

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 329

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 9th August: *(Mary Sumner, Founder of the Mothers' Union, 1921)*

Lord, we pray for today's [Rededication of St Bertram's Tomb](#) in Ilam, for a joyous occasion with Bishop Michael in celebrating Staffordshire's patron saint.

And on the day we also remember the founder of the Mother's Union Mary Sumner, the MU prayer;

Loving Lord, we thank you for your love so freely given to us all. We pray for families around the world. Bless the work of the Mothers' Union as we seek to share your love through the encouragement, strengthening and support of marriage and family life. Empowered by your Spirit, may we be united in prayer and worship, and in love and service reach out as your hands across the world. In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Monday 10th: *(Laurence, Deacon at Rome, Martyr, 258)*

On St Bertram's day we lift before you the church that is his resting place, Holy Cross Ilam; and the one church in the diocese specifically dedicated to him of St Bertelin's Stafford. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on both these churches, their respective sister churches of St Margaret's Wetton, St Peter's Wetton, and St John's Whitgreave, and the communities they serve together.

Tuesday 11th: *(Clare of Assisi, Founder of the Minoreesses (Poor Clares), 1253. John Henry Newman, Priest, Tractarian, 1890)*

Lord, we start a series of prayers for Eccleshall Deanery by lifting before you each of its church schools; for Baldwins Gate, Bishop Lonsdale, Gnosall St Lawrence, Hugo Meynell, Ranton All Saints, Mucklestone St Mary, and Woodseaves. Please may your hand rest upon the staff and volunteers who work in any of these schools in whatever role, for all the children and their families who are part of them, and for rest and battery recovery this summer.

Wednesday 12th:

Continuing our prayers for Eccleshall, we pray for those churches currently in vacancy; All Saints Chebsey, All Saints Ranton, St Chad's Seighford, St Luke's Norton Bridge, and St Mary's Ellenhall. So too we thank you for the good news that the churches in the Loggerheads Benefice of Ashley. Broughton, Croxton and Mucklestone; will very soon be coming out of vacancy. Lord, we lift all these churches and their futures into your loving arms.

Thursday 13th: *(Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down and Connor, Teacher of the Faith, 1667
Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910. Octavia Hill, Social Reformer, 1912)*

Lord, we pray for all those receiving the results of their A-Levels and other studies today. We thank you for all the work put in to reach this point, and the doors that may now have opened as a result. For those for whom the way ahead looks less clear today, we humbly pray that you will guide them in their next steps.

Friday 14th: *(Maximilian Kolbe, Friar, Martyr, 1941)*

A prayer of praise from Maximilian Kolbe that links beautifully to tomorrow;

I adore you, O our heavenly Father, because you placed in the most pure womb of Mary your only-begotten Son. I adore You, O son of God, because You condescended to enter the womb of Mary and became truly her actual Son. I adore you, O Holy Spirit, because you deigned to form in her immaculate womb the Body of the Son of God. I adore you, O most Holy Trinity, O one God in the Holy Trinity, for having ennobled the Immaculate in such a divine way. And I will never cease daily, from the first moment I awake, to adore you most humbly, O Divine Trinity, with my face to the ground, repeating three times: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. **Amen.**

Saturday 15th: *(The Blessed Virgin Mary)*

Lord, we lift before you [Cursillo and the start of their annual 'Ultreya'](#) at Shallowford House as it starts today. We pray for all those who will be taking part and for a fulfilling and enlightening time spent with each other, and most importantly with you. And on the day we remember your mother, we pray for all the churches in the diocese dedicated to her; Aldridge Parish Church, Aldridge Tynings Lane, Astley, Bilston, Blymhill, Bradeley; Brewood, Broughton, Bucknall, Bushbury, Calton, Cauldon, Canwell, Castlechurch, Checkley, Colton, Dudleston, Dunstall, Eaton Constantine, Ellenhall, Edstaston, Ellesmere, Enville, Gratwich, Hales, High Offley, Hordley, Ingestre, Ketley, Kinnerley, Knockin, Knutton, Leighton, Longton, Market Drayton, Moreton, Mucklestone, Rolleston, Selattyn, Sharesill, Shawbury, Sheriffhales, Shrawardine, Stafford, Stanton, Stretton, Sutton Maddock, Swynnerton, Trentham, Tutbury, Uttoxeter, Uttoxeter Heath, Weeford, Whixall, Wheaton Aston, Whitmore, and Wombridge. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on all of these churches and the communities they serve together.

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