



Sunday 23rd August 2026

11th Sunday after Trinity



DIOCESE OF
LICHFIELD



Come follow Christ in the footsteps of St Chad



"We believe in **inclusive church** – a church which **celebrates and affirms every person** and does not discriminate."

**** Please note: Due to availability of Ministers there are some changes to service times and frequency of Holy Communion services within the Benefice**

Services Sunday 23rd August

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

3.00pm Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship (Outside Service)

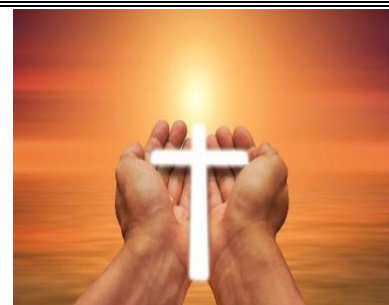
Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Collect – 12th Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray and to give more than either we desire or deserve: pour down upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid and giving us those good things which are not worthy to ask but through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Sunday Readings

Psalm	124
1 st Reading	Exodus 1.8—2.10
2 nd Reading	Romans 12.1-8
Gospel	Matthew 16.13-20



To gain access to Holy Trinity Academy, please use the side entrance of the building by the electric car charging points which are to the right-hand side of the main entrance. Once inside the building, go straight ahead following the corridor towards the refectory then through the doors and use either the stairs or lift to the 1st floor. The Chapel can be seen from the balcony.

Wombridge 1st Sunday service has a new time of 3pm

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood 3rd Sunday service has a new time of 3pm

St Peter's 3rd Sunday – no morning service going forward

Services Sunday 30th August

Holy Trinity Oakengates

No Service

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No Service

St Georges Telford

10.30am Benefice Service

Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

No Service

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

No Service

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

No Service

Services Sunday 6th September

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

3.00pm Holy Communion *note time change

Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Services Sunday 13th September

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion & Baptism

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

3.00pm Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

8.00am Holy Communion BCP

11.00am Family Praise

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship

Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Services Sunday 20th September

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Morning Worship

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

No Service

St Georges Telford

9.30am Holy Communion & Baptism

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

3.00pm Afternoon Worship & Baptism *note time change

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Holy Communion

Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Services Sunday 27th September

Holy Trinity Oakengates

9.30am Holy Communion

St Peter's Priorslee at Holy Trinity Academy

3.00pm Holy Communion

St Georges Telford

9.30am Morning Worship

Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

11.00am Morning Worship

St Matthew's Donnington Wood

11.00am Holy Communion

St Mary & St Leonard's Wombridge

11.00am Morning Worship

Please note: Dates and times are correct at time of going to print but are subject to change.

Sunday Readings	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Gospel
30 Aug <i>Trinity 13</i>	Exodus 3.1-15	Romans 12.9-end	Matthew 16.21-end
06 Sep <i>Trinity 14</i>	Exodus 12.1-14	Romans 13.8-end	Matthew 18.15-20
13 Sep <i>Trinity 15</i>	Exodus 14.19-end	Romans 14.1-12	Matthew 18.21-35
20 Sep <i>Trinity 16</i>	Exodus 16.2-15	Philippians 1.21-end	Matthew 20.1-16
27 Sep <i>Trinity 17</i>	Exodus 17.1-7	Philippians 2.1-13	Matthew 21.23-32

Daily Readings

		Morning	Evening
Monday	24/08	John 1.43-end	Matthew 10.1-22
Tuesday	25/08	Acts 9.1-19a	Mark 7.1-13
Wednesday	26/08	Acts 9.19b-31	Mark 7.14-23
Thursday	27/08	Acts 9.32-end	Mark 7.24-30
Friday	28/08	Acts 10.1-16	Mark 7.31-end
Saturday	29/08	Acts 10.17-33	Mark 8.1-10
Monday	31/08	Acts 10.34-end	Mark 8.11-21
Tuesday	01/09	Acts 11.1-18	Mark 8.22-26
Wednesday	02/09	Acts 11.19-end	Mark 8.27—9.1
Thursday	03/09	Acts 12.1-17	Mark 9.2-13
Friday	04/09	Acts 12.18-end	Mark 9.14-29
Saturday	05/09	Acts 13.1-12	Mark 9.30-37



Those in need of our prayers

Please pray for the families of Raymond Norman, Janet Pidgeon and all who are grieving.

Merciful God, be close to all who mourn.

May they know the hope of your promises
and the comfort of your love,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



In our prayers we remember the Church, its members and our community. We pray for those who are unwell, either at home or in hospital and those who are adjusting to changes in their lives and those who can no longer join us physically in our church buildings for worship or fellowship. We offer prayers for people of countries affected by conflict, persecution and natural disaster.

We pray for Rev Tom as he goes on his summer break with his Family may it be a time of rest and renewal and for all the church leaders, wardens and volunteers may they take this quiet time over the summer to be refreshed ready for the new term.

At this time please pray for:

- Safety for those who travel for work or holiday at this busy time
- Those suffering in the extremes of the weather across this country and the world.
- Children's clubs across Telford
- All who are seeking educational guidance
- Those now deciding their future following the A Level, GCSE & vocational course results
- Pastoral care within the Benefice
- Our Church PCC's as they plan for the future
- Our Bishops Michael & Sarah and Archdeacon Nick

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

Those whose years mind we keep

Priorslee

23 Aug Brian Ainsworth, Gladys Taylor, Albert Eagleton, Andrew McGillivray, Gillian Hodson

30 Aug Lorna Chetwood, George Moscrop, Vincent Holmes, Charles Luter, Leslie Phillips

Oakengates

23 Aug Ethel Roberts, Marion Cadwallader, Derrick Thompson, Henry Wassall, Herbert Mellor, Grace Tonks, Margaret Riley, Annie Mansell, Lucy Barrow, Eileen Harris

30 Aug Roy Lea, Gwen Phillips, Sydney Massey, Mabel Spencer, Sue Bailey, Alec Leech

Wrockwardine Wood

23 Aug Gordon Beardsmore, Barbara Worrall, Michael Griffiths, Dorothy Martin, Albert Steventon, Nathalie Parton, Geoffrey Edwards

30 Aug Douglas Boothman, Muriel Gillam, John James, Rodwell Woodward, Howard (H) Hope, Enid Steventon, Paul Evans, Rose Price

Donnington Wood

23 Aug Ernest Weston, Margaret Best

30 Aug Ethel Wallace, John Gorvin, Joseph Sandall, James Price, William Kitching, Graham Chapman

Regular Dates for Diaries (For participation or prayer)

- Mon 8.00pm Compline via Zoom
- Tue 7.00pm Whist in aid of Holy Trinity Oakengates (1st Tue of month) at Maddocks Club
- Wed 8.45-10.30am Tea & Toast (Place of Welcome) at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
- 9.00-11.00am Food Bank & Clothes Bank at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
- 9.15am Morning Prayer at Wombridge Church (suspended during August)
- 10.00am Midweek Service at St Matthew's Donnington Wood (Eucharist 1st Wednesday)
- 11.00am Bible Chat session at St Matthew's Donnington Wood (suspended during August)
- 11.00am Midweek Service at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
- 12.00-2.00pm Place of Welcome at Holy Trinity Oakengates
- 7.00-8.00pm Prayer Group meeting at St Georges (4th Wed each month-suspended during Aug)
- Thu 1.00-3.00pm Pray Bake Read at Lantern Academy Ketley Bank (Only during School Term)
- 1.00-3.00pm Place of Welcome at Priorslee Scout HQ
- 3.15-4.30pm Youth Drop-in at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood (next one 10th September)
- Fri 10-11.00am St Georges Church open for chat & refreshments
- 12.30-2.00pm First Friday Free Lunch at Wombridge Parish Centre (1st Friday)
- 8.00pm Compline via Zoom
- Sat 11.00-1.00pm Welcome Saturday at St Matthews Donnington Wood (3rd Saturday of month)

Additional Dates for Diaries

- Tue 25/08 10.30am Burial of Ashes of Peter Brown at St Matthews Donnington Wood
- Wed 26/08 10.00am Funeral of Raymond Norman at Aston House, St Georges
- Wed 02/09 11.30am Funeral of Janet Pidgeon at Telford Crematorium
- Mon 07/09 1.00pm Ecumenical Service at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
- Thur 10/09 3.15pm Youth Drop-in at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood
- Sat 12/09 11.30am Burial of Ashes of Barry Parr at Holy Trinity Oakengates
- Thur 17/09 7.30pm Concert - Key Change Choir (Re-scheduled from June due to weather)
- Thur 24/09 2.00pm Macmillan Coffee Afternoon at Stallard Court Oakengates
- Fri 09/10 2.30pm Burial of Ashes of Michael Maiden at Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

Future dates for the Year

Wombridge Church: 2026 Plan

Sat 19th Sep	8.30am - 11.00am	Autumn Breakfast Bazaar
Sat 17th Oct	6.00pm	Harvest Supper & Hadley & District MVC Concert
Sat 14th Nov	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Beetle and Fish 'n' chips
Sat 5th Dec	8.30am - 11.00am	Christmas Breakfast Bazaar
Sat 19th Dec	4.00pm - 6.00pm	Christmas party

St Peters Priorslee: 2026 Plan

Sun 27 th Sept	3.00pm	Harvest Festival Service at Holy Trinity Academy
Sat 3 rd Oct	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Harvest Supper at Priorslee Scout HQ
Sat 28 th Nov	2.00pm - 4.00pm	Christmas Craft Fair at Priorslee Scout HQ
Thu 24th Dec	1.00pm - 2.00pm	Christmas Bring & Share Lunch at Place of Welcome
	2.30pm - 3.30pm	followed by Christmas Eve Service at Priorslee Scout HQ

Holy Trinity Oakengates: 2026 Plan

Sat 12 th Sept		Ride & Stride
Thu 17 th Sept	7.30pm	Concert - Key Change Choir (Re-scheduled from June)
Sat 3 rd Oct		Harvest Supper & Quiz
Sun 13 th Dec		Concert by the Ronnies

CHANGES DURING AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

- The St Peter's Places of Welcome at Priorslee & St Georges Scout Hall has had to be cancelled on 16th September due to the Beer Festival weekend.
- The Wednesday morning service at Donnington Wood Church continues during August although the Bible Chat group is suspended for the summer holidays and will re-commence on Wednesday 2nd September.
- The Wednesday Prayer Group which normally meets at St Georges Church on 4th Wednesday in the month is cancelled in August and will meet again 23rd September.
- The Wednesday morning service at Wombridge Church has been cancelled during August.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

The weekly Newsletter is produced and edited by Christopher Harris and if you would like to receive this newsletter via email regularly please contact newsletter@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk requesting you would like to receive it, or it can be found on our Website at

www.easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

PRAYING AT HOME

As a Benefice we are grateful to Nigel who hosts Compline (Evening Prayer) via Zoom (extremely easy to join on a mobile phone with internet access) at 8pm on Monday and Friday evenings. For more information please contact Nigel at Nigelcollins8561@gmail.com

LATEST UPDATE FROM HOLY TRINITY WROCKWARDINE WOOD

Prayer group at Wrockwardine Wood is paused for now, but the praying continues please do email or call the office admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk 01952 615367 if you have a prayer request this will be sent to the churches for inclusion in the prayers groups which are happening elsewhere across the benefice and of course in our Sunday services.

The Step in Line class is suspended for the summer with a new class being started on the second week of September. Look out for the details which will follow soon.

Pattern of mid-week services:

Wed 26th Aug – lay led.

2nd & 9th Sept - lay led, 16th & 23rd Sept – Holy Communion, 30th Sept - lay led.

NEW BENEFICE ADMIN OFFICE OPENING TIMES

There will be a change to the hours where Kerry can be contacted in the office. The new hours will be 9.00am – 2.00pm Monday and Tuesday.

Kerry can be contacted by email – admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk and phone – 01952 615367. She will respond to you promptly. Should you require printing or office help just give her a call or email and she will arrange to meet you at the office during these times.

BAPTISMS WEDDINGS & FUNERALS IN CHURCH

We are always excited to be able to celebrate Baptisms, welcome you for your Wedding or help you through a difficult time arranging a Funeral within our Churches. Funerals are welcomed in Church or at the Graveside and Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood are able to livestream funerals. Please telephone Kerry, Benefice Administrator to discuss arrangements. Our Ministers are also available for Services at the Crematorium, contact your Funeral Directors for arrangements.

EVERYDAY FAITH APP

Everyday Faith is a Church of England app offering daily readings, reflections, responses and prayers under various themes; with each theme looking at where and how we meet God as we go about our lives. Faith is found in our joys and cares, in our challenges and conflicts as we lean into God's presence and guidance. You can download Everyday Faith from your app store.

Contact Details

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Administrator: Kerry Debenham
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admin@easttelfordbenefice.co.uk

Ecumenical Coordinator & Lay Funeral Minister:
Sue Rawlings
07715173634 Suerawlings12@gmail.com



Following the summer break
the next Service will be
Monday 7th September at 1.00pm
At Holy Trinity Wrockwardine Wood

*For more information about Ecumenical events
please contact Sue Rawlings.
07715173634 suerawlings12@gmail.com*

ST GEORGE'S PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group meets on
the fourth Wednesday of
each month between
7pm & 8pm
at St George's Church.



The next meeting is on Wednesday 23rd Sept
and is open for all to attend. During the time
together there may be a brief discussion about
issues of the day and/or individual concerns
and then there is a time of prayer.

WOMBRIDGE
PARISH CENTRE
— TF2 6HT —

CAR BOOT SALE

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
31ST AUGUST
8.30AM TIL NOON

GREAT BARGAINS!

£8 PER CARBOOT

CARBOOTERS WELCOME
BUT NEED TO BOOK IN ADVANCE

BACON BUTTIES AND REFILLABLE HOT DRINK
FOR JUST **£3**

CAKE AND REFILLABLE HOT DRINK
FOR JUST **£2**

ALL PROCEEDS TO WOMBRIDGE CHURCH

Grab a Bank Holiday bargain or just grab a Bank Holiday bacon butty!

TO BOOK YOUR CARBOOT SPACE CONTACT: **CHRIS 07930245773**

BOOK EARLY AS SPACES ARE LIMITED

PLEASE SHARE!

Compline via Zoom

As a Benefice we are grateful to Nigel who hosts Compline via Zoom at 8pm on Monday and Friday evenings.

For more information please contact Nigel at Nigelcollins8561@gmail.com

TOMBOLA STALLS

Each of the churches in the Benefice are always in need of small quality items suitable for use on Tombola Stalls.

If you can offer items for these stalls then please pass them to churchwardens who will forward them to the events coordinators for each of the churches. *Thank You.*



Free Community Lunch
On the first Friday of each month

12.30pm to 2.00pm
Wombridge Parish Centre

Thanks to sponsorship by the co-op

All welcome to join us for a light lunch, dessert and hot drink – followed by a short game – pop in or stay for as long as you wish - everyone welcome ☺

MIDWEEK WORSHIP AND BIBLE CHAT

• EVERY WEDNESDAY •

• WORSHIP 10.00 A.M.
REFRESHMENTS 10.45 A.M.
BIBLE CHAT GROUP 11.00 A.M. •

• ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH
DONNINGTON WOOD •

Rev Dr Tom Atfield will lead a short Eucharist service and begin each new bible focus on 1st Wednesday of the month
If you would like to share in this newly revised act of worship, please come along on 3rd June, a warm, friendly welcome awaits you!



St Matthew's Church will be taking part in the Shropshire Historic Churches' Annual Ride & Stride event on

Saturday, 12th September 2026

Church will be open between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. to welcome cyclists and walkers from other participating churches, as well as holding our own sponsored activities.

If you would like to support St Matthew's by taking part in this fund-raising event (proceeds raised by us are shared equally between SHCT and St Matthew's), please pick up a sponsor form from Church.



Join us on 24th September

Holy Trinity Church, Oakengates

Knit & Natter Group

Are holding a Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

On Thursday 24th September at 2pm

Do come along and enjoy

the company, coffee & cake

at Stallard Court, Oakengates

Tickets £5.00 from Gill Hardman

PLACES of WELCOME at HTO, HTWW & St PETERS



This outreach is something which has helped bring our community together and we are always pleased when new people attend. The format is simple – a short service, a shared breakfast/lunch (toast, soup and roll or sandwiches), chat/board games/puzzles/craft etc.

Please do let your friends and neighbours know about these Places of Welcome especially those who live alone or those who are looking for a place to meet new people. You will find a warm welcome at each of these Places of Welcome. We look forward to meeting you!

Please note St Peters meets at: Priorslee Scout HQ, Snedshill Way, TF2 9QQ



Calling all older drivers! The Mature Drivers course is back due to popular demand! This subsidised course will enable a £55 discount for each participant, so that around 380 people can sign up for just £30 instead of the usual £85.

Find out more - <https://www.westmercia-pcc.gov.uk/posts/mature-drivers-course-back-due-to-popular-demand>



OPEN GARDENS IN SHROPSHIRE

Do you enjoy gardens? Over the next few weeks there are some beautiful ones to visit.

SHROPSHIRE HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST www.shropshirehct.org.uk/

Sambrook & Ellerton Garden Trail Sunday 30 August 2026 - Sambrook, Newport TF10 8AL
11am-4pm - The trail begins at early 18th century Sambrook Manor with waterfall and Japanese garden. The trail includes two stunning mill gardens in Ellerton. Church: St. Luke's Entry: £7

From the Deanery & Lichfield Diocese



WE ARE HIRING

Administrative Assistant

ReSource, a Christian charity based in Telford, is seeking an enthusiastic Administrative Assistant (16 hours per week) to support both the Alongside Scheme and the wider administration of the charity. There is a genuine occupational requirement that the postholder is a practising Christian.

Closing date: 12 noon, Monday 24 August
Further details: www.resourcingrenewal.org



RESOURCE

Local charity based at Meeting Point House has a vacancy for Administrative Assistant. Full details including the role description and application information, are available at www.resourcingrenewal.org/jobs
Closing date for applications is 12noon on Monday 24th August.



Lichfield Diocese Community of Evangelists Presents

"Ponderings on Prayer and Pilgrimage"

Presented by Richard Barrett
Supported by Laura Lenander



Monday 12th October 2026
12:00 noon – 3:30 pm
followed by
a walk for the more energetic!

Telford Minster

Meeting Point House, Southwater Square, Telford, TF3 4HS
Telford Minster is located centrally with several car parks in close vicinity
[Meeting Point House, 61 Southwater Way, Telford TF3 4LN Google Maps](#)
Nearest railway station: Telford Central station, Euston Way, Telford, Shropshire, TF3 4LZ
[Telford Central Station | National Rail](#)

To book your place contact Warden, Lynne Mills, at lynne@fpe-network.org
Free refreshments are provided – please state your specific dietary requirements
If you are not a member of the Community of Evangelists, you can still come to 'try us out' - all welcome!

Richard Barrett

Richard Barrett first started working for the diocese in January 2008, but after 18½ years he still questions whether he's a grown-up yet! Until earlier this year he was part of the Mission Team and is now part of the Programme Team. He often forgets what his job title is (currently Programme Office Data Support Officer, apparently), but since late 2024 he's often described himself as the diocese's 'Stats and Prayer guy' – while much of his time continues to be spent in collecting and trying to make use of our attendance figures and other nerdy numbers, since at that point he had the pleasure of taking on coordinating the diocese's weekly prayer diary and biannual days of prayer.

If Richard's love for nerdy numbers and using spreadsheets for more tasks than are strictly practicable goes back a long way, then his love for maps and gawping over them to plot interesting routes between places goes back to when he was a small child. In recent years he has had the privilege of doing much the same as part of his job, in trying to plot the route of various pilgrimages and prayer walks around the diocese and beyond – only some of which have come to fruition! Another thing he's been doing since before his time working for the diocese was creating prayer stations and especially prayer labyrinths, something he's found a positive way of gently encouraging people towards ways of creative prayer.

In talking about Prayer and Pilgrimage, Richard will try to restrain himself from talking too much about the practicalities and instead more about the opportunities. Who may this be for, either planned or otherwise? How might this become a Jesus encounter? But also – how might we be able to do similar in our own settings?



Laura Lenander



Laura Lenander has now been at Telford Minster for over 5 years, first as Curate, then as Interim Leader, and now with a richly deserved removal of the 'Interim'. As well as many other qualities, Laura is a fantastically gifted artist and regularly uses that skill for setting up Creative Prayer Stations of which Richard is deeply envious! We hope the day will include some interactive prayer stations from both Richard, Laura, and more – we hope you enjoy the chance of using them while at the Gathering – and don't try to compare them too closely!

As well as Richard and Laura, Richard has promised at least a couple of other special guests to share their experiences of pilgrimage, creative prayer – or both!

General Synod Elections 2026

NEW CLERGY AND LAY MEMBERS ARE BEING ELECTED TO GENERAL SYNOD THIS YEAR – AND YOU ARE INVITED TO STAND AS A CANDIDATE

General Synod is the national assembly of the Church of England. It shapes and approves laws that affect the whole of the Church of England. It agrees new forms of worship, debates matters of national and international importance, and approves the annual budget for the work of the Church at national level.

In Autumn 2026, elections are happening for new General Synod members. Those elected will serve for five years. Members are a mixture of bishops, clergy and lay people.

Lichfield Diocese has twelve places – five clergy, and seven lay people.

Almost anyone who attends church regularly is likely to be eligible to stand as a lay member. You don't need to be a member of a PCC, Deanery Synod or Diocesan Synod.

We are looking for candidates who represent the whole range of people and churches across the diocese. We particularly welcome candidates whose background may currently be underrepresented.

There is a supportive induction programme to help new members in their roles.

For further information including a video about General Synod and what it does, and an eligibility checker for lay people please see the [Church of England website page](#).

Article taken from: <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/about-us/synod/general-synod-elections-2026.php>

Lichfield Diocese Prayer Diary: Issue 330

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 23rd August:

Continuing our season of prayers from Lichfield Deanery, we echo the prayers of their neighbours in praying for our Cathedral, particularly in a time of transition as they too prepare for the retirement of Bishop Michael. As we advance into this period of discernment for our next Bishop, help us to wait prayerfully; and please guide all those working through the process, and those that support them.

Monday 24th: *(Bartholomew the Apostle)*

On the day we remember St Bartholomew we pray for the various churches in the diocese dedicated to him, in Blurton, Butterton, Farewell, Hints, Longdon-upon-Tern, Longnor, Moreton Corbet, Norton-le-Moors, Penn, Tong, Waterfall, and Wednesbury. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on each of these churches, and the communities they serve.

Today we also pray for Kay Rogers, as she is licensed at St Mary's Kinnerley to serve as Interim Minister both there and at the neighbouring churches of St John's Maesbrook, St John the Baptist Maesbury, St Mary's Knockin, and St Peter's Melverley. Please bless growing relationships between her and her new churches, as they get to know each other better and work together to serve their local communities.

Finally Lord, we pray for tonight's online '[Introduction to the Diocese of Lichfield Strategy](#)' session. We lift before you Nick Smeeton, leading the session, and his role in the implementation of the Strategy itself. Lord, please guide and support Nick and all of us in trying to shape this place ever more closely to how you want it to be.

Tuesday 25th:

We continue our prayers for Lichfield Deanery by thanking you for the new incumbents coming into post in recent weeks, for Jonathan Nicholas at Alrewas and Fradley, for Matt Mason at Little Aston, and for Simon Foster at Lichfield Christ Church and Longdon. Please bless each of them with blossoming relationships in their new settings, and guide them along your paths.

Wednesday 26th:

Lord, we continue our prayers for Lichfield by lifting before you the one church in that deanery currently in vacancy, that of St Anne's Chasetown. We pray for the congregation and wider community in that place, that this period may prove more satisfying than challenging, and please guide those involved in the process towards appointing the right vicar at the right time.

Thursday 27th: *(Monica, mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387)*

We conclude our prayers for Lichfield deanery with their gracious prayer for those in 'Diocese HQ'; For the team at St Mary's House who guide us all, and for ourselves, for strength and guidance as we work together to grow the kingdom of God.

Friday 28th: *(Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, Teacher of the Faith, 430)*

A 'prayer to the Holy Spirit' from Augustine of Hippo;

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me, O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.

Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy. **Amen.**

Saturday 29th: *(The Beheading of John the Baptist)*

On the day we remember St John the Baptist, we pray for all the churches in the diocese dedicated to him, in Albrighton, Armitage, Ashley, Bolas Magna, Elkstone, Hammerwich, Ightfield, Kingstone, Lichfield, Maesbury, Mayfield, Ruyton-XI-Towns, Shenstone, Slitting Mill, Stafford, Stowe-by-Chartley, Tixall, Wall, Wetley Rocks, Whittington, and Withington. We pray for your hand of blessing to rest on all of these churches, and the communities they serve.

To get these prayer points delivered to your mobile automatically via the free PrayerMate app on iOS & Android [click here](#)
For prayer resources for the worldwide church see the Anglican cycle of prayer: anglicancommunion.org/resources/prayer.aspx