

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 316

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, Iran and the wider Middle East.



Sunday 10th May:

On Rogation Sunday, an abbreviated excerpt from the liturgy for Rogationtide from Common Worship;

We ask in faith: we ask you to hear us, good Lord.

Upon human labour send a blessing, O Lord. Prosper the work of our hands; may all find dignity and just reward in their work; free the exploited and oppressed. Upon the produce of the earth send a blessing, O Lord. Guide us into a sustainable future, and give us the will to share the fruits of the world. Upon the seas and waters send a blessing, O Lord. Teach us to cherish the water of the earth, and to conserve the seas, lakes and rivers. Upon aid agencies send a blessing, O Lord. Where the earth is parched and the well has run dry; where war brings want, and children go hungry; where the poor cry out for bread and for justice, give hands to care and heal, and compel us to be generous.

We ask you to hear us, good Lord, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Monday 11th:

We thank for the global wave of prayer of [Thy Kingdom Come](#) as it starts later this week. We thank you for hundreds of countries, thousands of churches, and nearly a million people taking part. We thank you that we know that whenever we pray to you, you will always answer, if not always in the ways we expect. We join especially in the prayer of hope that more people may come to know you and your wonderful love.

Tuesday 12th: *(Gregory Dix, Priest, Monk, Scholar, 1952)*

Lord, we pray for today's workshop on [Unconscious Bias](#) taking place at Emmanuel Church Harlescott in Shrewsbury; that all those attending may leave both more informed and aware. Lord, we lift before you our own biases and prejudices, those which we are conscious of and not; and humbly ask for some tiny measure of your immense love, which recognises none of the barriers and preferences that we put in place.

Wednesday 13th:

Lord, we lift before you this morning's meeting of the Finance and Asset Management Committee, that you may guide all those serving there with wisdom and understanding, and lead them towards good stewardship of your resources. So too we pray for this afternoon's [Refresher on the Legalities of Weddings](#), so that all those with the privilege of officiating at these occasions may be able to do so confident that all the necessary small print is properly in place.

Thursday 14th: *(Matthias the Apostle. Ascension Day)*

Lord, on Ascension Day we thank you for the time that you spent with us here on earth, and that while you are now in your rightful heavenly home, you love us and walk with us just the same. Also on Ascension Day, we pray for Holy Ascension Church on the Lower Farm estate in Walsall, and on St Matthias' day we pray for Hanford St Matthias in Stoke on Trent. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on both of these churches and the communities they serve. So too we pray for today's day exploring [Prayer Ministry](#) at Shallowford House, for inspiration and equipping for all those taking part, and finally today Lord, we pray for the Bishop's Staff Team as it gathers; and ask for guidance, inspiration, and wisdom.

Friday 15th:

On the day we remember St Isidore we pray for the one church in the diocese dedicated to him, Petton St Isidore and St Raphael in the northern part of Ellesmere Deanery. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church and the community it serves.

Saturday 16th: *(Caroline Chisholm, Social Reformer, 1877)*

Lord, we lift before you the [Marriage Retreat Day](#) taking place today at Dovedale House. We pray for all those taking part, that they may indeed find a measure of Reconnection, Rest, and Renewal. We thank you for this institution, and for all those preparing to enter it, we pray that you may prove the strong third cord, binding their connection not just with each other, but with yourself.

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