

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 58

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 9th May: We pray for the **Penkridge Deanery** located between Stafford and Wolverhampton, for Penkridge itself near the centre, and the surrounding villages and suburbs; for Rural Dean: Greg Yerbury; Assistant Rural Dean: Rachel Dale; Lay Chair: John Peterken; for the 12 Parishes and 7 Benefices serving a population of 42,500 people; for congregations coming to terms with the loss of cherished parishioners during lockdown; and for parishes in financial difficulty or struggling to find volunteers as a result of the pandemic.

Mon 10th: Shaping for Mission: for the Penkridge SfM team and for SfM facilitator Laura Edwards; for confidence in the gospel and making it known; for the strength, courage and vision needed to reach people across Penkridge Deanery. Give thanks for the success of online services - for their variety, for new gifts discovered and used, and for new people joining in; for the generous givers who have supported and sustained their churches during lockdown.



Tues 11th: HMP Oakwood; the Chaplain Revd Taiwo Olumuyiwa asks prayer for: peace of mind, well-being and a new direction for those in prisons so that they can have a better future; guidance for the chaplaincy team as they continue to provide pastoral support to prisoners; for the prisoners who have lost their family to Covid and other illnesses that the good Lord would console and strengthen them; for the prisoners who are getting ready for baptism, that they may stay strong in their walking with God; for the prisoners in our care to be protected from danger; for those who have been and are due to be released, that they would maintain their faith.

Wed 12th: (*Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952*) Give thanks for the work of the food banks supported by the Penkridge Deanery, and for debt counselling and other support services; for Amanda Arthur, Curate at St Michael's as she approaches her ordination as priest; for Coven, Shareshill and Essington as they continue in vacancy; and for all discovering and developing new ministries.

Thur 13th: (Ascension Day and Eid ul Fitr): For the range of Chaplaincies within the Deanery including those working alongside the South Staffs FE College, the Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Staffordshire Police; that they may partner with others in seeking the common good, working for justice as a people of hope.

Friday 14th: (*Matthias the Apostle*) **Schools:** for the teachers, pupils and governors at the 11 Church Schools; that good links may be made with the local churches and that children be made welcome.

Saturday 15th May: Following the recent release of 'From Lament to Action', pray that our Diocese and the entire Church of England may implement the 47 actions of this report to root out racism within the church; pray for the many people of UK Minority Ethnic (UKME) or Global Majority Heritage (GMH) backgrounds to be properly integrated and affirmed within our church structures.