

Prayers of Intercession

Isabelle and Emily will read 'The Praises of God' prayer written by St Francis of Assisi during our intercessions today.

Let us pray for the Church and for the world and let us thank God for his goodness. From the rising of the sun to its setting, let us pray to the Lord.

Emily: You are holy, Lord, the only God,
And your deeds are wonderful.
You are strong, you are great,
You are the Most High, you are almighty.

Father God, your Son taught us that all of your commandments are connected to the greatest commandments of all: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: "Love your neighbour as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.' Let us pray for all of our neighbours both near and far and fill us with love for you to allow us to be better neighbours. Help us to pray, think, speak and act with this great love in mind.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Isabelle: You, holy Father, are King of heaven and earth.
You are Three and One, Lord God, all good.
You are Good, all Good, supreme Good,
Lord God, living and true.

Lord God, we pray for your wonderful creation all around us. As the hours of daylight shorten and the seasons change remind us to notice the beauty of this world. The recent lockdown provided for many people an opportunity to have a break from other ways of life and pursuits and notice the nature all around us on walks, in our gardens and perhaps even through our windows. Help us to protect our precious and fragile natural world and remind us to always have eyes to see it.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Emily: You are love, you are wisdom.
You are humility, you are endurance.

Lord, we pray for the effects that the worldwide pandemic has had upon all of our lives as we approach winter. We pray for the loss of loved ones. We pray for the freedoms lost and the effect on our relationships and fellowship.

Let us pray for all charities at this time and especially those working with homeless people, children and those who are overseas.

Our prayers rest on charities such as Christian Aid, an organisation founded after the Second World War to help in particular the thousands of refugees who were displaced due to war. Seventy-five years after VE Day, we are more in need of the work of such charities with a Christian ethos than ever before. We pray for their work with densely populated countries affected by coronavirus in the developing world. We pray for their work with refugee camps with scarce access to soap, clean water, healthcare and little possibility of social distancing.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Isabelle:

You are rest, you are peace.

You are joy and gladness.

Dear Lord, we place into your hands those who we hold dear and we pray for every day.

We place into your hands those we know of who are suffering.

We place into your hands those who we have just begun to pray for.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Isabelle:

You are justice and moderation.

You are all our riches and you suffice for us.

Emily:

You are beauty, you are gentleness.

You are our protector,

Isabelle:

You are our guardian and defender,

You are courage, you are our haven and our hope.

You have asked us to love you with all of ourselves.

Isabelle:

Help us to love you with all of our hearts, minds, souls and strength.

Emily:

Help me to love you with all of me.

Isabelle:

You are our faith, our great consolation,

You are our eternal life, great and wonderful Lord,

God Almighty, merciful Saviour. Amen.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers

For the sake of your Son

Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.