

**Intercessions    Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

*Our prayers today take the form of a litany building a picture of prayer through the years, drawing on the loving presence and action of God at every stage.*

*There is a response after each short sentence.*

Sisters and brothers in Christ,  
let us come to the Lord in hope,  
let us pray to the Lord in faith,  
and let us hold to the Lord throughout our lives.

Lord, keep safe the new-born baby who struggles for life in the hospital incubator.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Give reassurance to the child unnerved by being left out or by being bullied.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Encourage the teenager disappointed with their exam results.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Guide clearly the young woman or man who is not quite sure if their current squeeze is really the one for them.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Give patience to the young person who could make money so much more quickly by bending the rules.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Be close to the young parents, both delighted and stretched to the limit by their first baby.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Give hope to the distraught mother or father, frightened by their anger with their sleepless child.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Call back the tempted partner, following their instincts towards another lover.

**Hear us, good Lord**

Give self-confidence to the man in middle age, redundant, bewildered and afraid.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Bless with reassurance the middle-aged woman who wonders if she took a wrong turn some time back.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Give an open heart to the person of colour who was passed over for the better job.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Give freedom and hope to someone newly retired but not sure whether they should be elated or depressed.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Stand alongside the family member afraid of the pandemic for themselves or for someone they love.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Guard closely the lonely, the sick and the dispirited, and touch them with your deeper wholeness.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Keep watch with those coming close to their destiny, afraid of the pain and unsure of the future.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

And so in your mercy gather to yourself every faithful believer, and those whose faith is known to you alone, and present us all, complete in Christ, to the joy of your coming Kingdom.

**Hear us, good Lord.**

Yes, hear us, good Lord.

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.**