

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 13th March: *(Call to prayer for the situation in Ukraine from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York)*

As Christians, our response to a crisis must always be rooted in prayer, and so, we invite you to join with us in praying most earnestly for an outpouring of the Spirit of God, that the world may once again choose peace, strengthening those international bodies that enable us to work and live together as one humanity inhabiting one world. We lament with the people of Ukraine, and we pray for the innocent, the frightened and those who have lost loved ones, homes, and family. We pray for those in Ukraine who suffer grievously, for all who take decisions around the world, and for the people and leaders of Russia too.

Monday 14th:

We pray for the church schools across the diocese, as SIAMS inspections recommence, asking that they will be a positive experience and an opportunity for schools to celebrate all that is good about their learning communities. Pray that each school's distinctive Christian vision will result in places where all pupils and adults are enabled to flourish. Pray for the team at Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education, particularly for the Christian Distinctiveness Advisors that they may maintain supportive relationships with school leaders.

Tuesday 15th:

We pray for Lichfield Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Jan Waterfield, Assistant, Revd Lynn McKeon, Lay Chair, Lilas Rawling and Assistant, Jill Hope, giving thanks for the appointment of Revd Sharon Greensmith as Master of St John's Hospital and Revd Dr Abbie Walsh as Rector of St Michael Lichfield and St John the Baptist Wall. Pray for the benefice of Whittington, Weefod and Hints and for the Burntwood Chase Team, all in vacancy. Pray for God's blessing on the Year of Prayer for Lichfield Deanery, which will begin at Easter.

Wednesday 16th: *(The Archbishop of Canterbury's prayer for the Lambeth Conference 2022)*

Let us pray that, inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Lambeth Conference will reinvigorate the Anglican Communion with the vision and resources to bring the transforming love of Jesus Christ to every level of society across the world. It will be a time of addressing hurts and concerns; of deepening existing relationships and building new ones; of grappling with issues that face the Church and the world. We will listen to each other; we will seek God's wisdom to find ways to walk together; we will build each other up as leaders.

Thursday 17th: *(Patrick, Bishop, Missionary, Patron of Ireland, c.460)*

We pray for Tutbury Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Michael Freeman and Lay Chair, Doug Brown; giving thanks for all those people throughout the deanery with a heart for mission. Pray for the ongoing Shaping for Mission process under the leadership of the members of the Phase 3 Team: Jenny, Derek, Andy and Dave, as they seek to guide and support the work of mission across the deanery.

Friday 18th: *(Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386)*

We remember today the Community of Chaplains, many of whom met recently to reflect on the life and ministry of 'Woodbine Willie' – Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, a chaplain in the trenches in WWI. His experiences led him to articulate an understanding of the 'Suffering God'. Remembering the power of faith worked out under duress, please pray for all who are wrestling with the question of 'who God is', especially in places of deprivation, suffering and war. Pray also for all our chaplains as prayer, practice and theology collide in their lives and ministry.

Saturday 19th: *(Joseph of Nazareth)*

We pray for Oswestry Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Paul Darlington, Assistant, Revd Harvey Gibbons, and Lay Chair, Jacqui Clarke; giving thanks for lent groups and study groups which are starting up strongly following the lockdowns of Covid. Pray that the various strengths identified in individual parishes might be of growing benefit right across the deanery.

Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer, 8th/ 9th April, click here for further details and to sign up to lead a session.

For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx