

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 195

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

This week and next, the prayer diary marks the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 January) We will be using excerpts from the resources on Churches Together in Britain and Ireland [website](#). We continue to remember those impacted by natural disasters; those currently suffering because of wars and unrest and for all who take decisions around the world.

Sunday 14th January:

Pray for the licensing today of Revd Nigel Irons as Curate in Charge of Longsdon Parish, whilst continuing in his current roles of Team Rector of Leek & Meerbrook, Rural Dean of Leek Deanery, Surrogate Leek Deanery.

Monday 15th:

Pray for Jules Smith as she takes up a new diocesan role as Strategic Ministry Development Officer, with responsibility for shaping a programme of training and development opportunities for Christian leaders at a time of change. Pray also for the parish clergy, chaplains, pioneers, school heads & lay officers she will support.

Tuesday 16th:

Pray for all those across the diocese who are exploring their Christian faith and discipleship and discerning ways in which they might be called to serve God's kingdom. Pray especially for those who will access the Pathways online module next week and those who prepare to facilitate it. Further details [here](#).

Wednesday 17th: (*Charles Gore, Bishop, Founder of the Community of the Resurrection, 1932*):

O God, our heavenly Father, who raised up your faithful servant Charles Gore to be a bishop and pastor in your Church and to feed your flock: Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that they may minister in your household as true servants of Christ and stewards of your divine mysteries; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Give thanks for the members of the Bishop's Staff and pray for them as they meet today.

Pray for Bishop Michael, his wife, Julia and the whole family as they attend their son Frank's funeral today.

Thursday 18th: *The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins today.*

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" (Lk 10:25)

Help us, Lord, to have a life turned towards you

God of life,

You have created us to have life, and life in all its fullness.

Help your wounded Church to be a source of hope and healing.

As we follow Jesus' way with determination, may we lead others to you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Friday 19th: (*Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095*)

Jesus answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." (Lk 10:27)

Help me, Lord, to receive your love, that I may make you manifest in loving well, both myself and my neighbour.

Lord, give us the grace to know you deeply, in order to love you entirely.

May the gift of your Holy Spirit enable our eyes, ears and minds to receive the unconditional love with which you love us. Purify our hearts that we may always be ready to love our neighbour, however different, as ourselves.

Through the self-giving life of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday 20th: (*Richard Rolle of Hampole, Spiritual Writer, 1349*)

"Who is my neighbour?" (Lk 10:29)

Lord, open our hearts to those we do not see

God of love, who writes love in our hearts,

instil in us the courage to look beyond ourselves

and see the neighbour in those different from ourselves

and to be the unexpected neighbour,

that we may truly follow Jesus Christ –

our brother and our friend, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android [click here](#)

For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx