

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 129

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 25th September: (*Sergei of Radonezh, Russian Monastic Reformer, Teacher of the Faith, 1392*)

Remembering that today marks the start of Generosity Week, give thanks for those parishes who have already found ways to support each other financially using the new Common Fund, and through their time and gifts. *God of grace, ever creating & restoring, you breathe life into all things and embrace us with an everlasting love; help us grow in wonder and awe, to embody a spirit of gratitude, and to dream generous dreams; that, in gathering what we have, we may graciously offer ourselves to accomplish what you will, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

Monday 26th: (*Wilson Carlile, Founder of the Church Army, 1942*)

Remember the work of the Church Army (<https://churcharmy.org/>) in its mission of *wanting everyone everywhere to encounter God's love & to be empowered to transform their communities through faith, shared in words & action*. Give thanks for its founder, Wilson Carlile, 'a visionary with an extraordinary idea that would inspire generations of evangelists and give hope to millions in their time of need.' Pray God's blessing on their work of *tackling social deprivation through partnership and collaboration to help empower individuals and communities*; and pray that they will *not shy away from challenges but will strive to help those most in need.* 3

Tuesday 27th:

Pray for the worldwide work of United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG) (<https://www.uspg.org.uk/>); giving thanks for the Society's Gospel work across the world, strengthening Christian communities as they bring new life and hope to those around them. Pray for USPG's work in Asia and the Middle East, led by Davidson Solanki; that all involved may have the patience and strength to listen and share, the gift of discernment and the courage to act with generosity, so that all may be done to the glory of God and the increase of his Kingdom of Love.

Wednesday 28th: (*Vincent de Paul, Founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists), 1660*)

We continue to pray for the province of Saskatchewan, following the recent violence, especially clergy in their pastoral work of keeping the communities together. Give thanks that Revd Sara Humphries & Revd Nicky Busby, leaders of the working group for our link with the Diocese of Qu'Appelle, have been able to resume a visit postponed by the Covid pandemic. *Almighty God, bless and hold them in their travels, may they be a Christ light to the people they meet and we thank God for the continued fellowship across our two Diocese, and we pray for many more such opportunities. Amen.*

Read more on their [blog](#)

Thursday 29th: (*Michael and All Angels*)

We pray for Uttoxeter Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Brian Leathers and Lay Chair, Stephen Dunn; giving thanks for the many contacts made over the last few weeks with people visiting local churches to remember the late Queen Elizabeth II. Pray for unity and mission across the deanery.

Pray for Revd Ann Kelly licensed on Tuesday as Interim Minister in Charge of the Benefice of Heath Hayes, for the ordination today of Yin-An Chen as Curate of Oswestry & of Rhydycroesau; and give thanks for the service given by Bishop's Chaplain, Revd Dr Rebecca Lloyd and pray for her as she takes up a new role in Gloucester Diocese.

Friday 30th: (*Jerome, Translator of the Scriptures, Teacher of the Faith, 420*)

Pray for 'Songs of hope & glory for the Church in times of persecution', hosted by The Potters Church in Stoke-on-Trent, in aid of Open Doors - find out more on [Facebook](#). Pray also for the work of Open Doors (<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>), which supports Christians who risk their lives to follow Jesus in more than 60 countries, by supplying Bibles, providing emergency relief and helping persecuted believers stand strong for the long-term. In the UK and Ireland, Open Doors helps the church to pray, give and speak out for those who share our faith but not our freedom.

Saturday 1st October: (*Anthony Ashley Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, Social Reformer, 1885*)

Pray for Oswestry Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Paul Darlington, Assistant, Harvey Gibbons, & Lay Chair, Jacqui Clark; giving thanks for the addition of one full-time and one part-time associate minister in the deanery and the arrival of two curates this summer. Give thanks, also, for the way Ukrainian refugees have been welcomed & pray for those volunteering at local hubs amongst refugees; also the Deanery Training Day planned for March 2023.

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. Has your Deanery booked a slot yet? Please plan to join in prayer in the diocese's virtual prayer room via Zoom. Further details available from [Denise Keen](#) or the Day of prayer webpage