

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 275

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, Iran, Israel and the wider Middle East.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Sunday 27th July: *(Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher of the Faith, 1901)*

Lord, we continue our prayers for West Bromwich Deanery by praying for the church of the Good Shepherd with St John, and thank you that after a period of uncertainty they have a brighter future. We pray that you may continue to guide them into that future.

Monday 28th:

Continuing our West Bromwich prayers, we pray for the church of Holy Trinity in West Bromwich, and that you may bless and guide them into ever stronger relationships with both you and their local community. We thank you for their incumbent Neil Robbie, and his wife Amanda, who both serve on General Synod, and take the chance to pray for all those who represent Lichfield diocese on that body, that you may guide and strengthen them to use their position to seek your will for our church in the future.

Tuesday 29th: *(Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord)*

We pray for [Alan Gault as he is commissioned today to serve with the Encounter Project based at All Saints Joiners Square in Stoke](#). We pray for all those in the project so that like Lazarus it may bring revitalisation, with a Martha-like heart for service, while maintaining Mary's heart to listening to your guidance.

We also pray for today's Eucharistic celebration at the Cathedral recognising the 30th anniversary of the first ordinations of female priests and thank you for all those who have served over the last three decades, especially in this diocese.

Finally, we pray for the [Individual Quiet Day](#) taking place today at St Chad's House in Leek, that all those attending may leave refreshed and inspired.

Wednesday 30th:

(William Wilberforce, Social Reformer. Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson. Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846)

Today we pray for Deborah Lovatt as she is commissioned today to serve in Leek Deanery and specifically the churches of St Chad's Bagnall, St Luke's Endon, and St Michael and All Angels Horton. We pray for her as she builds relationships with her new colleagues and community, and especially the two church schools in Endon and Horton. Please may your hand of blessing rest on these people and these places.

Thursday 31st: *(Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556)*

On the day we remember Ignatius of Loyola, a short Ignatian 'examen' or prayerful self-reflection...

1. Place yourself in God's presence. Give thanks for God's great love for you.
2. Pray for the grace to understand how God is acting in your life.
3. Review your day — recall specific moments and your feelings at the time.
4. Reflect on what you did, said, or thought in those instances. Were you drawing closer to God, or further away?
5. Look toward tomorrow — think of how you might collaborate more effectively with God's plan. Be specific, and conclude with the Lord's Prayer

Friday 1st August: *(Joseph of Arimathea)*

On St Joseph's day, we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to him, in Merry Hill in Wolverhampton. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and the community it serves. We also lift before you today's 'Bookcase Picture' training session on Dementia Awareness, and for all those who care for people living with dementia.

Saturday 2nd:

We conclude our prayers for West Bromwich by praying for the churches served by the deanery's current Area and Assistant Deans; St Francis' on the Friar Park estate for so long served by Fr Ron Farrell, and Mark Wilson's churches of St James' Hill Top and St Paul's Golds Hill. We thank you for all the valued work taking place in and with the local communities for so many years, and pray you may continue to guide and bless these places.

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