

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 243

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 15th December: *Prayer provided by Vanda Perrett Managing Chaplain HMYOI Werrington:*

Gracious and loving God, thank you for the privilege of caring for all these souls in Werrington; for the glimpses of glory and hope in unexpected places;

for the trust placed in us by our colleagues, the families of the children, and the trust You place in us to do Your will in this place.

Help us to seek out the good, to encourage those who are struggling, to guide those who are lost.

Help us to stay close to You and remember this ministry can only be done in Your name.

In the name of our Lord, Friend and Companion, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Monday 16th:

Pray for Alex Wolvers as she prepares to take up the leadership of '[Encounter](#),' a seven-year programme to revitalise the Christian presence in Stoke-on-Trent, aiming to ensure that there is a church with a flourishing children and families' ministry within reach of every child and young person within the city of Stoke-on-Trent; providing them with the opportunity to encounter the church and Christian faith in a relevant way - an opportunity they may not have had before.

Tuesday 17th: *(Eglantyne Jebb, Social Reformer, Founder of 'Save The Children', 1928)*

Loving God, your Son told his disciples to become like little children.

Lead us to work for the welfare and protection of all young people.

May we respect their dignity that they may flourish in life,

following the example of the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday 18th:

Pray for members of the Bishop's Staff Team, especially as they meet today; asking that God will give them wisdom to discern His will as they lead our diocese.

Thursday 19th: *We pray for our Companion link with the Nordkirche: Evangelical Lutheran Church, Northern Germany.*

Every year around Christmas, our Nordkirche Partnership benefits from the artistry of Georg Wassidlo who produces a bespoke Christmas card. With hand drawn scene and translated, seasonal carol, his cards help us celebrate our shared faith and partnership in the Gospel. This year's carol, "Star over Bethlehem" speaks of the grace and love found in the Incarnate Word celebrated on both sides of the North Sea. As the year turns, we give thanks for our partnership and pray for God's blessing on our planned conference in June 2025 looking at missional frameworks for Lichfield and the Nordkirche.

Friday 20th:

Prayer provided by Nnaeto Onwuzurumba, Chaplain to the YMCA North Staffordshire, overseeing pastoral care for young residents, staff and volunteers in addition to the work of Sanctus, which supports asylum seekers and refugees in the city:

We give thanks for the dedication of our volunteers who pour out their love in supporting asylum seekers and refugee families through our weekly drop-in sessions; and we trust God to raise more funds to keep the work going so that more people can flourish.

We pray also that our young people would encounter the love of God to lead meaningful and purposeful lives in community; we want to see them aspire to become more in all areas of their life. Amen

Saturday 21st:

Give thanks for those across the diocese who spend time on the streets offering support to all who need it, thinking especially today of Lichfield's street pastors, the 'Late Night Listeners,' who have been offering this service for over 15 years, usually twice each month. They will be out and about this evening and next Saturday. Pray that they will be a blessing to the night-time economy and will shine as a beacon of hope in the dark night. (New recruits would always be welcome, see more information on their [Facebook](#) page.)