

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 256

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 16th March:

Continuing our prayers for Cheadle Deanery, we pray for the bell-ringers of the North Staffs Association of Change Ringers as they ring today. We thank you for their activeness in Cheadle Deanery and regular calling of people to worship in the ancient churches of the area, as well as celebrating weddings and other national events.

Monday 17th: *(Patrick, Bishop, Missionary, Patron of Ireland, c.460)*

In our final day of praying for Cheadle Deanery, we pray for the churches of St Giles' Cheadle and St Chad's Freehay, together with the local CofE Primary School in Bishop Rawle. We thank you for the staff and volunteers in each of these places and pray for the communities they serve.

Tuesday 18th: *(Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, Teacher of the Faith, 386)*

Today we pray for the ['Engaging with Families'](#) Workshop with the Growing Faith Team, and for good practice to be shared on how to engage with younger families in our communities. Lord, please guide us on how to better make each of our churches more welcoming places for all ages.

Wednesday 19th: *(Joseph of Nazareth)*

Lord, on St Alkmund's day we pray for the two churches dedicated to him in the diocese; those in Shrewsbury and Whitchurch respectively. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of those churches and communities, and those of their respective sister churches of St Chad's Shrewsbury, Christ Church Tilstock, and Holy Immanuel Fauls.

Thursday 20th: *(Cuthbert, Bishop of Lindisfarne, Missionary, 687)*

On St Cuthbert's day we pray for the one church dedicated to him in the diocese. 'The Church round the Corner' in Donington in Edmond and Shifnal Deanery. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and community, and those of its sister churches of St Chad's and St Mary Magdalene's. We also pray for this evening's study session with Dr Dave Allen, continuing the New Testament Biblical Studies programme specifically on [Faith and St Paul](#).

Friday 21st: *(Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, Reformation Martyr, 1556)*

Lord, today we start to pray for Ellesmere Deanery and especially the ministry of each of its church primary schools, those in Baschurch, Cockshutt, Criftins, Nesscliffe, Ruyton-XI-Towns, Welshampton and Weston Lullingfield. Please may your loving hand rest upon the staff and volunteers who work there in various roles, and for all the children and their families who are part of them.

Saturday 22nd:

Lord, today we pray for two different gatherings, one virtual and one in person, we pray for your blessing to rest upon both. We pray for the College of Preacher's Gathering on [Preaching and Apologetics](#), that people may indeed leave feeling enabled to communicate the Christian message with clarity and credibility. So too we pray for the latest Churchwarden Cafe, on [Church Buildings and Pilgrimage](#), that those churches involved will be inspired to welcome Pilgrims with creative pilgrim trails and other things well worth visiting.