

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 24

discipleship
vocation
evangelism

During these weeks the prayer diary reflects the challenges of facing Coronavirus with our sisters and brothers across the world; the call to be a people of hope.



Sunday 13th September: (*John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, Teacher of the Faith, 407*) **CHURCHES:** Pray for the national and local church wrestling with key questions about what the church looks like post lockdown alongside the major loss of income caused by Covid-19; pray for our Diocese as we seek to sustain an effective Christian presence in every community and develop mission and ministry across parishes, schools, chaplaincies and fresh expressions as well as on line. We pray for all Diocesan Staff, for Julie Jones our CEO and Lindsey Hall as she takes on a new role leading our missional engagement along with our Archdeacons.

Mon 14th: (*Holy Cross Day*) **COMMUNITIES:** For Transforming Communities Together in our Diocese, as they have reaffirmed their commitment in response to Black Lives Matter to challenging racial inequality and discrimination, and restating their value of celebrating the rich diversity reflected through their staff and the communities they work alongside. In particular we pray for the Bringing People Together Project Advisers - Helen Titterton for Staffordshire and Su Parker for the Black Country; Gulsoom Aslam, Burton Places of Welcome Facilitator in Burton and James Henderson, Senior Development Worker.

Tues 15th: (*Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, Martyr, 258*) **SCHOOLS:** Lord Jesus you told your disciples that you would be with us always. During this continued time of uncertainty, we hold onto this promise especially for all those linked with our schools. At this time, we pray particularly for our high schools. We thank you for our high school students and our high school teachers. Please keep the students, teachers, and staff safe; we pray for wisdom that has a positive impact on actions and for the right precautions to be taken to ensure the wellbeing of all in our care. May your peace and loving care be a reality in all our schools, particularly.....(*name any local schools*).

Wed 16th: (*Ninian, Bishop of Galloway, Apostle of the Picts, c.432; Edward Bouverie Pusey, Priest, Tractarian, 1882*) **AROUND THE WORLD:** From the USPG Prayer Diary we give thanks for the amazing work being done by the Asian Theological Academy. May it be a blessing to the Church in Asia and beyond. Let us pray for all the young and aspiring Asian church leaders currently receiving training from the ATA.



Thur 17th: (*Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179*) **PRISONS:** For those in prisons and young offender institutions around this Diocese – the prison community including staff and prisoners, and their loved ones - that they may know peace and hope in the midst of uncertainty. Pray for strength for all staff as they seek to minister to the needs of prisoners in these difficult circumstances. We pray particularly for Chaplaincy teams, and the wider communities in our local prisons – remembering particularly HMP Dovegate, HMP Brinsford, HMP Featherstone and HMP Oakwood.



Fri 18th: **HEALTHCARE:** We pray for all experiencing symptoms of 'Long Covid' and pray for those seeking to understand more fully the nature of the Coronavirus and to work towards finding helpful Covid-19 therapies and vaccines. Pray for any known to you who are working within the NHS and for your local hospitals and surgeries as they adjust to changing circumstances.

Sat 19th: (*Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690*) **AROUND THE WORLD:** for our brothers and sisters in the Province of South East Asia; for Archbishop Melter Tais with oversight of the Province as a whole and also of the Diocese of Sabah; for Bishop Moon Hing as he approaches his retirement as Bishop of West Malaysia, giving thanks for his most fruitful ministry and praying for him and his wife Siew Lan as they enter a new phase of ministry; pray too for all former St Chad's Volunteers as they serve God in their churches and communities in West Malaysia.