

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 254

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 and we pray for 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 March: *(Chad, Bishop of Lichfield, Missionary, 672)*

Lord, on St Chad's Day we remember so many valuable initiatives taking place in his name, [The Community of St Chad](#), [St Chad's Retreat House](#) in Leek, our [Cathedral](#) in Lichfield that bears his name, and all of our churches similarly; Lord we lift before you all the churches and the communities they serve in Bagnall, Beechdale, Bilston, Boningale, Brewood, Burton, Freehay, Haughton, Hopwas, Kynnersley, Lichfield, Longsdon, Longton, Montford, Norton in Hales, Pattingham, Pheasey, Prees, Seighford, Shrewsbury, Slindon, Stafford, Stockton, and Wolverhampton. Be with us, Lord, as we seek to follow in the footsteps of your servant Chad, whose humility and prayerfulness attracted so many to your kingdom. Let our lives, like his, reflect the light of Christ and the hope of faith. In the name of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Monday 3rd:

We pray for today's online [Enabling All network meeting](#) that all attending may indeed leave feeling supported and equipped to make church communities accessible. Today we also pray for Patrick Griffin on his first full day of ministry in Alstonfield Deanery, and for his new colleagues John Baines and Jane Held as they work together in establishing their new mission area, that they may thrive and build ever-stronger community links.

Tuesday 4th:

Today we start the day in praying for the '[Coffee, Cake, and Chat](#)' session at St Chad's House, and for fellowship and spiritual refreshment for all those attending. And as the day moves into the evening and our thoughts perhaps change from 'cake' to 'pancakes', we pray that you may guide us onto towards the things that we may need to lay aside to better strengthen our relationship with you this lent and beyond.

Wednesday 5th: *(Ash Wednesday)*

The C of E Collect for Ash Wednesday:

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all them that are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we worthily lamenting our sins, and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday 6th:

Lord, we continue our prayers for Stone Deanery by naming each of its churches that we didn't pray for last week; for all their leaders both ordained and lay, for their congregations, and for the communities they serve; for Barlaston; for Cotes Heath, Standon, Swynnerton, and Tittensor; for Fulford-in-Stone and Hilderstone; and for Moddershall, Oulton and Stone Christ Church.

Friday 7th: *(Perpetua, Felicity and their Companions, Martyrs at Carthage, 203)*

Today we celebrate the [World Day of Prayer](#) and especially pray for this year's focus of the Pacific islands nation of the Cook Islands. We thank you for all the people around the world who make this day happen, and all those who celebrate it. We thank you that as per this year's slogan you indeed **made us wonderful**, and pray we may remember that if sometimes we struggle to value that aspect of your incredible creation.

Saturday 8th:

(Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, 1910. Felix, Bishop, Apostle to the East Angles, 647. Geoffrey Studdert Kennedy, Priest, Poet, 1929)

We pray for the 'Becoming a Dementia-Friendly Church' gathering taking place in Chesterton today, and for all those leading or participating in it. Lord, please guide each of us to open our eyes to ways that we may make each of our churches more welcoming and accessible to each all of our brothers and sisters with whatever vulnerabilities they may live with.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android [click here](#)
For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican Cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx