

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 136

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the many varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. 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 suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 20th November: *(Priscilla Lydia Sellon, a Restorer of the Religious Life in the Church of England, 1876)*

Today, on Safeguarding Sunday, we remember that protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message of justice and hope. Let us pray that God would help us be a church that loves – welcomes – protects – listens – learns – serves – values – cares - believes. God of justice and compassion, hear our prayer. Help us, heal us, guide us, we pray. In Jesus' name. Amen.

And, having prayed, may we have the courage to act and to continue to make Church a safer place for everyone.

Monday 21st:

(A prayer from: Rev Lynne, Chaplain to the Fleet Air Arm Association, Telford)

As we remember how our Lord Jesus Christ laid down his life for the world, we give thanks for the many blessings on our nation, and for those whose sacrifice has given us the freedom and peace we now enjoy.

So, we hold in our thoughts and prayers those who suffer as a result of the conflicts our serving armed forces engage in, those who are injured, distressed and weakened.

For those who have returned back to our shores homeless and hungry and who have lost their livelihood and security. And we ask that you comfort and strengthen, heal the wounds and bring them peace.

Each and every one whom we hold before you, Holy Trinity of love. In your name, we say Aye.

Tuesday 22nd: *(Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c.230)*

Pray for Stone Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Preb Ian Cardinal and Lay Chair Dr Paul Graetz, giving thanks for the enthusiasm with which the Mission Action Plan was received at the recent Deanery Synod and praying for wisdom for its implementation. Pray also for the benefice of St Nicholas, Fulford and Christ Church, Hilderstone as they advertise for a House for Duty Priest.

Wednesday 23rd: *(Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c.100)*

Pray for 'Where do schools fit within the Church's mission?' LDBE training today; for Matthew and Alex as they lead, and all who will attend; as they explore how local churches can support schools in meeting the spiritual needs of learners and staff, how they can encourage them to take time with God in order for faith to become relevant to their lives; and how supportive partnerships to serve the local and wider communities can be formed. Pray for chaplaincies in schools, colleges and universities, across our deanery, especially those where links were lost during Covid, and for fresh opportunities to re-establish them. Pray especially for Revd Debra Dyson, chaplain to The Rawlett Academy, that there may be meaningful engagement between her and the school.

Thursday 24th:

Pray for Stoke-on-Trent Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Shaun Morris, Assistant, Revd Dave Street, Lay Chair, Mike Whittaker, and Assistant, Des Cotton; praising God for the many signs of His grace in our lives and ministries; for the situations He continues to give us to minister into on a day-to-day basis. We pray that as individuals and congregations we would grow in our knowledge and love of His Son, and that, as we prepare for the Advent and Christmas periods, God would graciously give us many opportunities to proclaim the gospel; that we would be courageous but sensitive, and that God's Spirit would move many to repent and receive the good news.

Friday 25th: *(Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748)*

Pray for the Late Night Listeners going out onto the streets of Lichfield City centre, bringing the light of Christ by their presence – usually monthly on Saturdays (10.30pm-1am) Pray for them as they go out tonight, at the request of the City Council and Staffordshire Police, as the World Cup match between England and the USA is being played, and a calming presence is being sought. Thank God for the volunteers and pray that they would be a blessing to the night-time economy and shine as a beacon of hope in the dark night.

Saturday 26th:

Pray for The Shropshire Churches Conference - Changing Church; Unchanging God - taking place today at Telford Minster; for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for all those who will lead, including the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Revd Richard Jackson; and that all who gather to worship and be inspired will be encouraged, challenged, equipped and reminded of their calling to be Christians in their communities.

You can get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically through the free PrayerMate app on iOS and Android. For further information please [click here](#).

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