

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 264

We pray for the implementation of our diocesan strategy 'Seeking the Kingdom', 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 for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East. We also pray for all those dealing with the ongoing relief effort after the earthquake in Myanmar.

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May: *(Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952)*

We pray for today's 'Praise Together' service for the Mid-Trent Benefice in Stafford Deanery, as they also meet to pray through the process of appointing a new Priest-in-Charge. We pray for the right person to be found to lead and serve all of the churches in Mid-Trent, in each of the villages of Burston, Fradswell, Gayton, Hixon, Hopton, Milwich, Salt, Sandon, Stowe by Chartley, and Weston on Trent.

Monday 12<sup>th</sup>:

*And at the start of Mental Health Awareness Week, we pray this prayer from our Methodist cousins;*

When we feel isolated and lonely God of faithfulness, be our companion.

When intrusive thoughts disturb and overwhelm God of peace, quieten our minds.

When we feel distraught and struggle to face the day God of eternity, be our light.

When self-doubt and shame feel overwhelming God of hope, sustain us.

When we constantly crave to be more God of truth, help us accept we are enough.

Loving, life-giving, life-transforming God You are our Rock, our Refuge and Salvation. Amen.

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>:

Today we pray for the Education Team's training day on [Developing Subject Knowledge and Understanding of 'Non-Religious' Worldviews and Global Christianity](#); for each of those leading and taking part that everyone may leave feeling better informed, equipped, and inspired.

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup>: *(Matthias the Apostle)*

Lord, on St Matthias' Day we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to him, in Hanford in Stoke on Trent. So too we pray for the Church School in the parish, for Priory Academy. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of this church, school and their associated communities.

Today we lift before you the Pilgrimage Event and Community Recommitment Service taking place today for the Two Saints Way, including a walk from the Reflection Gardens at Little Hayes to Lichfield Cathedral; please bless all those pilgrims following this route today or any day.

We also pray for the [Greenhouse](#) Evening taking place today at Telford Minster. We lift before you the Shropshire Greenhouse Team of Chris Densham, Chris Precious, Di Woolridge, and Simon Mason, and for all those keen on exploring Pioneering and Fresh Expressions through Greenhouse or other avenues.

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>:

On St Isidore's Day we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to him (and also St Raphael), in Petton in the north of Ellesmere Deanery. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and its community.

Especially with St Isidore being a patron of agriculture and farmworkers, we pray for the beautiful rural community of 'The Benefice of Meres and Meadows' and all those that live and work there.

We also pray for the Registry Team's online refresher this afternoon on the [Legalities of Weddings](#) and, fittingly in Mental Health Awareness Week, for the Introduction to [Mental Health and Well Being](#) taking place at Stafford Uni.

Friday 16<sup>th</sup>: *(Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877)*

To conclude our prayers for Eccleshall Deanery, we pray for the churches of St Laurence's Chapel Chorlton, St Mary and All Saints Whitmore, and St Peter's Maer. We also pray for the church school of Baldwins Gate Primary. Lord, please may your hand rest upon this northern corner of Eccleshall Deanery and all the people that live there.

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>:

Lord, we pray for the fifth of Dr Dave Allen's six mini lectures on New Testament Biblical Studies, this time focussing on ['Faith and Romans'](#). We pray for the practicalities of all those making the morning happen in Essington, and for a fruitful exploration of what 'Faithfulness' means.

We also pray for the [Individual Quiet Day](#) taking place at St Chad's House in Leek, for refreshment and inspiration for all those taking part there, and for the ['Psalm Roar'](#) taking place at St George's Shrewsbury.

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