Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 119

**Our prayers continue for the ‘SHAPING FOR MISSION’ Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the many varied roles and ministries. As ‘People of Hope’ we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally and globally. Let us also continue to pray for those in Ukraine who suffer grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.**

Sunday 17th July:

Pray for the licencing today of Revd Paul Lucking as Associate Minister of Chell at St Michael’s Chell; and Revd Michael Bridgewater who will be licenced as Associate Minister of Hartshill, Penkhull and Trent Vale Benefice:

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church: hear our prayer for your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love, and give to your servants the needful gifts of grace; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, Amen

Monday 18th: *(Elizabeth Ferard, first Deaconess of the Church of England, Founder of the Community of St Andrew, 1883)*

We remember Bishop Danald Jute of Kuching Diocese, as he carries out a busy schedule of travelling seeking to cover the wide area of his diocese. Pray also for his senior clergy; giving thanks for those recently appointed: Revd Philip Tauk, Archdeacon of Northern Sarawak and Brunei Darussalam, Revd Joseph Dusit Ijau, Archdeacon of Upper Central Sarawak and Revd Lousi Then Jit Seng and Revd Rentap Nuang, canons. Pray that they will reach out to as many as possible in this unusual season in which God is actively working wherever and whenever people would open their hearts to Him.

Tuesday 19th: *(Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the Faith, c.394 and c.379)*

We pray for Cheadle Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Michael Follin and Lay Chair, Sylvia Bainbridge; giving thanks for recent events including a deanery social, flower arranging, bell ringing, and for the orchard planting folk at Dilhorne; also for the many baptisms and weddings taking place across the deanery this year. Pray for the Shaping for Mission IMPlementation group, that God will direct them for the next steps; remember also the prayer walk around Ilam taking place this week.

Wednesday 20th: *(Bartolomé de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566)*

We give thanks for the work of St Chad’s House, Leek, and pray especially for God’s guiding and enabling for warden Rachel Moore and those involved in facilitating a guided quiet day today, a prayer vigil this evening and a coffee, cake and chat session on Friday. Pray for all who enter this Christian retreat house that they will find healing, refreshment and renewal.

Thursday 21st:

Pray for those clergy who will be gathering today with Bishop Michael at Bishop’s House, Lichfield, for a day of retreat and refreshment ‘As water to the thirsty’, organised by the Lichfield Renewal Group. Pray that all taking part will be refreshed through inspirational worship and prayer ministry to return to their parishes better equipped to promote renewal in the Holy Spirit.

Friday 22nd: *(Mary Magdalene)*

As the network of Places of Welcome across the Black Country, Staffordshire and northern Shropshire are starting to reopen, we pray for all who will lead and attend a training session today, that the participants will be equipped to find enjoyable, impactful and sustainable ways to connect with their communities and to provide their neighbourhoods with places where all people feel safe to connect, belong and contribute.

*For further details of this network, as well as other Transforming Communities Together projects:* [*https://tctogether.org.uk/initiatives/pow*](https://tctogether.org.uk/initiatives/pow)

Saturday 23rd: A prayer for those affected by Dementia:

God of love,

In moments of confusion, keep us safe.

In moments of clarity, grant us joy.

In moments of frustration, give us peace.

In moments of sorrow, bring us comfort.

Though we now see through a glass, darkly, we trust you to see into the secret places of our minds and hearts and souls, beyond anything which limits us, to the person that is us, always has been use and always will be us.

Encircle us in your faith and hope and love, until we see you face to face,

until we know you fully, even as we are fully know. Amen

(*For more information on our Dementia-Friendly Church Network in the Diocese of Lichfield, contact:* *sarah.thorpe@lichfield.anglican.org**)*