Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 120

discipleship vocation evangelism

Whilst our prayers continue for the 'SHAPING FOR MISSION' Deanery visions & ways to implement them, we pray especially this week and next for the Lambeth Conference. As 'People of Hope' we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally and globally; and also continue to pray for those in Ukraine suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.

Sunday 24th July:

We give thanks for the ministry of Revd Richard Cresswell as vicar of Shawbury & Stanton-on-Hine Heath and Rector of Moreton Corbet, and also as Assistant Rural Dean of Wem and Whitchurch Deanery; and pray for him as he prepares for a new role in Bradley Stoke, Bristol Diocese in September.

Pray for Revd Stuart Petty on his retirement, giving thanks for his ministry as hospital chaplain with the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust.

Pray also for Revd Lucinda Wray-Wear who will be licenced as assistant curate of Prees, Edstaston & Whixall Benefice on Wednesday.

Monday 25th: (James the Apostle)

We pray for Wulfrun Deanery, Rural Dean, Revd Ian Poole, Assistant, Revd Sue Boyce & Lay Chair Mike Hotchkiss: Dear Lord, thank You for the clergy, lay leaders and worshippers who are working in partnership with You, seeking to grow Your Kingdom life in every-day folks' hearts. May we have the grace and patience to accept what is not possible and grasp with faith what is possible in this season of change and challenge. Amen

Tuesday 26th: (Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

We pray for the bishops from around the world who will be taking part in the Lambeth Conference; giving thanks especially that Bishop Stephen Diseko of Matlosane Diocese, South Africa has been able to visit Lichfield Diocese and will be taking part in 'An Audience with Bishop Stephen Diseko' at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Rugeley. Pray that this will be a good time of fellowship and an opportunity to learn more about our brothers and sisters living out their faith in our link Diocese of Matlosane.

Wednesday 27th: (Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher of the Faith, 190)

We pray for the bishops and their spouses, gathering in Canterbury, as they embark on the Lambeth Conference journey, of walking, listening, and witnessing together; devoting the first three days to prayer, Bible study and contemplation, seeking God's wisdom and calling. We pray also for those who, due to issues with travel or Covid restrictions, will take part in the online conference. *Click here for the programme overview and the prayer guide*.

Thursday 28th:

A prayer from the Community of Hope Weavers, Church of England. Also active in Europe:

Gracious God, we thank you that in Jesus you reconcile the world and all who are in it to yourself. Touch the hearts of those attending the Lambeth Conference to extend your peace to all, and to work for the reconciliation of all creation. Bless them with your grace and love as they connect with one another and with you. May your Spirit of peace hover over their conversations and their resting times, and may your gracious will be done in the life of the Anglican Communion and in the whole of your precious world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Prince of Peace. Amen.

Friday 29th: (Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord)

A prayer from Chama cha Mariamu Mtakatifu (Community of St Mary of Nazareth and Calvary), Anglican Church of Tanzania: We pray for Christian Unity as our Lord Jesus Christ said in John Chapter 17:21-23 that all of them may be one so that we may be brought to complete unity and the world should know that we are in Christ and Christ is in us. May the life of the Anglican Communion bring people to Christ, to know him, to believe him so that the world may be saved and we may fulfil the words of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Saturday 30th: (William Wilberforce Social Reformer; Olaudah Equiano & Thomas Clarkson, Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833,1797, 1846) A prayer from the Church Mission Society of the Church of England – working with partners across Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East:

Lord, as you have entered into our life and death and in all the world, you call us into your death and risen life. Forgive us our sins; and draw us we pray, by the power and encouragement of your Spirit, into an exchange of gifts and needs, joys and sorrows, strength and weakness with your people everywhere; that with them we may have grace to break through every barrier, to make disciples of all peoples and to share your love with everyone for your glory's sake. Amen.

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

anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx

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