Week Beginning 29th January 2023

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 145

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

discipleship vocation evangelism

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 29th January: (Details for this evening's event can be found here: https://loveblackcountry.org.uk/)

Pray for an evening celebration service for the Black Country's Churches - Together, to be held today at St Matthew's Tipton, and staged by the Love Black Country network.

Pray for God's blessing on all who attend as they gather to worship, pray and dream for the future.

Monday 30th: (Charles, King and Martyr, 1649)

Pray for Rugeley Deanery: for Rural Dean, Revd Simon Davis and for Assistant, Revd Paul Kelly. Give thanks for the blessings of reconnection and new beginnings of community engagement, experienced during the Advent and Christmas seasons; and pray for the opportunities for witness which will be presented to parishes in the local Coronation celebrations. Pray for the Deanery Synod "Shaping for Mission" programme, with a focus on vocation and ministry this year.

Tuesday 31st: (John Bosco, Priest, Founder of the Salesian Teaching Order, 1888)

We continue to pray for Rugeley Deanery:

Loving God, we pray for those parishes in our Deanery currently in vacancy, that you would lead and direct the clergy of your calling to the posts of Rector at Rugeley and the House for Duty at Colton. We pray also for Ministers, Church Wardens and other parish officers who are struggling with poor health and yet are concerned as to who will 'take up the baton' when they step down. Give them your peace and a sense of your presence. In Jesus name. Amen.

Wednesday 1st February: (Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, c.525)

We continue to pray for Rugeley Deanery:

Pray for the pupils, staff and governors of the deanery's church schools: Hob Hill CE/Meth(C) Primary School, St Luke's CE(C) Primary School, Cannock Chadsmoor CE(C) Junior School, St Mary's CE Primary School, Colwich Cofe Primary School, Etching Hill CE(C) Primary School, Anson CE(A) Primary School, Great Haywood. Pray also for their link parish churches, that they will find ways to show your love to their school communities.

Thursday 2nd: (The Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas)

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty,

whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh:

grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts,

by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Friday 3rd: (Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden, 865)

Heavenly Father, we pray for the staff of Lichfield Diocese, for the various departments and for Transforming Communities Together and for the Board of Education.

We ask you to guide and inspire all our conversations, that we might discern your path for the future and follow it with courage and determination, in order to serve well the parishes in our care, 'that the two million people in our diocese might encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world.' For we ask it in the precious name of Jesus. Amen. (Click here to read the Diocesan Vision in full)

Saturday 4th: (Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order, 1189)

Pray for 'Faith, Food & Farming In An Age Of Ecological Crisis' - a discussion of the pressures faced by the farming community, how churches might support them and the ethics and environmental issues connected to food production and consumption; to be held at Battlefield Farm Shop near Shrewsbury. Pray for all who attend, those who will input to the discussions and those who will pose questions.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android <u>click here</u>
For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: <u>anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx</u>