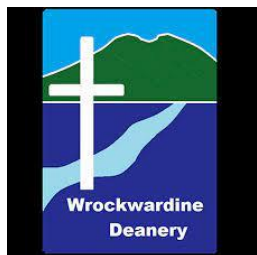


Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 68

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.

Sunday 18th July: (*Elizabeth Ferard, first Deaconess of the Church of England, Founder of the Community of St Andrew, 1883*) As



we follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad, we pray for the **Wrockwardine Deanery**; for Revd Andy Ackroyd; Assistant Rural Dean: Revd Chris Tough; Lay Chair: John Wardle; that the 8,600 people in the Wrockwardine Deanery encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world. We pray for a church that reflects the richness and variety of those communities; for a church that partners with others seeking the common good, working for justice as people of hope.

Monday 19th: (*Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the Faith, c.394 and c.379*) Give thanks for the **Shaping for Mission** Team in the Wrockwardine Deanery as they partner with their neighbouring Deanery of Shrewsbury for the SfM process; for SfM facilitator Laura Edwards; for the implementation of multi-faceted mission throughout the Benefice which has been committed to 'Following, Loving, Serving Jesus, as one church in 21 places' and for discussions concerning future structures. Please pray too for all participants on the Midlands Diocesan Pre-Retirement Retreat taking place currently at Holland House.

Tuesday 20th: (*Margaret of Antioch, Martyr, 4th century, Bartolomé de las Casas, Apostle to the Indies, 1566*) For Revd Andy Ackroyd that his Sabbatical will be refreshing and resourcing; for other Team members including Team Vicar Revd Ian Naylor; Associate Minister Revd Christine Tough; Local Lay Mission and Outreach Minister Di Woolridge; Curate Revd Lisa Knight; Lay Minister Rosalie Wheeldon; Reader Rhys Morris and Community Lay Minister Jim Tough – that they will experience God's blessing as they share in God's mission.

Wednesday 21st: Give thanks for our most recent Diocesan link with the Dioceses of Cork Cloyne and Ross and specifically for the parish twinning between Perton & Carrigaline; for the Zoom meeting taking place today: *Loving God, Thank you for our brothers and sisters in your Church around the world; Thank you for the developing friendship between: the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne & Ross and the Diocese of Lichfield. Lord Jesus, you are the vine; may we remain rooted in you, each congregation a branch, linked to each other in you. Holy Spirit, flow through us, enabling our friendship to flourish, as we learn about and from each other; and commit ourselves to pray for each other. May we enjoy fruit as you grow your Church and Kingdom in and through us all. We ask this for your glory, Amen*

Thursday 22nd: (*Mary Magdalene*) For ministry within the Wrockwardine Deanery to children, young people and families; praising God for continuing connections through 'Praise and Play' and 'Messy Church' and a growth in the number of families being ministered to; for all leaders and volunteers some of whom have been isolating or experienced family bereavements or illnesses leading to the cancellation of some planned services and groups including the youth café; pray they will be refreshed and rested in the coming weeks.

Friday 23rd: (*Bridget of Sweden, Abbess of Vadstena, 1373*) Give thanks for the ministry of all Readers and Authorised Lay Ministers in the Wrockwardine Deanery and pray for Tom Currie who is due to be licensed to Lay Readership on 4th September 2021. Pray too for retiring Bishop Rob Hardwick on his 'Farewell to Qu'Appelle' cycling pilgrimage in relay with others to the 50 churches in that vast Diocese.

Saturday 24th: Pray for the work of sports chaplains across the Diocese; remembering all engaging with professional football clubs and other branches of the game; for Andy Ackroyd as the main chaplain of Shrewsbury Town FC, and for further opportunities in the future to be a support to players, staff and supporters alike; for the work of "Shrewsbury Town in the Community" and the strategic work they do in schools, with senior citizens and in promoting inclusion.