Week Beginning 6th March 2022

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 100

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. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally and globally. Let us continue to pray for those in Ukraine who suffer grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 6th March:

We lift up in prayer Living in Love and Faith (LLF) – the national Church teaching and learning initiative about identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage; giving thanks for the good engagement across our diocese so far. Pray for all the local churches hosting LLF courses during Lent – for an atmosphere of peace, grace, listening and learning. We also pray for Bishop Michael's staff team as they take the course together later this month.

Monday 7th: (Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 203)

We pray for Uttoxeter Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Brian Leathers and Lay Chair, Stephen Dunn. Pray for the development of a good relationship with diocesan adviser Steve Hollinghurst as they work towards building sustainability in the local churches; and for the whole deanery as it adapts to the common fund, those parishes for whom there will be drastic change and for others that will struggle to maintain their previous level of giving.

Tuesday 8th: (Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poet, 1929)

Pray for the work of Partnership for World Mission (https://www.ics-uk.org/partnership-for-world-mission) its role within the Church of England, and Bishop Philip of Truro as the Chair of the World Mission Panel. Pray for the encouragement and development of partnerships across the Anglican Communion so that we may learn from each other and see God's work in the world thrive; and for PWM that it will be a resource and support for those links & the Mission Agencies, providing a network for people to learn and share what God is doing in the world.

Wednesday 9th:

We pray for Trysull Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Julia Cody, Assistant, Revd Richard Reeve, Lay Chair, Richard Pithers, and Assistant, Cyril Randles; giving thanks for all ordained clergy, lay ministers, those in positions of leadership and all those who give their time and skills to further the mission of the church in the deanery. Pray for all those involved in Shaping for Mission, particularly for the members of the new Trysull Mission Enabling Team (T Met), commissioned by Bishop Michael last week, who will be meeting to further the vision in the deanery. Pray for the churchwardens and people of Pattingham and Patshull, Himley and Swindon currently in vacancy and for those facing vacancy in the near future.

Thursday 10th: (A prayer for Wrekin College and Old Hall Preparatory provided by Chaplain, Revd Lee Plummer)

Heavenly Father, we are thankful that we are able to meet together as one community again and ask for your continued protection over us as we navigate this chapter of Covid. We prayerfully ask that you walk especially closely with those students that are about to embark on external exams having had such disruption to their educations this past two years. Grant wisdom and discernment, this term, to Headmaster Mr Tim Firth and all the staff at Wrekin College and Old Hall Preparatory. Energise and equip each and every one of them for the role they have been tasked with, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Friday 11th:

We pray for Newcastle Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Andrew Dawswell, recently appointed Assistant, Revd Simon Maddison, and Lay Chair, Chris Gill; giving thanks for very generous giving towards planned new projects at Madeley (to appoint a p/t Children, Youth & Families minister), and the Westlands (to replace a 1930's 'temporary' church hall). Pray for these to come to fruition; and for the appointment process for a chaplain/youth worker for Kings School (secondary) & St Thomas' Church, Kidsgrove. Pray for churches as they consider covid recovery plans, working towards gathering congregations back together and refocusing on outreach to their communities; for the strengthening and renewing of finances to meet ministry costs and for the wardens and other lay leaders at parishes in vacancy: Chesterton, Knutton and Wolstanton & Basford. Pray for the bereaved family and friends of Rev Jonathan Watkins; also the members of Knutton where he was, until very recently, vicar.

Saturday 12th:

We pray for Diocesan Synod, meeting today with a focus on Education, Living in Love and Faith and Shaping for Mission; giving thanks for those who give generously of their time to serve in this way. Pray for good discussions and God's guidance that wise decisions will be taken.