

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 272

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, Iran, Israel and the wider Middle East.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Sunday 6th July: *(Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535)*

We continue to pray for Leek Deanery and pray for St Edward's, Leek as it prepares for major alterations to the main entrance, for the tender process to go well and that the right contractor will be appointed. We give thanks for those who are new to faith and pray for wisdom in supporting them in their spiritual growth, and also for those exploring a sense of vocation to find the guidance they need from the Holy Spirit. We pray for St Chad's, Longsdon as they seek care for the church and that those who come for baptisms, weddings and funerals will experience Jesus' love.

Monday 7th:

Staying in Leek, we thank you for the ongoing life, work and ministry of the parishes of St Lawrence's Biddulph and St Lawrence's Rushton Spencer and pray that they may be a blessing to one another and that they will experience and be open to the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit as they reach out to the communities around them in their very different contexts of a busy town and a small country village. May the light, life and love of Jesus be shared through their presence, their worship, their outreach and their pastoral care.

Tuesday 8th:

We pray for Ian Jamieson today as he is commissioned to serve as the new vicar of St Jude's Wolverhampton. We pray for him and those that he will serve alongside, that you may bless them with energy and vision to serve that area or western Wolverhampton and help to build your Kingdom in that place.

Wednesday 9th:

Once more in Leek, we thank you for the churches of St Luke's and St Paul's in the town and pray for discernment in supporting vulnerable people who are sleeping rough on church premises, responding to the gospel and beginning to attend church. We also ask for wisdom in discipling new believers and for community-based activities planned for the summer. We give thanks too for the parish of St Matthew's, Meerbrook and pray for the development of their patterns of worship and lay leadership and for the new family service which is drawing children in.

Thursday 10th:

We pray for wisdom, vision, and courage for [Bishop's Staff Meeting](#) as it meets today. We bring before you all those that make up that group and pray you may guide them in grappling with difficult issues and lead us in finding ways forward through changing times.

Friday 11th: *(Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, c.550)*

One more in Leek, we give thanks for the forthcoming licensing of Revd Debbie Lovatt who will serve in the Benefice of Bagnall, Endon & Horton and we hold her in our prayers as she prepares to take on this new role. We pray especially for the newly formed Benefice and the establishment of strong links between the three parishes. We pray for a new sense of belonging and identity to emerge and grow to encompass the members of all the congregations, and for special wisdom for Debbie as she gets to know them all and begins her work among them.

Saturday 12th:

We join in grateful thanks for the fact that once Debbie Lovatt is in place that Leek Deanery will have a full clergy and leadership team for the first time in several years and we hold them all in our prayers: Revd Will Drain; Revd Mike Fitzsimmons; Revd Darren Fraser; Revd Henry Hope; Revd Nigel Irons, Revd Debbie Lovatt, Revd Karen Petherick and Alex Wolvers. May they all know the guidance, direction and inspiration of the Holy Spirit as they work individually and together to build the Kingdom of God in Leek Deanery.