

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 319



Seeking the
Kingdom

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 31st May: *(The Visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Elizabeth)*

On Trinity Sunday we lift before you all those churches in Lichfield Diocese dedicated to 'Holy Trinity'; Anslow, Belle Vue, Berkswich, Bicton, Buildwas, Calverhall, Chesterton, Dawley, Eccleshall, Edingale, Ettingshall, Hadley, Hartshill, Heath Town, Leaton, Meir, Meole Brace, Northwood, Oakamoor, Oakengates, Oswestry, Short Heath, Sneyd, Uffington, Uppington, West Bromwich, Weston Lullingfield, Wilnecote, and Wrockwardine Wood. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on these churches and the communities they serve.

Monday 1st June: *(Justin, Martyr at Rome, c.165)*

We continue our prayers for Stone deanery by lifting before you those churches in Stone itself or connected to them. We pray for Christ Church Stone and its sister churches of All Saints Moddershall and St John's Oulton, and that you may continue to guide them alongside and towards you. So too we pray for St Michael and St Wulfad's Stone and St Saviour's Aston, thank you for their new vicar Robert Icke, and pray for ever stronger relationships to be built in the churches and opportunities to emerge in the communities they serve.

Tuesday 2nd:

We conclude our prayers for Stone by praying for those remaining churches just outside the town itself. We pray for Christ Church Hilderstone and St Nicholas' Fulford, and their continuing walk with you. So too we pray for their neighbouring benefice and specifically the churches of All Saints Standon, St James' Cotes Heath, St Luke's Tittensor, and St Mary's Swynnerton; that your loving hand may continue to bless and guide them.

Wednesday 3rd: *(The Martyrs of Uganda, 1885-7 and 1977)*

Lord, we start a series of prayers for Cheadle Deanery by lifting before you each of its church primary schools; Bishop Rawle in Cheadle, Dilhorne, Forsbrook, St John's Wetley Rocks, St Peter's Caverswall, and St Werburgh's Kingsley. 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.

Thursday 4th: *(Petroc, Abbot of Padstow, 6th century)*

Lord, today we lift before you a variety of events happening today. We pray for the workshop in Telford on [Financial Wellbeing for Clergy](#) and specifically on Planning for Retirement. We thank you for so many long years of service and pray for sound advice to be given for the future. At the same time we pray for the [SIAMS Training for Church School Leaders](#) taking place at Waterhouses Academy in the Staffordshire Moorlands, and thank you for all those called to these important roles. Finally, Lord, we pray for tonight's Bishop's Council, for good discussion and for right decisions to be made.

Friday 5th: *(Boniface (Wynfrith) of Crediton, Bishop, Apostle of Germany, Martyr, 754)*

Lord, today we lift Stoke on Trent before you as we celebrate 'Stoke on Trent Day'. We thank you for the opportunity of the Civic Prayer Breakfast to kick off the day, and pray for positive conversations between those that love Stoke, love You, and love both. We pray for the city and all those that live and work in it, and for your hand to rest upon it and guide all those working for its future.

And on World Environment Day we pray the most recent Eco Prayer from our Environment Team;

Heavenly Father, You have taught us, through your servant St Francis, that all creation is your handiwork. Grant us your grace that we may exercise wise stewardship of this Earth; tread lightly upon it; and cherish its resources; that our children may enjoy its riches, throughout all generations, and your name be glorified through all that you have made. Amen.

Saturday 6th: *(Ini Kopuria, Founder of the Melanesian Brotherhood, 1945)*

Lord, as today we remember the founder of the Melanesian brotherhood, we thank you for and lift before you [the developing relationship between Lichfield Diocese and the Church in Melanesia](#). We pray for their Bishops Stephen and Othneilson, and for their other leaders both lay and ordained, that you may guide them ever onwards on their journey with you, and serving the churches and communities across those islands.