Week Beginning 19th February 2023

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 148

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 the people of Northwest Syria and Central Turkey, whose lives have been devastated by the earthquake.

discipleship

Sunday 19th February:

Pray for Wulfrun Deanery: for Rural Dean, Revd Ian Poole, for Assistant, Revd Sue Boyce, & Lay Chair, Mike Hotchkiss, giving thanks for the biannual Deanery worship and food services.

Pray that they would continue to share across Deanery initiatives and would be open to the Lord leading them to partner in new ways in the future.

Monday 20th:

On the first anniversary of the Russian invasion of Ukraine:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons; for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Tuesday 21st:

We continue to pray for Wulfrun Deanery:

Give thanks for two clergy posts being advertised in the near future and pray that the Lord would guide the interview process, and those whom He is calling, so that the Deanery clergy team is greatly strengthened. We also give thanks for two clergy who are moving on and are grateful for their own ministries in their respective churches and their commitment to the Chapter.

Wednesday 22nd:

At the start of Lent, we pray for all across the diocese who will be taking part in Lent courses; particularly for churches and groups using the material recommended by the diocese, for those seeking to discover the power of faith in a conflicted world and those wishing to reflect on the place of disagreement within the Christian life. Pray God's guiding for those who lead and His blessing on all who take part. Click on the links to find out more about the <u>Difference Course</u> and the <u>Unity Course</u> or an episode of <u>The Ministry Shift which discusses both courses</u>.

Thursday 23rd: A prayer from Revd Lee Plummer, Chaplain and Head of Religious Education Wrekin College:

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the rhythm of grace at Wrekin College that we observe daily. As we approach exam season may you support our students in their application and help them prepare for the work ahead. For health – as the bugs and viruses continue to be amongst us, Lord, bring us health so that we may enjoy the spoils of our labourers in the classroom, activities & sports. Focus our minds for our futures but help us not to miss the need for us to focus on others as we engage in acts of charity throughout the term ahead. Lord, draw us towards you, and one another, to be a community that loves extravagantly, gives generously and uses with wisdom the talents that you have bestowed upon us. Amen

Friday 24th: (Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c.155)

Dear Lord, we thank You for giving us St. Polycarp as an example of holiness. Help us to imitate the deep love of You he showed from the time of his conversion, after hearing the preaching of the Apostles; choosing to serve You and Your Church faithfully throughout his life, courageously holding fast to his Faith to the point of death; working to foster respect and forgiveness among Christians and in treating his enemies with love.

Saturday 25th:

We continue to pray for Wulfrun Deanery; giving thanks for the strong engagement by lay leaders across the Deanery as they explore how to manage vacancies, and for the sense of unity experienced across the Deanery in all the churches.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android click here For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx