

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 273

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 13<sup>th</sup> July:

Today at the end of the week of [RECOGNISE](#), we acknowledge and thank you for all those that work with our Children and Young People and their families both in this diocese and beyond.

Also on St Mildred's day today we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to her at Whiston. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this moorlands church and the community it serves.

Monday 14<sup>th</sup>: *(John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866)*

Lord, today we pray for the start of the 3-day '[Letting Go to Live Anew](#)' retreat starting today for clergy starting to consider their retirement. We thank you for the efforts made in their ministry until this point, and pray for fulfilment for them in whatever the next stage of their journey may bring them. May this retreat help to bring inspiration and encouragement for the future.

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>: *(Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c.862. Bonaventure, Friar, Bishop, Teacher of the Faith, 1274)*

On St Swithun's day we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to him at Cheswardine.

Similarly, with it also being St Editha's Day we pray for the two churches in the diocese dedicated to her in Church Eaton and Tamworth.

We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches across the diocese and the associated communities they serve.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>: *(Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, 1099)*

We also pray for the [FAM](#) (Finance and Asset Management) committee as it meets today, for wisdom and discernment over whatever issues may be coming their way. We thank you for all those who serve and lend their wisdom on diocesan committees and pray you may guide and inspire them all in creatively making their contributions.

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>:

Concluding our prayers for Leek Deanery, we thank you for the parishes of St Philip & St James, Milton; St Bartholomew's, Norton and St Anne's Brown Edge and pray for direction, encouragement and inspiration in their ongoing engagement with their local communities and for envisionment in all they seek to be and to do for Jesus. We thank you for the ways in which God is at work in the church communities in each of these places and pray that He will uphold and strengthen all who seek to build and make known His Kingdom.

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>: *(Elizabeth Ferard, first Deaconess of the Church of England, Founder of the Community of St Andrew, 1883)*

*On the day we remember our first Deaconess, a prayer from Common Worship;*

In every age you have raised up holy men and women to reflect the light of Christ and to teach us the way of holiness. We thank you for those who have been teachers in the school of Christ: give understanding to those who study the faith that the Church has handed on, and clarity to those who communicate the gospel in a changing world. Lord, hear us.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>: *(Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the Faith, c.394 and c.379)*

We start a series of prayers for West Bromwich Deanery, and do so by praying for each of the church schools in the deanery; those of All Saints, Holy Trinity, and St Mary Magdalene. Please may your hand rest upon the staff and volunteers who work in any of these schools in whatever role; and for all the children and their families who are part of them.

And at the point when so many of our schools are breaking up for the summer holiday, we pray for a period away from school that may be relaxing and rewarding for pupils and teachers alike.