

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 54

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers take forwards the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery focus. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, both locally and globally.

Sun 11th April: (*George Augustus Selwyn, first Bishop of New Zealand, 1878*)

Xristos Anesti: Christ has risen! **Alithos Anesti:** He has risen indeed! We give thanks for the life and example of Bishop Selwyn, who served as first Bishop of New Zealand before becoming Bishop of Lichfield. We pray for God's continuing blessing upon the Province of the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia; may we be inspired to become missionary disciples and to play our part in God's mission both locally and globally.

Mon 12th: We pray for the **Tutbury Deanery**, for Rural Dean-Rev'd Michael Freeman, Lay Chair- Dr Doug Brown and Deanery Secretary Cathy Lee; giving thanks for the variety and diversity within the Deanery; for ministry within the town of Burton and in the many villages to the south and west; for the 19 Churches and 5 Church Schools serving a population of nearly 70,000 people; for the Deanery Standing Committee and Deanery Synod with the resumption of in person meetings.

Tues 13th: **Shaping for Mission:** for the SfM facilitator Alex Wolvers and the SfM team; for the retention of good practices developed to maintain links during the pandemic; for churches and their wider communities to co-operate for the common good; for working with other churches, faith communities and organisations; for co-operation with the local Youth for Christ, YMCA, and Burton Albion Community Trust; for the right use of resources by communities faced with high maintenance and insurance costs of historic buildings.

Wed 14th: **Schools:** For the five church schools in the Deanery, other schools, and Burton and South Derbyshire College; that they may have good working relationships with clergy and laity; for Matthew Parker being ordained as Bishop of Stafford at 3.15pm at Lambeth Palace.

Thur 15th: for the **Chaplaincy team of The University Hospitals** of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust; for Rev'd Alison Thorp, Rev'd Susy Insley, Rev'd George Crossley, Rev'd Hugh Baker and Fr Fabian Adindu (RC Chaplain); giving thanks for the prayer support over the last year; for the spiritual and pastoral care of those who work there, patients and families; we pray for all healthcare staff, many of whom are suffering fatigue and the long terms effects of emotional and physical stress; for vision and healing for the chaplaincy team as it plays a key role in the recovery process.

Fri 16th: (*Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess, 1923*) for Matt and Jacqui as they continue to explore and train for their vocations; for lay people to receive the support of congregations and clergy in taking up positions of responsibility and service; for the 'Burton Three' Churches of St Modwen's and St Paul's with St Aidan's, in vacancy at this time, and for Rev'd Dr Robin Trotter, Self-Supporting Minister; for the parishes of Barton under Needwood, Dunstall, and Tatenhill as their new vicar seeks to establish his ministry; for all clergy and lay leaders experiencing ill health, remembering any with 'long Covid'; for exploring the possibility of a families' outreach worker in the benefice.

Sat 17th: for the Deanery as it moves towards the vision setting phase of Shaping for Mission; for those leading and participating in the forthcoming centrally organised Vision Setting sessions.

For further resources for praying for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: <https://bit.ly/3anQUWG>