

Please pray for those receiving an invitation to the Christingle service in St John's School, Sparkhill this week. The school population is now 85% Muslim, yet there is real joy and expectation in seeing 'the Light of the World' represented by hundreds of candles held around the hall. Pray blessing and peace on each family present.

Please pray that our schools may be places of welcome for all, and that pupils will learn of the love of Jesus for those he met, and see modelled in the adults around them a way to live harmoniously with those who are not at the centre of the group.

Church of England - Birmingham has around 35 outer estate parishes comprising social housing estates on the edges of our cities. Pray for these parishes, their people and their clergy as they seek to minister faithfully and imaginatively. Pray for the Outer Estate Clergy Group, for the leadership of the Convening Group and Andy Delmege.

We pray for the children and young people who are in the care of our local authorities, that they would know and feel the security that is their right. We pray for those who are missing from care, that they might be kept safe from exploitation, neglect and suffering.

Anglican Communion

Sunday 4 December: Karnataka North - (South India) The Rt Revd Ravikumar J. Niranjana

Monday 5 December: Karnataka South - (South India) The Rt Revd Mohan Manoraj

Tuesday 6 December: Kasai - (Congo) The Rt Revd Marcel Kapanga; Katanga - (Congo) The Rt Revd Muno Kasima

Wednesday 7 December: Katakwa - (Kenya) The Rt Revd Zakayo Epusi

Thursday 8 December: Katsina - (Kaduna, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Jonathan Bamaiyi; Kebbi - (Kaduna, Nigeria) The Most Revd Edmund Akanya

Friday 9 December: Keewatin - (Rupert's Land, Canada) The Most Revd David Norman Ashdown

Saturday 10 December: Kentucky - (IV, The Episcopal Church) The Rt Revd Terry White

Sunday 4 December Aston deanery



Photo credit: Jimmy Guano

The Revd Nigel Traynor, Area Dean, Aston writes:

Loss, absence and change have been part of the Aston Deanery recently. We lost the vicar of Aston to the north! Absence: St Chad has been without a vicar for two years. Change: The Erdington Team is now disbanded. But there is continuity with Richard Walker Hill and Ruth Souter and we give thanks to God for our retired clergy giving generous support... So what to pray for?

- *That the clergy chapter will continue to form a fruitful and supportive community*
- *That the new incumbents and their families put down fruitful roots*
- *That we as a community of followers of Jesus in Aston have 'access to the grace of God through Jesus' and that our neighbours will want to seek out that grace.*

Today Bishop David is visiting Anawim, a women's centre in Balsall Heath that supports women vulnerable to exploitation including prostitution. It seeks to provide wider choices to help them and their children achieve their goals and reach their full potential. We pray for the staff and volunteers. We pray for vulnerable women and their children.

The Revd Roger Chamberlain, St Nicholas, Baddesley Ensor writes that they give thanks for the excellent relationships with Woodside School through Collective Worship, Open the Book and Governorship, and asks for prayer for fruitful growing younger outreach through baptisms, Stay Play and Pray and Messy Church.