

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 266

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 Pope Leo XIV as he takes on his role,

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May: *(The Venerable Bede, Monk at Jarrow, Scholar, Historian, 735. Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, 709)*

Today we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to the Venerable Bede, in Wombourne in South Staffordshire. So too we lift before you their 'big sister' church of St Benedict Biscop, and the parish's church school of St Benedict Biscop Primary. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches, this school and their associated communities.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup>: *(Augustine, first Archbishop of Canterbury, 605. John Calvin, Reformer, 1564. Philip Neri, Founder of the Oratorians, Spiritual Guide, 1595)*

On St Augustine's Day we pray for the two churches in the diocese dedicated to him, in central Rugeley and in Draycott-in-the Clay in East Staffordshire south of Burton. So too we lift before you their nearby church primary schools of St Augustine's Academy in Draycott and Churchfield in Rugeley. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches, schools and their associated communities.

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup>:

We pray for tonight's Bishop's Council, for pertinent questions and wise decisions to be made. Thank you for all the people that serve here, please guide and use them to inspire creative ideas for the benefit of your kingdom in this place.

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup>: *(Lanfranc, Prior of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Scholar, 1089)*

Lord, we continue to pray for Lichfield Deanery, and today especially for the four churches of the Burntwood Chase Benefice. We lift before you each of Christ Church Burntwood, St Anne's Chasetown, St John's Community Church Chase Terrace, and St John the Baptist's Hammerwich. Please let your hand rest on all these places.

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>: *(Ascension Day)*

Lord, as we celebrate Ascension Day, we join in with ['Thy Kingdom Come'](#) in the earnest and prayerful hope that more people may come to know you. We thank you for this global prayer initiative, and pray that through it more people may indeed respond 'Yes' to your Call.

Today we also pray for the one 'Holy Ascension' church in the diocese, in the Lower Farm estate in Bloxwich to the north of Walsall. So too we lift before you their nearby church school of Little Bloxwich Primary. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of this church, school and their associated communities.

Friday 30<sup>th</sup>: *(Josephine Butler, Social Reformer, 1906. Joan of Arc, Visionary, 1431. Apolo Kivebulaya, Priest, Evangelist in Central Africa, 1933)*

Lord, in continuing to pray for Lichfield Deanery, we lift before you the KBHMY Benefice and the four churches of All Saints Kings Bromley, St Michael and All Angels Hamstall Ridware, St Nicholas' Mavesyn Ridware, and St Peter's Yoxall. Please let your hand rest on all these places, and Lord, let [Thy Kingdom Come](#) here.

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup>: *(The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth)*

*A prayer from our Strategic Ministry Development Officer Jules Smith;*

Today we pray for the Rugeley Deanery as they embark on a new and exciting journey with Pioneering Parishes. Today marks the beginning of that journey as they are having the first part of their training with Greg Bakker and Tina Hodgetts from Pioneering Parishes. Please pray for them as they step out in faith and use the Pioneering Parishes tools to help them grow God's Kingdom in this place. May [Thy Kingdom Come](#) to this place.