

## Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 27

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 4<sup>th</sup> October:** (*Francis of Assisi, Friar, Deacon, Founder of the Friars Minor, 1226*) **CHURCHES:** 'We pray that the



two million people in our diocese encounter a church that is confident in the gospel, knows and loves its communities, and is excited to find God already at work in the world'; for the recently launched '**Shaping for Mission**' process and for the engagement of Deaneries as they take on new roles in working out our call to mission; for the launch meetings with the Archdeacons of Stoke, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury. We pray too for God's many blessings on Matthew Parker as he prepares to take up his new ministry as Area Bishop of Stafford.

**Mon 5<sup>th</sup>:** **COMMUNITIES:** for the Transforming Communities Together Team, that God will guide them in their decision making and in their work with all partner organisations and groups; for local communities and for individuals who continue to be lonely and isolated as a result of renewed lockdown measures; for Jon Miles as he plans work for the Church Action on Poverty Week 12-18 October; for wisdom and insight for the TCT Board members; for Su Parker and her role in the development of the Bringing People Together programme and in identifying volunteers to help run the online groups.

**Tues 6<sup>th</sup>:** (*William Tyndale, Translator of the Scriptures, Reformation Martyr, 1536*) **SCHOOLS:** Heavenly Father please pour out your blessings upon all our school communities so that everyone grows in the knowledge of your truth, love, wisdom and peace. We pray for those pupils who are struggling to pick up their learning after so many months out of conventional schooling; for those members of staff who are working so hard to support these pupils as they attempt to fill in the gaps in their learning; that under such difficult circumstances the joy of learning will not be lost. AMEN

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup>:** **AROUND THE WORLD:** for the Province of Southern Africa as it celebrates 150 years of faithful worship, witness and service of Anglicans in Southern Africa; for Archbishop Thabo Makgoba and all who have gone before him in prophetic and Spirit led leadership; for Bishop Steve Diseko and all members of the Diocese of Matlosane, that God will be alongside the church in its pastoral ministry in responding to Covid-19 and in its ministry of faithful worship, witness and service today; for Dean Christopher Seupe and all at Ikokeng Cathedral.

**Thur October 8<sup>th</sup>:** **PRISONS:** We pray for prisoners and staff in our prison communities; for any who have become unwell due to COVID-19 and who are living with long term complication of this illness, that they might know healing; for resilience and energy for the staff; for peace and hope for prisoners, particularly those wrestling with the grief and loss of bereavement; for the chaplaincy teams at HMP Stoke Heath, HMYOI Werrington; for chaplains Rev'd David Farley, Rev'd Jeffrey Cuttall & Rev'd David Howard and for all volunteer visitors.



**Fri 9<sup>th</sup>:** (*Denys, Bishop of Paris, and his Companions, Martyrs, c.250; Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, Philosopher, Scientist, 1253*) **HEALTHCARE:** Please pray for all Residential Care Homes in your neighbourhood, for all staff and residents as they respond to the long term and extremely demanding implications of Covid-19; for all who serve as chaplains to Care Homes; for residents who face loneliness and isolation in these times, particular those living with dementia.

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup>:** (*Paulinus, Bishop of York, Missionary, 644; Thomas Traherne, Poet, Spiritual Writer, 1674*)

**AROUND THE WORLD:** We give thanks for the way the church in Sri Lanka has stepped up to support people affected by Covid-19; we pray for the newly appointed Bishop of Colombo, Sri Lanka, Father Dushantha Rodrigo, that God will give him wisdom and resilience in his strategic ministry; for those in Sri Lanka whose livelihoods have been hardest hit by Covid-19, including daily wage earners and people working in the tourism and hospitality industries. (*USPG Prayer Diary*)

USPG<sup>+</sup>

PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN THE 24/7 **DIOCESAN DAY OF PRAYER** STARTING 07.00 on 23<sup>rd</sup> October  
Details available on the Diocesan Web Page and from [denise.keen@lichfield.anglican.org](mailto:denise.keen@lichfield.anglican.org)