

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 268

We pray for the implementation of our diocesan strategy 'Seeking the Kingdom', within the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously and we pray for the people & leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East. We also pray for Pope Leo XIV as he takes on his role.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Sunday 8th June: *(Pentecost; Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, Hymn Writer, 1711)*

On the Day of Pentecost we join in with once again in Praying for the [Lord's Kingdom to Come](#) with one of the C of E's collects for the day;

Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Today we pray for the two churches in the diocese dedicated to The Holy Spirit; Etching Hill in Rugeley deanery, and Harlescott in Shrewsbury and Wrekin deanery. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches and the communities they serve.

Monday 9th: *(Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597; Ephrem of Syria, Deacon, Hymn Writer, Teacher of the Faith, 373)*

We pray for the start of the West Midlands CMD's (Conting Ministerial Development) 5 day retreat '[Renewing Ministry for a Changing Church](#)' at Holland House; that all those taking part may indeed find it helpful to reflect on their vision for Ministry. As centuries ago St Columba inspired and invigorated both his locality and beyond, we pray that all the delegates may leave refreshed and open to fresh opportunities in their situations.

Tuesday 10th:

We lift before you various events taking place today; starting with the Diocesan Renewal Network's Pentecost Retreat 'Seeking the Breath of God in a Bewildered Church' at Bishop's House. So too we pray for the '[Coffee, Cake, and Chat](#)' session at St Chad's House. In the evening we pray for the latest gathering of the Community of Evangelists, '[Evangelism on the Terraces](#)' at Holy Trinity Sneyd next to Port Vale FC. We pray that people attending any and all of these events may leave refreshed and inspired.

Wednesday 11th: *(Barnabas the Apostle)*

On St Barnabas' Day we pray for the two churches in the diocese dedicated to him, in Bradwell and Mile Oak in Newcastle and Tamworth deaneries respectively. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches and the communities they serve. Today we also pray for the first of 4 webinars of '[Pioneering Parishes First Steps](#)', for creative ideas and inspiration for churches seeking to direct new energy into their surrounding communities. We also pray for wisdom and vision for the Bishop's Staff Meeting taking place today.

Thursday 12th:

Today we pray for the '[Preaching with Purpose](#)' day at St Thomas' Aldridge, for Godly instruction and inspiration for all those that attend. Lord, please bless and guide all those people that regularly preach in all of our churches, that you may indeed inspire the word's spoken from human lips with your message placed in their hearts.

Friday 13th:

We continue our prayers for Oswestry Deanery by lifting before you the churches in the town centre. We pray for Holy Trinity Oswestry and their vicar Paul Darlington. So too we pray for St Oswald's Church and their own vicar Harvey Gibbons, and their smaller sister church of Christ Church Rhydycroesau. May your hand of blessing rest upon each of these churches and all that serve in them or attend them, may you renew them to share your good news into their surrounding communities.

Saturday 14th: *(Richard Baxter, Puritan Divine, 1691)*

We pray for the Dementia-Friendly Church training session taking place at St Michael's Rocester in Uttoxeter Deanery. Please Lord bless all of those who support people living with dementia, in often very challenging circumstances; and for those who have it as part of their lives, please bring some measure of your peace amongst discord.