Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 115

**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 19th June: *(Sundar Singh of India, Sadhu (holy man), Evangelist, Teacher of the Faith, 1929)*

We give thanks for, and ask God’s blessing on: Scott Selvewright who will be priested today and will then continue as Youth & Families Minister at Audley, Talke and Alsager’s Bank; Revd Olivia Haines who was licenced as Curate of the Deanery of Wrockwardine yesterday; and Revd Catherine McBride to be commissioned as Rural Dean of Hodnet Deanery tomorrow and for Revd Jane Morris as she takes the role of Assistant Rural Dean.

Monday 20th:

We remember the work of Partnership for World Mission. Especially in this year of the Lambeth Conference, which is a chance for bishops around the world to meet, we pray for the encouragement and development of partnerships across the Anglican Communion, that we may learn from each other and support each other in working for God's kingdom. Pray for the role of PWM within the Church of England, that it will be a resource and support for Diocesan links and the Mission Agencies in the work of furthering God's mission around the world.

Tuesday 21st:

We pray for Tamworth Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Gary Simmons, Assistant, Revd John Grice, Lay Chair, David Litchfield, and Assistant, Pat West; giving thanks for the nine people who were recently confirmed at St Peter`s, Glascote Heath, representing four churches and with an age range of 17 - 87.

Pray for new curate, Alex Keen, to be licenced this month to the Peel Parishes, and for his wife Anna and their family. Pray for ongoing plans for a future appointment to Tamworth Parish; and for Vic and Wendy Van den Bergh as Vic retires.

Wednesday 22nd: *(Alban, first Martyr of Britain, c.250)*

Pray for ‘*Confident Disciples for Deaneries’* – a workshop to be held today at St Bertelin’s Church, Stafford, aiming to resource all who wish to help their deaneries to develop discipleship. Pray for Bishop Matthew and members of the mission team as they prepare to lead the event and for all who will attend, that this will be a time of blessing, as they explore together what discipleship might look like in practice and the next steps they might need to take; praying that this will also positively impact the deaneries represented.

Thursday 23rd: *(Etheldreda, Abbess of Ely, c.678)*

Pray for Telford Deanery, Rural Dean, Revd Debbie Loughran, Assistant, Revd Tim Carter and Lay Chair, Richard Page: Lord, we give thanks for the way the Deanery is working together *Following Jesus, Loving Telford, Renewing Church and Growing Younger;* for the ‘Experience Easter and After Easter' events, and for joyous Messy Churches. We pray for the GSUS live mission into our Secondary Schools, for all facilitating & for all experiencing that they will find You in the activities, the noise and the silence. We pray for those who will come to our bereavement cafes and all who will find hope in our social action initiatives. To the glory of Your Kingdom, Amen

Friday 24th: *(The Birth of John the Baptist)*

We remember Shrewsbury Deanery: Rural Dean, Revd Phil Cansdale, Assistant, Revd Andrew Knight and Lay Chair, Gill Carding; Pray for Shrewsbury Town centre churches: St Chad's, St Alkmunds, Holy Cross & St Peter's, as careful consideration is given to the way these churches are staffed as the future mission and ministry of the town is considered. Pray for clergy and their families taking time off over the summer holidays, for the opportunity for rest, relaxation and refreshment. Give thanks for contacts established in our Church of England schools, and pray for staff and governing bodies and for those schools in the St Chad's Academies Trust; and for the young people who attend the Sixth form college in the town. Pray for all in a period of transition, moving from school to school or from school to further education or university.

Saturday 25th: *(We pray for the ordination service to be held today at Lichfield Cathedral:)*

God our Father, Lord of all the world, through your Son you have called us into the fellowship of your universal Church: hear our prayer for your faithful people that in their vocation and ministry each may be an instrument of your love, and give to your servants to be ordained the needful gifts of grace; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.