Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 221

**We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the** [**Shaping for Mission**](https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/shaping-for-mission/) **process, and the resulting strategic framework, 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 along with the people & leaders of Russia; and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine and Israel.**

Sunday 14th July: (John Keble, Priest, Tractarian, Poet, 1866)

We pray for Newcastle Deanery, for Rural Dean, Revd Andrew Dawswell, Assistant, Revd Simon Maddison and Lay Chair, Chris Gill, giving thanks for their service to the deanery.

Pray especially for St Paul’s, Newcastle as they contemplate the possible closure of the church.

## Monday 15th: (Swithun, Bishop of Winchester, c.862)

We pray for our diocese’s companion link with The Nordkirche, Germany:

Euro 2024 caught the imagination of our Lutheran partners in Hamburg who got behind a ‘Homeless’ European Championship which ran in parallel with the professional football tournament. Homeless agencies from eight European countries got involved with the project. Our Lutheran friends have a strong diaconal organisation which provides all sorts of social work within a Christian context including projects for the homeless.

Pray for the Lutheran ‘Diakonia’ as it engages with those in need of both urban and rural settings.

## Tuesday 16th: (Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, 1099)

O God, our heavenly Father, who raised up your faithful servant Osmund to be a bishop and pastor in your Church and to feed your flock:

Give abundantly to all pastors the gifts of your Holy Spirit,

that they may minister in your household as true servants of Christ and stewards of your divine mysteries;

through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  Amen*.*

Wednesday 17th:

We continue to pray for Newcastle Deanery, in particular today for all work with young people remembering especially St Andrew’s, Westlands, seeking to recruit a Children and Families Worker/Co-ordinator to continue and develop their ministry and outreach to children and families.

Thursday 18th: Elizabeth Ferard 1st Deaconess of the Church of England, Founder of the Community of St Andrew 1883  
Pray for Brewood Awakening’ at St Mary and St Chad Church, Brewood this evening as Vicky speaks about working as a nurse for the last eight months on a Mercy Ship -a floating hospital which gives free health care and performs life changing operations to people on the West coast of Africa, who would not otherwise have access to any health care. An opportunity to discover what it means to those who are in desperate need of medical help and how the experience affects and influences them and also those who serve, which will also include worship and refreshments to which everyone is welcome.

Friday 19th: (Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, and his sister Macrina, Deaconess, Teachers of the Faith, c.394 and c.379)

We think today of our schools, as the academic year draws to a close.

Give thanks for all who contribute, in any way, to making our schools safe and positive environments in which children can flourish, develop and learn. Pray for safe and happy holidays, for rest and relaxation, that all may return in September equipped with fresh energy and inspiration to meet the challenges of a new school year.

Pray for those families who will find the holidays a time of added stress, with little money for necessities and worries around child care; pray for those who will offer support such as Foodbanks, Holiday Play Schemes.

We remember also those who may be feeling anxious about transition to new settings in the Autumn, and pray that God would draw close to them and calm their fears.

Saturday 20th: (Margaret of Antioch, Martyr, 4th century)

We continue to pray for Newcastle Deanery, thinking especially of the five churches currently in vacancy:

St James the Great, Audley, St Martin, Talke & St John, Alsager’s Bank;

and St John the Baptist, Keele and St Luke, Silverdale.

Give thanks, and pray for, those who are continuing to cover the day to day running of these churches.