Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 130

**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 suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world and for the people and leaders of Russia.**

### Sunday 2nd October:

Pray for Lichfield Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Lynn Mckeon, Assistant, Revd Abbie Walsh and all in positions of leadership; giving thanks for the vision, commitment & discernment of the SfM team, thinking strategically about implementing ideas for mission & evangelism, that the churches may engage in all aspects of their mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus. Pray for parishes in interregna: Christ Church Burntwood, St John the Baptist Hammerwich, St Giles Whittington, St Marys Weeford, St Bartholomew Hints, and for those taking additional responsibility; & for Burntwood & Hammerwich’s familiarisation day tomorrow & interview day on 14th October.

Monday 3rd: *(George Bell, Bishop of Chichester, Ecumenist, Peacemaker, 1958)*

Pray for all who will attend Enabling All’s online training today, led by Revd Susan Myatt, our diocesan deaf chaplain. Pray for those unjustly isolated & overlooked by frailties & disabilities; that we might be able to remove barriers which prevent people from finding their place in our faith communities.

Pray for Revd Jassica Castillo-Burley who will be licensed tomorrow as Interim Associate Minister of Oswestry Benefice and of Rhydycroesau Benefice.

Pray also for Revd Richard Marshall, who took up the role of Chaplain at the King’s CofE Academy, Kidsgrove at the start of this term.

Tuesday 4th: *(Francis of Assisi, Friar, Deacon, Founder of the Friars Minor, 1226)*

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Wednesday 5th:

Remember the members of the Bishop’s Council as they meet today; pray that they may be blessed with wisdom, discernment and a sense of unity, as they consider important matters in the life and flourishing of our diocese, including our finance and resources.

Thursday 6th: *(William Tyndale, Translator of the Scriptures, Reformation Martyr, 1536)*

Pray for Penkridge Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Greg Yerbury, Assistant, Revd Rachel Dale, Lay Chair, John Peterken and Assistant, Jonathan Burd. Pray especially for those clergy finding their roles growing ever more demanding, with less retired clergy to support them and, often, fewer parishioners to take key leadership roles within the parishes. Pray for fresh enthusiasm to engage with the process of Shaping for Mission, that the churches of the deanery might be enabled to support one another as efficiently as possible. Pray for parishes in interregna: Brewood & Bishopswood, Acton Trussell with Bednall and Dunston with Coppenhall.

Friday 7th:

Remember our friends in West Malaysia; pray especially for Abi Liew, a St Chad’s Volunteer in 2018, and now, having graduated from All Nations Christian College, about to work with Operation Mobilisation (OM) full-time. Abie will be based in her hometown, involved in OM’s Chinese World Ministries, and partly working to build a virtual platform where Chinese-speaking missionaries can acquire resources and connect with one another.

*Pray that she will be close to God and know His will for her life; and for her work and the people she will work with.*

Saturday 8th:

Thank God for the faithful service given by Church Wardens and Church Officers across the diocese, praying that God will guide and strengthen them; pray especially for those whose workloads are greatly increased when their parishes are in vacancy. Pray for all those who will take part in online training today for Wardens and Officers, for those new to post and for those attending for a refresher. May they all benefit from the advice and support offered, and from the fellowship with others in similar roles.