting and knife attacks; and for all those who minister in these difficult places.

Friday 16th:

Give thanks for the work and ministry of Robert Mountford, Ecumenical Officer for Birmingham, the Black Country and Staffordshire, and pray for him, and those who accompany him, as he leads a three-day 'Methodist Heritage' pilgrimage for senior Church Leaders this weekend; during which they will visit the Englesea Brook Primitive Methodist Chapel and Museum.

Saturday 17th:

We continue to pray for Walsall Deanery; and especially for those parishes in vacancy: St Margaret's Great Barr, St Peter's Walsall, St Mark's Shelfield and St Andrew's Birchills. Give thanks for those in leadership positions who ensure the work of the parish continues, praying God's blessing on them as they carry out their responsibilities.

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