Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 163

**Our prayers continue for the ‘SHAPING FOR MISSION’ Deanery visions & ways to implement them, in the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As ‘People of Hope,’ we remain mindful of the implications of Covid-19, locally & globally; we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously, for all who take decisions around the world, and for the people & leaders of Russia.**

Sunday 4th June: *(Petroc, Abbot of Padstow, 6th century)*

Pray for Phase 3 of the Lambeth Conference, as churches and communities of the Anglican Communion around the world consider what the Lambeth Call looks like in their context.

Pray for Revd Mike Bridgewater, Associate Minister of Hartshill, Penkhull and Trent Vale, who will be licensed today in the additional role of Strategic Missioner in the Hanley Team.

Monday 5th: *(Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr, 754)*

In this week, designated ‘Love your Burial Ground Week’, we give thanks for all who take responsibility for, and contribute to, the care and upkeep of churchyards and cemeteries across our diocese; and pray for all who visit the burial places of loved ones, that they will find them to be places of comfort and peace in their time of sadness and loss.

Click [here](https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/get-involved/love-your-burial-ground-week/) for further details.

Tuesday 6th: *(Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945)*

Loving God, we bless your Name for the witness of Ini Kopuria, police officer and founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, whose members saved many American pilots in a time of war, and who continue to minister courageously to the islanders of Melanesia. Open our eyes that we, with these Anglican brothers, may establish peace and hope in service to others, for the sake of Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Wednesday 7th:

We continue to pray for Wem and Whitchurch Deanery:

We pray for the church schools across the deanery and the churches linked to them; giving thanks especially for the opportunity for worship leaders from St Peter’s CE Primary School, Wem, Prees CE Primary School and Whixall CE Primary School to contribute to the recent Day of Prayer. Pray that they will find creative ways to support one another in their Christian distinctiveness.

Pray also for their Chaplain, Revd Debs Walton and all who seek to create and maintain links between churches and schools.

Thursday 8th: *(Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, Nonjuror, Hymn Writer, 1711)*

We pray again for Wem and Whitchurch Deanery, for all who will attend the Archdeacon’s Visitation this evening, praying God’s blessing on all who have taken for the first time, or continue in, the roles of Church Warden. Pray that they feel supported by their PCCs and their wider congregations, and empowered by God’s Holy Spirit to serve and lead in their parishes.

#### Friday 9th: *(Columba, Abbot of Iona, Missionary, 597)*

High King of Heaven,
Almighty Father of us all,
as your servant Saint Columba established a community built on love and trust,
so grant that in all humility we may be your hands and your voices here on earth,
working to build up the community of faith in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Saturday 10th:

We pray for Wem and Whitchurch Deanery; for Rural Dean, Revd Adam Clayton and for Lay Chair, Roger Ashton, as they continue to lead the deanery.

We pray for St. Alkmunds as it starts its interregnum.

We pray for our 19 Parishes as we continue our quest for more congregation.