

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 293

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.

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

Sunday 30th November: (*Advent Sunday. Andrew the Apostle.*)

On St Andrew's day we pray for all the churches in the diocese dedicated to him; in Birchills, Carters Green, Church Aston, Clifton Campville, Doxey, Great Ness, Kemberton, Kettlebrook, Landywood, Porthill, Ryton, Shifnal, Sneyd Green, Stanton upon Hine Heath, The Westlands, Welsh Frankton. Whitmore Reans, Weston Coyney, Weston on Trent, and Weston under Redcastle. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on all of these churches and the communities they serve.

Lord, as today we remember 'the first called' in the Apostle Andrew, so too we remember today as Advent Sunday, and we start to look towards when you came to earth to live amongst us, and we can only thank you again that you came here to give each of us the opportunity to follow you, just like Andrew.

Monday 1st December: (*Charles de Foucauld, Hermit in the Sahara, 1916*)

Lord, we start a season of prayers for the deanery of Stafford by praying specifically for all of its church schools; those of Berkswich, Haughton St Giles, Hixon St Peter, Stafford St John, Stafford St Paul, and Weston St Andrew. 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.

Tuesday 2nd:

Lord, we continue our prayers for Stafford deanery by especially lifting before you those churches in Vacancy at the moment. We pray for the town centre churches of St Chad's, St Mary's, and their sister church of St Leonard's Marston. We pray for the paired churches on either side of the town centre in Doxey and Forebridge. We pray for all the churches of the Mid-Trent Benefice to the East, those in the villages of Burston, Fradswell, Gayton, Hixon, Hopton, Milwich, Sandon, Salt, Stowe by Chartley, and Weston on Trent. We thank you for the efforts being made by so many to serve these churches and help them flourish at this time, and pray that the right incumbents will very soon be called to also serve them in the future.

Wednesday 3rd: (*Francis Xavier, Missionary, Apostle of the Indies, 1552*)

Today we pray for the first session of '[Space Makers Training](#)' from our Education Team, this time taking place on the edge of Oswestry. We pray for Lynsay Jennings as she leads it and all those that take part, and for each one of us, that we may find the regular means of quietly spending time reflecting with you.

This evening we pray for the gathering of Bishop's Council, we pray for wisdom for all involved, and for courage to grapple to change challenges into opportunities.

Thursday 4th: (*John of Damascus, Monk, Teacher of the Faith, c.749*)

Nicholas Ferrar, Deacon, Founder of the Little Gidding Community, 1637)

Lord, we bring before you today's '[Introduction to Inclusive, Invitational and Inspiring Collective Worship](#)' from the Education Team. For all those attending, we pray they may leave inspired by the privilege and opportunity of leading worship in our schools, and that so many of our children and young people may ultimately benefit from it.

Friday 5th:

We pray today for St Matthew's Walsall's '[The Nativity: A Story of Hope](#)', with the first presentation taking place this evening and a further two tomorrow. Lord, we thank you for all those making efforts to share your story of Hope over these next few weeks, and we pray that many people who are yet to hear it may do so appropriately and engagingly.

Saturday 6th: (*Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.326*)

On St Nicholas' day we pray for all the churches in the diocese dedicated to him; in Abbots Bromley, Codsall, Fulford, Mavesyn Ridware, and Newport. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on all of these churches and the communities they serve.