

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 114

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the many varied roles and ministries. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally and globally. Let us also continue to pray for those in Ukraine who suffer grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 12th June: *(Trinity Sunday – The Archbishop of Canterbury asks that we pray today for the Lambeth Conference)*

We pray for the Lambeth Conference (26th July – 8th August) and its theme of 'God's Church for God's World', which reminds us that we are called upon as Christians to pray for the needs of the world. Pray for the bishops and spouses who will attend, for those organising the event and for the impact it will have on the Anglican Communion in the decade ahead. Give thanks for all that is being prepared and pray with hope that the time spent together will be fruitful and productive. <https://www.lambethconference.org/resources/prayer-guide/>

Monday 13th: *(Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945)*

We continue to pray for Shaping for Mission in Lichfield Deanery, and for the Stage Three team - Rod Clarke, Abbie Walsh, Lynn McKeon, Jill Hope, Lilas Rawling & Janet Waterfield; particularly for a forthcoming Year of Prayer for Lichfield Deanery and the events to promote this initiative. Pray for parishes which remain in vacancy: Whittington, Weeford & Hints, and Burntwood & Hammerwich; that the right candidates will be drawn to these places when the posts are advertised. Pray for Revd Dr Abbie Walsh in her new post as Rector of St John's, Wall and St Michael's; and for Revd Sharon Greensmith, licensed today as the new Master of St John's Hospital.

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

Give thanks for all who are working in pioneer ministry in our diocese and pray especially for those who will meet together today at Stafford Baptist Church for the Pioneer Gathering; that God will bless Jonny Baker as he speaks and that the workshop will inspire and offer practical help in the use of imagination and creativity. Pray also for good fellowship as they meet afterwards. <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/403>

Wednesday 15th: *(Evelyn Underhill, Spiritual Writer, 1941)*

We give thanks for the work of the Community of Evangelists as they host 'Missionally Engaging in New Housing Areas' this evening at St Thomas & St Andrew Doxey; and pray especially for Revd Ali Bolton as she shares her experiences as a pioneer Baptist minister living on a new housing estate which has birthed a new community church. <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/calendar/399>

Pray for all churches with new housing developments within their parishes, that they might find ways to reach out and welcome all newcomers.

Thursday 16th: *(Richard, Bishop of Chichester, 1253)*

We pray for Oswestry Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Paul Darlington, Assistant, Revd Harvey Gibbons and Lay Chair, Jacqui Clarke; giving thanks that the deanery is currently served by a full complement of clergy. Pray for 'Workers in the Word' – a local interactive quarterly gathering to encourage people in all kinds of roles (ie preachers, Sunday School teachers and parents) in handling the Bible and growing in teaching gifts. Pray also for a deanery training day being planned for 10th September, and for Bishop Sarah who will be taking part.

Pray for Revd Gloria Harrison licensed today by Bishop Matthew as Associate Minister in the Stoke & Fenton Team.

Friday 17th: *(Samuel and Henrietta Barnett, Social Reformers, 1913 and 1936)*

We pray for Tutbury Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Michael Freeman and Lay Chair, Dr Doug Brown; praying especially for the ongoing Shaping for Mission process and for the parishes of Horninglow St John, St Modwen's and, St Paul's and St Aidan's with the changes currently taking place.

Pray also for the parishes of Hanbury with Draycott, Newborough and Rangemore who are currently in interregnum, and for those in leadership in these parishes shouldering additional duties.

Saturday 18th: *(Bernard Mizeki, Apostle of the MaShona, Martyr, 1896)*

We remember our friends in Matlosane; giving thanks for the members of the Diocesan Council and asking God's blessing on them as they meet today. Give thanks also for the ministry of recently retired Canon Sam Diphokwane; and pray for those clergy who are unwell: Revd Ephraim Kgotle, Revd Hofney Motsoane and Revd Can Dr Marshall Guma. As this is winter time in Matlosane, we are asked to pray especially for the homeless, the poor and those who've no-one to look after them; and also for the farmers in the region facing difficult times, with pressure to produce food whilst the rising price of diesel makes it difficult to remain in the farming sector.

For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican 12cycle of prayer:

anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx

Diocesan 24-hour Day of Prayer Wednesday 19th – Thursday 20th October 2022, 12 noon to 12 noon.