

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 124

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 also continue to pray for those in Ukraine suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 21st August:

We pray for the work of St Chad's Retreat House, Leek; giving thanks for its team: warden, Rachel Moore and for the town clergy, Revds Nigel Irons & Matthew Malins and praying for their ministry in offering a place of healing, study and spiritual retreat. We pray for a Summer Songs of Praise being held today and for an Autumn Quiet Day on 1st September, with input from Bishop Matthew, that God will inspire all involved in planning and preparation; that both events will be a source of God's blessing for all who participate.

Monday 22nd: *Click [here](#) for the Cathedral's 'what's on' page.*

We pray for Lichfield Cathedral; for the services which inspire our Christian life and worship; and for all who are involved in its upkeep and witness to its local community, to parishes across the diocese, and to visitors from far and wide. We give thanks for the activities offered this summer that, as they bring joy to those who participate, they will also be an opportunity to share God's love with all who enter. We pray for the preparations for the recreation of the Shrine of St Chad and for the Cathedral's developing ministry as a Healthy Healing Hub.

Tuesday 23rd: *A prayer for our link diocese Qu'Appelle, Canada:*

As we approach the autumn when the farmers will be busy harvesting and gathering in their crops ahead of the winter months, we ask, Lord, for your blessing upon all who work the land in the Qu'Appelle district.

Lord, bless Bishop Helen and all that she is and does in the name of Christ.

We thank God for the continued fellowship across our two Dioceses, and pray for many more opportunities.

Lord, as Revd Sara Humphries and Revd Nicky Busby prepare to visit the provinces, over two years later than expected (thanks to Covid), we ask you to bless and hold them in their travels; may they be a Christ-light to the people they meet. Amen

Wednesday 24th: *Pray with others around the world, for the situation in Ukraine, today - the Independence Day of Ukraine:*

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today.

We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.

We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Thursday 25th:

We pray for Leek Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Nigel Irons, and Lay Chair David Wright; giving thanks for the new Deanery Plan which has been agreed by Deanery Synod, which proposes deployment changes to fifteen of the seventeen parishes in the Deanery together with significant changes to benefice boundaries. Pray for Archdeacon Megan and Bishop Matthew as they work with the Shaping for Mission Team to finalise the practical details of the plan. Continue also to pray for those parishes which have been without the ministry of a stipendiary priest for long periods of time.

Friday 26th: *Pray for the Ministry at Work chaplains: Mo Trudel, Nnaeto Onwuzurumba, Pete Ball & Jonathan Toyn:*

Loving and gracious God, we know you love work, and we thank you for those leading business and those working in all the professional sectors. We pray for their witness in the workplace and ask you would give them the discernment of the Holy Spirit, the kindness of Jesus and the grace to reach people in their work context. Help them to share hope in these very uncertain times, make them channels of peace and unity, in the name of Jesus we pray. Amen

Saturday 27th: *(Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387*

We pray for Wednesbury Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Martin Ennis, Assistant, Revd Jeremy Sylvester and Lay Chair, Chris Sprules; giving thanks for the first Deanery Celebration – hopefully to be repeated - as a great opportunity to connect and encourage one another. Pray for, and give thanks for, signs of spiritual growth in some churches. Pray for the SfM group as it continues to meet 2-monthly for a Bible reflection and discussion on different aspects of mission; that new approaches to connecting with their mission context will continue to arise.

**For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx
Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer Wednesday 19th – Thursday 20th October 2022, 12 noon to 12 noon.**