

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 324

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.



Seeking the
Kingdom

Sunday 5th July:

Lord, we start a series of prayers for Ellesmere Deanery by lifting before you each of its church primary schools; for Baschurch, Cockshutt, Criftins, St Andrew's Nesscliffe, St John the Baptist's Ruyton-XI-Towns, Welshampton, and Weston Lullingfield. 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.

Monday 6th: *(Thomas More, Scholar, and John Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, Reformation Martyrs, 1535)*

Lord, we lift before you today's [gathering of Pioneers](#) taking place at Beacon Church in Pheasey. We pray for fine fellowship and encouragement as a number of our pioneering folk gather together. Lord, we thank you for all our Pioneers, and all those trying to share your word through means new to their context, and pray that you may continue to inspire each of us with new ways of sharing your old story.

Tuesday 7th:

We pray for various gatherings taking place today. Firstly we pray for the Salop Assessors as they gather today and for your wisdom over any decisions they may face. So too we pray for the two Archdeacon's Visitations taking place concurrently this evening, at [St Mary Magdalene's Albrighton](#) and at [St Paul's Pendeford](#). We thank you again for all those stepping forward to serve their Churches as Wardens or in other roles, and that they may find all the support they need.

Wednesday 8th:

Lord, we continue our prayers for Ellesmere Deanery by praying for those churches currently in vacancy, the 'Meres and Meadows' churches at the north of the deanery, We pray especially for St Andrew Welsh Frankton, St Isidore and St Raphael Petton, St John the Evangelist Colemere, St Mary the Virgin Dudleston, St Matthew Criftins, St Michael and All Angels Welshampton, and St Simon and St Jude's Cockshutt. So too we pray for the churches of St Andrew Great Ness, St John the Baptist Ruyton-XI-Towns, and St Martin Little Ness as their vicar Lucinda Burns prepares for retirement. We thank you for Lucinda and her ministry; and for all those churches in vacancy or soon to be, we thank you for all those people within them giving up their time to help their churches survive and thrive.

Thursday 9th:

Lord, we pray for the Bishop's Staff Meeting as it gathers today for your guidance and inspiration over everything that will be discussed. We also pray for this evening [Archdeacon's Visitation](#) at St Peter's Hednesford and for all those committing to serve you over this next year. Finally Lord, we pray for today's training day at Shallowford on '[Good News for You](#)', and thank you for this and other initiatives that people use to share your good news in their community, please continue to motivate us share the news of what and who we love to those people closest to us.

Friday 10th:

Lord, we again pray for Ellesmere Deanery, and today especially for all those feeling under pressure for whatever reason. Lord, we pray for your hand of blessing to rest upon all of your servants in that place, that they may see a positive way forward through whatever they may be working through.

Saturday 11th: *(Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, Father of Western Monasticism, c.550)*

A prayer of personal commitment from Benedict of Nursia;

Father, in Your goodness grant me the intellect to comprehend You, the perception to discern You, and the reason to appreciate You. In Your kindness endow me with the diligence to look for You, the wisdom to discover You, and the spirit to apprehend You. In Your graciousness bestow on me a heart to contemplate You, ears to hear You, eyes to see You, and a tongue to speak of You. In Your mercy confer on me a conversation pleasing to You, the patience to wait for You, and the perseverance to long for You. Grant me a perfect end, Your holy presence. **Amen.**

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