

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 247

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the [Shaping for Mission](#) process, and the resulting Strategic Framework 2024-2030, 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, Israel and the wider Middle East.

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January:

*(Aelred of Hexham, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167; Benedict Biscop, Abbot of Wearmouth, Scholar, 689)*

Lord, on St Benedict Biscop's day we pray for the one church dedicated to him in the diocese in the South Staffordshire town of Wombourne. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and community.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>:

*(Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, Teacher of the Faith, 367; Kentigern (Mungo), Missionary Bishop in Strathclyde and Cumbria, 603; George Fox, Founder of the Society of Friends (the Quakers), 1691)*

Today we pray for the start of the one-year [Living Faith](#) course in Wolverhampton Deanery, that it may be fruitful for all those who take part; and for the ['Counting Sheep'](#) session, that those who come looking for help with their Stats for Mission may find it, Today we also pray for Phil Cansdale as he starts his tenure as the Director of Mission and Ministry in Manchester Diocese, we thank you for his fruitful ministry here in the diocese in both Meole Brace in Shrewsbury and Merry Hill in Wolverhampton, and that you may continue to guide and bless him in the North.

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>:

Lord, today we pray for a plethora of courses and training opportunities taking place around the diocese and beyond, that each may bear positive fruit; for the Board of Education's course for those [New to RE Leadership](#), for the College of Preacher's course for on the opportunity of [Preaching at Baptisms](#); for the launch of the Spirituality Team's 2025 ['Soul Food'](#) programme; and for Pioneering Parishes ['Culture Change and Prejudice'](#) session.

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>:

We pray for the Pioneering Parishes initiative, and especially today, for the start of their 4-part ['First Steps'](#) programme; for anyone searching for tools to help them shift the energy of the parish outwards beyond the church walls.

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>:

Today we pray for opportunities in work with children and young people, and specifically for the Growing Faith Team's online morning session on [Seasonal Opportunities for Churches and Schools](#); and that those upcoming opportunities in Spring may be made the most of.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup>:

*(Antony of Egypt, Hermit, Abbot, 356; Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932)*

Continuing our Prayers in Penkridge Deanery, we pray for the churches in Penkridge parish itself, for St Michael's in the town centre and also the churches that surround it in the Levedale Mission, St John's Stretton, and St Modwena's Pillaton. We give thanks for a successful Start course and the thriving Messy Church, and we pray for integration of new members of the congregation to the church and a possible creation of a new service.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>: *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*

*(Amy Carmichael, Founder of the Dohnavur Fellowship, spiritual writer, 1951)*

At the start of the [week of prayer for Christian Unity](#), and for the focusses based on the Nicene Creed and shared by Churches Together in England; The fatherhood and motherhood of God who rules the universe; Creation as God's work. The Incarnation of the Son; The Paschal Mystery: Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus; The Holy Spirit, breath of God; The Church: Community of believers; Baptism into the Death and Resurrection of the Lord; Waiting for the Kingdom.