

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 302

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.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

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

A prayer from Rugeley Deanery, but for all of our relationships;

Lord, we pray for your blessing on all our relationships, both personal and professional; teach us to welcome your love and light into them. Jesus, help us to remember that you came to give us life in all its fullness and that you will never leave or forsake us. Grant us the wisdom to turn to you for guidance whenever we need it. Amen.

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

A collect from Common Worship for 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.

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

We pray for the [Dementia-Friendly Churches Local session](#), taking place today supporting churches in Shropshire and Telford. Lord, please bless and guide all our churches in this area and beyond, and show us how they may do more to love those around us who may now need a little more support.

We also pray for this evening's first of two sessions this on '[Effective Conversations](#)', and that you may guide each us to effectively and lovingly use the quality time that we have with people.

On St Werburgh's day, we pray for the three churches in the diocese dedicated to her, at Burslem in Stoke, Hanbury near Burton, and Kingsley in the Staffordshire Moorlands. So too we pray for Trentham Parish Church, sitting alongside the ruins of St Werburgh's Abbey. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches and the communities they serve.

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

Lord, we pray for today's session on '[Spirituality, Justice, and Responsibility](#)', and especially those working in schools to create cultures of Justice and Responsibility. Please help each one of us, in our schools, churches, or other settings, be advocates for proper responsibility to be taken and justice to be done, starting first in our own lives.

Thursday 5th:

Today we pray for the [SIAMS session for Church School Leaders](#), for the Education Team as they lead it together, and for all those with the privilege and responsibility of leading one of our church schools.

We pray for wisdom tonight as Bishop's Council meets, for Godly inspiration, creative thinking, and sound reasoning.

Finally, on St Agatha's day, we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to her, at Llanymynech in Oswestry Deanery. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on of this church, its sister ones in Llanyblodwel, Morton, and Trefonen; and the communities they serve.

Friday 6th: (The Martyrs of Japan, 1597)

A final prayer from Rugeley Deanery, as contributed by the Revd Jules Smith;

Lord, help us to be brave and courageous when stepping into new communities and enable us to remain open to your missional activity, remembering that you are already in that place and with those people. Guide us with gentleness, boldness, wisdom and love.

Saturday 7th:

Lord, we lift before you today's gathering of the diocesan Community of Evangelists at St Matthew's Wolverhampton. Looking at '[Welcoming worship with a Wow, a Why, and a Who](#)', we thank you for the opportunity of being able to worship you, and ask that we may always look for more to be able to enjoy that opportunity. Please let us never forget who it is that we worship and why.

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