

**Our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the many varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. 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 27<sup>th</sup> November:

The beginning of Advent is always a special time for our partnership with the Nordkirche. This year we enjoyed the company of eight guests in Stafford for fellowship and joint worship over the first weekend of the season. We give thanks that we could, at long last, meet in person after having to rely on Zoom for the past two years. Advent is marked more wholistically in Germany than in the UK, please pray for the various mission initiatives of the Nordkirche at this time of increasing numbers visiting their churches.

## Monday 28<sup>th</sup>:

Pray for the Community of St Chad, giving thanks for the leadership of Revds Chris Precious and Ros Wilshire. Pray for all who will take part in the Quiet Day at Lichfield Cathedral tomorrow, which will offer the opportunity for quiet and reflection, and for renewal of commitment to membership of the Community at the new Shrine of St Chad, that the experience will be a blessing to all.

*Be with us, Lord, as we seek to follow in the footsteps of your servant Chad, whose humility and prayerfulness attracted so many to your kingdom. Let our lives, like his, reflect the light of Christ and the hope of faith. In the name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

*The Community of Saint Chad holds a short Zoom service of Morning and Evening Prayer, following the order of service in the Community Handbook, on Tuesdays at 6pm and Fridays at 9am. The Zoom meeting ID is 823 1886 0940 and passcode 780948.*

## Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup>: (Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church)

Pray for the worldwide work of USPG (United Society Partners in Mission). Give 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 the staff, who sustain and organise this work: for the CEO, Duncan Dormer, and for Nigel Varndell, Eve Parker, Lydia Kibaara and those who work with them. Pray too for our Partner churches in the UK, who support the Society's work, especially through the Partners in Mission programme.

Further information about the work of [USPG](https://www.uspg.org.uk/) is on their website: <https://www.uspg.org.uk/>

## Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup>: (Andrew the Apostle)

Pray for Alstonfield Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd John Baines, and Lay Chair Janet Sadler; giving thanks for the ways in which the Deanery's people are growing together and breaking down boundaries as we seek to become more fully the people God intends us to be in this place.

Pray for all our farmers, those employed in hospitality, and those who are facing a hard winter.

## Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>:

Pray for Rachel Moore and the team at St Chad's Retreat House Leek, and for all who receive ministry there. Pray especially for all who will take part in today's Advent Quiet Day, that through the led times of prayer and reflection and opportunities for quiet, all will engage with this special season in a new and meaningful way.

[www.facebook.com/stchadsleek](https://www.facebook.com/stchadsleek) & <https://leekparish.org.uk/churches/st-chads-house/st-chads-house-events/>

## Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>:

Pray for Cheadle Deanery: Rural Dean, Revd Michael Follin & Lay Chair, Sylvia Bainbridge, thanking God for new relationships formed through Mission initiatives in the Deanery. Pray, as we enter this season of Advent, that the reason will shine forth from each member of our churches in both deeds & words as we seek to share God's love with those in our communities. Pray for each parish that the light & love of God will shine bright: St John, Cotton; Holy Trinity, Oakamoor; All Saints, Dilhorne; St Margaret, Draycott le Moors; St. Peter, Forsbrook; St Werburgh, Kingsley; St Mark the Evangelist, Foxt; St Chad, Freehay; St Giles the Abbot, Cheadle; St Peter, Caverswall; St Philip, Werrington; St Andrew, Weston Coyney; St John the Baptist, Wetley Rocks; St Mildred Whiston.

## Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>: (Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552)

Pray for the Vocations Conference being held today via Zoom, for Bishop Sarah and those who will speak on vocations to lay, pioneer and ordained ministries. Pray for all who take this opportunity to explore different types of ministry, both lay and ordained, and to learn about the new shared discernment process, that God's Spirit will guide them in their next steps.