

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 240

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the [Shaping for Mission](#) process, and the resulting Strategic Framework 2024-2030, within the context of the varied roles and ministries across the Diocese. As 'People of Hope,' we remember those impacted by natural disasters; those in Ukraine suffering grievously along with the people & leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East.

Sunday 24th November:

Pray for Stafford Deanery; for Rural Dean Revd Cath Brumfitt, Assistant Revd Graham Adamson, Lay Chair Philip Taylor and Assistant Dorothy Sterling; for all their churches and, in particular, for the Benefice of Doxey & St Paul's, and the Mid Trent Benefice, both in vacancy. Give thanks for the dedication of Wardens, PCC members and all taking extra responsibility during the vacancies to ensure the smooth running of the churches; and for the ministry of all retired and PTO clergy and lay ministers providing cover for services. Pray for the ongoing recruitment process, that God will call the right people to offer their ministry to these churches

Monday 25th: *(Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748)*

God of truth and grace, you gave Isaac Watts singular gifts to present your praise in verse, that he might write psalms, hymns and spiritual songs for your Church:

Give us grace joyfully to sing your praises now and in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Saviour, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Tuesday 26th: *We continue to pray for Stafford Deanery:*

As we approach the start of Advent we pray for clergy throughout the diocese as they prepare for all the additional services and events in the run up to Christmas, we give thanks for all who will be involved in leading worship and welcoming people into our churches. We pray that advent and Christmas will provide opportunities for mission within our diverse communities, particularly giving thanks for all who will be working in our schools as they prepare to share the story of Christ's birth through their nativity plays and carol services. Amen

Wednesday 27th:

As today is designated Fuel Poverty Awareness Day, let us pray for all who are struggling to meet their fuel costs, those living in homes that are expensive and difficult to heat, and those who find themselves in vicious cycles of debt trying to pay bills.

Give thanks for all those showing compassion and care by opening premises to provide warm and welcoming spaces and ask God's blessing on their efforts to support their communities.

Thursday 28th: *We continue to pray for Stafford Deanery:*

Lord God, we thank you for all who offer their time and ministry within our communities:

for the Stafford Street Pastors who provide help and assistance in our town centre every weekend, we thank you for the many people they have helped and for living out of Gods message on our streets.

for the work of the House of Bread, for the volunteers who give their time to help the most vulnerable in our area and for the generosity of all who donate food and money. As the cold weather approaches, we pray for all who are homeless and who will struggle to feed themselves and their families.

Friday 29th: *(Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church)*

A lament written on the plane returning home after a visit to companion diocese Matlosane:

Cry Freedom! Cry. Cry fear. Cry.

Cry for release of the captives. Cry.

Cry 'do not be afraid'. Cry. Cry for the poor. Cry.

Cry for the broken. Cry. Cry to be heard.

Cry for justice. Cry.

Cry to be heeded. Cry. Cry for the downtrodden. Cry.

Cry with the earth beneath our feet and all that walk there. Cry for care for our world. Cry.

Cry to be lifted up. Cry. Cry for chains to be broken. Cry.

Cry for the lost. Cry. Cry for their homecoming. Cry.

Cry to the Lord of Lords. Cry to the King of Kings

Cry for the abused and oppressed. Cry.

Cry to the Prince of Peace. Cry freedom in Christ Alone,
For the spirit lives to set us free. Walk, walk in The Light.

Saturday 30th: *(Andrew the Apostle)*

Pray for a Women's Advent Retreat taking place at Trentham Parish Church today, 12-3pm.

Pray for those facilitating the day and all who will take part, that they will be blessed by the peaceful, prayerful spaces. Email for further details: trenthamparishoffice@gmail.com.