

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 258

We pray for the implementation of Deanery visions, developed during the [Shaping for Mission](#) process, and the resulting Strategic Framework 2024-2030, 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 that the ceasefire holds in full and for a lasting peace for the people of Palestine, Israel and the wider Middle East.

discipleship  
vocation  
evangelism

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March:

Continuing our prayers for Ellesmere Deanery, we pray for the churches of All Saints Baschurch, Holy Trinity Weston Lullingfield, and St Mary the Virgin Hordley; and so too St Mary's in Ellesmere itself; for each of these churches and the communities they serve. We pray for their respective incumbents Linda Cox and Pat Hawkins, and Oswestry's Harvey Gibbons as they strengthen their relationship in working together across both Ellesmere and Oswestry Deaneries, being licensed to work across both.

Monday 31<sup>st</sup>: *(John Donne, Priest, Poet, 1631)*

We conclude our prayers for Ellesmere Deanery today with praying a little for the deanery as a whole; we pray for relationship building, not just amongst parishes and deaneries but also with those who have yet to come to know Jesus. We specifically pray for the outworking of the vision strategy across the parishes, and for the encouragement and inspiration from their deanery day to be carried forward.

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April: *(Frederick Denison Maurice, Priest, Teacher of the Faith, 1872)*

Lord, we lift before you the Education Team's '[Deepening Roots](#)' session on Teaching RE, for a productive in-person session today and online sessions to follow. We thank you for all those individuals teaching RE in schools and pray for your continued guidance and inspiration for them.

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>:

Lord, today we thank you for the very opportunity of prayer as the [Diocesan Day of Prayer](#) starts at 12noon. We thank you that you always hear our prayers and answer them, even if we know that it may not always be in the manner we hope for. We also thank you for all the faithful people leading sessions today and tomorrow, and especially those through the early hours of the morning in-between. We also pray for this morning's workshop from the College of Preachers, and that those who attend may indeed be helped to find the right words to discuss '[The Language of the Resurrection](#)'.

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup>:

Today we pray for the start of the '[Seeking the Kingdom](#)' Pilgrimage; for today's focus of the strategic goal of New Worshipping Communities, for safety for Bishop Michael and today's fellow pilgrims, and for a warm welcome and inspiring experiences for each of those places being visited today; St Chad's Church and Well in Lichfield, Wigginton Spital Chapel, and St Editha's Tamworth.

We again thank you for the opportunity of Prayer in general and the [Diocesan Day of Prayer](#) in particular, as it draws to a close at midday with the start of the pilgrimage.

Finally Lord, we also pray for the Education Team's session this afternoon on [updating Senior Leaders](#), and lift before you all of those individuals carrying such responsibility in our schools.

Friday 4<sup>th</sup>:

We continue to pray for the '[Seeking the Kingdom](#)' Pilgrimage: for today's focus of the strategic goal of Community Engagement, for safety for Bishop Michael and today's fellow pilgrims, and for a warm welcome and inspiring experiences for each of those places being visited today; St Matthew's Chilcote, St Andrew's Primary School in Clifton Campville, St Thomas' Aldridge, and St Gabriel's Fulbrook.

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>:

We continue to pray for the '[Seeking the Kingdom](#)' Pilgrimage: for today's focus of the strategic goal of Diversity, for safety for Bishop Michael and today's fellow pilgrims, and for a warm welcome and inspiring experiences for each of those places being visited today; St Bartholomew's Wednesbury, St Peter's Kinver, and ChadMark Wolverhampton. Also, with most of today's travel being by public transport we pray that 'the Bishop on the Bus' may be blessed by interesting fellow passengers and positive conversations.