Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 145

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 5th February:

Pray for all preparing to attend this week's General Synod of the Church of England; the national assembly which considers and approves legislation affecting the whole of the Church of England, formulates new forms of worship, debates matters of national and international importance, and approves the annual budget for the work of the Church at national level.

Monday 6th: (The Martyrs of Japan, 1597)

O God our Father.

source of strength to all your saints, who brought the holy martyrs of Japan through the suffering of the cross to the joys of life eternal: Grant that we, being encouraged by their example, may hold fast the faith we profess, even to death itself; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Tuesday 7th: Pray for the community of students & staff at Shrewsbury School, including chaplain Andy Keulemans: Father, help us to live in your love, that the fellowship of the Trinity might be lived out right here, where we live and work together.

Jesus, reconcile us one to another as you bring us before the Father, whole, forgiven, known. Spirit, direct us in all that we choose to do, that our life decisions may be rooted in your guidance and wisdom. Amen.

Wednesday 8th:

Pray for the work of organisations offering support and advice to all who are adversely impacted by the cost-of-living crisis, as a special online prayer meeting is held this evening at 7pm, organised by Christians Against Poverty, with support from Churches Together in England, plus many other churches and Christian organisations. Click here for further information or to reserve a place.

We pray for those in our diocese who are struggling. May they find hope and light in their darkness. We think of everyone who is facing financial difficulties during this cost-of-living crisis. May all who are in poverty, access the support they need. We thank you, God, for the hope that we can have in you. May our actions be a sign of hope for all. Amen.

Thursday 9th: At this time of unrest, both in our nation and in the world, let us seek God's gift of peace.

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:

kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward, until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; 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.

Friday 10th: (Scholastica, sister of Benedict, Abbess of Plombariola, c.543)

Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy.

We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

Saturday 11th:

Pray for those meeting today at St Peter's, Stoke-on-Tern, to consider Forest Church. May this be a time of blessing as those attending share experiences and explore the thinking and practice behind encouraging outdoor worship and encountering God in nature. Email Richard Barrett for further information or to book a place

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