

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 250

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 that the ceasefire holds in full and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Sunday 2nd February: *(The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas))*

As today we remember Christ being presented in the temple, we thank you for all those stepping forward in their own discipleship journeys, and especially thank God for the number of candidates coming forward for confirmation across Hodnet Deanery

Monday 3rd: *(Anskar, Archbishop of Hamburg, Missionary in Denmark and Sweden, 865)*

Lord, on St Werburgh's day we pray for the three churches in the diocese dedicated to her; in Burslem in the North Potteries, in Hanbury in East Staffs, and Kingsley in the Staffordshire Moorlands; and also for the church next door to the remains of her abbey, Trentham Parish Church. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches and their communities.

Tuesday 4th: *(Gilbert of Sempringham, Founder of the Gilbertine Order, 1189)*

We pray for the current vacancy in Hodnet Deanery, and for the right person to materialise to serve the churches of Christ Church Little Drayton, St Chad's Norton in Hales, St Leonard's Woore, and the Chapel in Aston. We pray too for the realising of gifts within those churches, and the willingness to offer.

Wednesday 5th:

Lord, on St Agatha's day we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to her in the border village of Llanymynech. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and community, and (with the benefice currently in vacancy) for its sister churches of Llanyblodwel, Morton, and Trefonen, and the right person to be found to join them.

Thursday 6th: *(The Martyrs of Japan, 1597)*

Today we bring before God a variety of events taking place today. We pray for the [Creative Arts Workshop](#) at Shallowford House and the ongoing ministry of that place and its people. We pray for the Education Team's day on explore spiritual development and courageous advocacy; [Deepening Roots - Spirituality and Agents of Change](#). We also pray for Bishop's Council as it meets this evening.

Friday 7th:

We lift before God the restructuring in Hodnet Deanery, with the churches of St Luke's Hodnet and The Epiphany in Peplow joining the existing United Benefice of the churches of Cheswardine St Swithun, Childs Ercall St Michael, Hales St Mary, Hinstock St Oswald, Sambrook St Luke, and Stoke on Tern St Peter. We pray for the ongoing consultation and the establishment of the new post to serve there alongside Revd Becky Richards and the existing team.

Saturday 8th February:

Lord, today we pray for a successful gathering of the New Testament Biblical Studies Programme, with Queens' Dave Allen specifically speaking on [Faith and St Paul](#). With it taking place at Doxey Parish Church, we also pray for that church as it prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary next month.

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