

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 208

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers continue for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the Shaping for Mission process, 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, along with the people and leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine and Israel.

Sunday 14th April:

Give thanks for the diverse work and ministry of United Christian Broadcasters (UCB), a Christian media charity that exists to offer every person, in every place, every moment of the day, the opportunity to hear, watch or read the Word of God in a relevant and engaging way. Pray especially for the [UCB Kingdom Academy](#), designed to uniquely equip the church for growth using a blend of five pillars: Media, Ministry, Mission, Management and Music; for those preparing for an open day tomorrow, and for all who will attend to learn more about the Media Programme. For further information email training@ucb.co.uk.

Monday 15th:

Pray for the discernment process for the nomination of a new Bishop of Wolverhampton; especially for members of an Advisory Group meeting with Bishop Michael for the first time today, and for all those they will meet as part of this process; that through the Spirit's guidance the right person may be found to serve as the Fifth Bishop of Wolverhampton.

Tuesday 16th: *(Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess, 1923)*

We pray for Eccleshall Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Doug Heming and Lay Chair, Jonathan Jones; giving thanks for the prospect of having a full cohort of incumbents in our Deanery after almost a decade since this was the case. Pray for Revd Phillip Johnson in Eccleshall as he settles into his new post; and for Revd Dr Peter Jones who is preparing to move to the Benefice of Whitmore, Chapel Chorlton and Maer.

Wednesday 17th:

In this exciting time for the diocese with the launch of the new strategic framework, which builds on the Shaping for Mission initiative; pray for the recruitment for three key roles – Director of Communications, Strategy Programme Director and Project Manager – Net Carbon Zero. Further details [here](#). Pray for possible candidates and all involved in the recruitment process that God will place His right people in His right places.

Thursday 18th:

We continue to pray for Eccleshall Deanery, especially for the rural farming community and the grave situation caused by unprecedented rainfall and its consequences. Pray for farming families with difficulties, including stock desperately needing to be out and causing overstocked housing with all its problems or risk of perishing in the rain; escalating feed and fuel costs due to world affairs causing bankruptcies; arable land unsown and so very much more. Pray for the people who give their everything, to feed us, they so much need the love and the arm of our dear Lord around them at this time to guide them to better days.

Friday 19th: *(Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr, 1012)*

Lord Jesus Christ,

who willingly walked the way of the cross:

Strengthen your church through the example and prayers of your servant Alphege

to hold fast the path of discipleship;

for with the Father and Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Saturday 20th:

We continue to pray for Eccleshall Deanery, especially for the churches which do not have a full cohort of church officers and PCC members and even some who have no PCC at all. Pray that an obvious direction which accepts realities, but remains hopeful, might be embraced through local conversation and through engaging with the Diocese's 'Shaping' conversations and strategies.