

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 327

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 26th July: *(Anne and Joachim, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary)*

Lord, we bring before you the conclusion of the '[Saints in the Summer](#)' music festival taking place at All Saints Compton in Leek. We pray that all those who have attended over the last few days will have received a warm welcome in your name, and that this afternoon's 'Brass Band Bonanza' may strike all the right notes. Also, on the day we remember St Anne we pray for the five churches in the diocese specifically dedicated to her, in Brown Edge, Burlton, Chasetown, Lower Penn, and Willenhall. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on all of these churches, and the communities they serve.

Monday 27th: *(Brooke Foss Westcott, Bishop of Durham, Teacher of the Faith, 1901)*

A prayer of Brooke Foss Westcott;

Blessed Lord, who was tempted in all things like we are, have mercy on our frailty. Out of weakness give us strength. Grant to us your fear so that we may fear you only. Support us in time of temptation. Embolden us in time of danger. Help us to do your work with good courage and to continue as your faithful soldiers and servants to the end of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday 28th:

Lord, we continue our prayers for Tamworth Deanery, and we pray for you to draw good new leaders into Tamworth for parishes in vacancy, and to ask for your continued sustenance and guidance for PTOs, Churchwardens, Administrators, Secretaries, PCCs and all members of churches who are continuing to enable worship as well as spearhead the process for appointing new clergy.

Wednesday 29th: *(Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of Our Lord)*

Lord, we pray for tonight's [online gathering from the College of Preachers](#). In preparation for the Feast of Creation through Christ, and other preaching opportunities in Creationtide. We pray that all those attending may find inspiration for the upcoming season, all for the better of celebrating your shaping of this beautiful world that you created for us.

Thursday 30th: *(William Wilberforce, Social Reformer. Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson. Anti-Slavery Campaigners, 1833, 1797 and 1846)*

On a day remembering William Wilberforce, a prayer attributed to him 'to be of use in my generation', that maybe we can pray to be useful to ours;

To thee O God, I fly, through the Saviour; enable me to live more worthy of my holy calling; to be more useful and efficient, that my time may not be frittered away unprofitably to myself and others, but that I really may be of use in my generation, and adorn the doctrine of God my Saviour. I am a poor, helpless creature, Lord, strengthen me.

Friday 31st: *(Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556)*

Continuing our prayers for Tamworth, we give you thanks for the ministry and support of Churches Together in Tamworth. We rejoice in our shared Ministry and the growth that is happening, and pray that you may bless us with its continuation.

Saturday 1st August:

On the day we remember St Joseph of Arimathea we pray for the one church in the diocese specifically dedicated to him, in Merry Hill in Wolverhampton. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on this church, its sister churches in Penn Fields parish of St Aidan's and St Philip's, and the communities that they serve together.