Week Beginning 26th March 2023 Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 153

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 and continue to pray for those affected by recent earthquakes, for the people of Ukraine, for decision-makers around the world and for the people & leaders of Russia.

Sunday 26th March: (Harriet Monsell, Founder of the Community of St John the Baptist, 1883)

Gracious God, who led your servant Harriet Monsell through grief to a new vocation; grant that we, inspired by her example, may grow in the life of prayer and the work of service so that in sorrow or joy, your presence may increase among us and our lives reveal the mind of Jesus Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be honour and glory, now and forever. Amen.

Monday 27th:

We pray for Alstonfield Deanery; for Rural Dean, Revd John Baines and Lay Chair, Janet Sadler. This is a deanery with the population of a modest town but spread thinly over a land area bigger than Liverpool. Pray for the clergy, wardens, treasurers, organists, bellringers, flower arrangers, and countless others who work hard to keep nineteen churches open and welcoming to all: raising funds; maintaining buildings and churchyards; cleaning; offering welcome; all contributing to the creation of places of stillness where God can be encountered.

Tuesday 28th:

We continue to pray for Alstonfield Deanery, with the population of a modest town but spread thinly over a land area bigger than Liverpool. Pray for those who live and work here, especially those who earn their living from agriculture: that a fair price will be paid for their labours; that their work feeding the nation will be appreciated; and that they will have access to enough water for their flocks and herds in any summer heat waves that come our way.

Wednesday 29th:

Pray for Revd Scott Edwards who will be licensed today at St Johns Church, Lawley, Telford as Team Vicar of Central Telford.

Pray for all those considering whether God is calling them to Reader Ministry, especially those who will attend a 'Reader Explored Zoom session this evening. For further details about Reader Ministry, click <u>here</u>

Thursday 30th:

We continue to pray for Alstonfield Deanery, with the population of a modest town but spread thinly over a land area bigger than Liverpool - pray for the six primary schools: their headteachers, staff, children, and families.

Pray too for affordable housing, that young people might be able to afford to live in the villages where they grew up so that their own children and families can thrive in these places. Pray too for the thousands of holiday-makers who visit each year.

Friday 31st: (John Donne, Priest, Poet, 1631)

Give thanks for the ministry of the Very Revd Adrian Dorber, who has served as Dean of Lichfield since 2005 and, on his retirement, for Rt Revd Jan McFarlane as she is licensed as Interim Dean today.

Pray also for all who will attend the Stoke-on-Trent annual Civic Prayer Breakfast today; and for guest speaker, Martin Tideswell, Director of Communities & Commercial Engagement at Staffordshire University.

Saturday 1st: (Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1872)

Pray for Transforming Communities Together as it is integrated into the Diocese of Lichfield so that its crucial social justice work with churches and communities can flourish into the future.

Pray for members of the Board of Trustees and TCT staff, that they will listen carefully to the needs of parishes to develop further work that supports mission and ministry in local communities, so that those who are vulnerable, isolated and disadvantaged might enjoy life in all its fulness.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android <u>click here</u> For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: <u>anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx</u> Diocesan Day of Prayer 19/20 April 2023 12 noon-12 noon in our virtual prayer room via Zoom For further details <u>click here</u>