

Intercessions for Sunday 11 October 2020

Lord God, you are the father of all people. We pray for our church and for your blessing to rest upon this Church and this Parish. We are grateful for its worship and fellowship; for those working to include members of our congregations who are unable to be with us; for the care and teaching of children and young people; for its nurture and love.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Lord God, help us to see the kind of church you need today. Help us to see the many and varied needs of our community and how we can serve through our words, prayers and actions. Hold up before us the vision of your kingdom, a kingdom of justice and mercy, truth and compassion. Help us to grasp the meaning of the gospel which you have entrusted to us; give us grace to live by it.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Lord God, we pray for the family of your church which stretches out all over the world, asking for your blessing upon our Christian brothers and sisters in other lands. Where they are a small minority let them find strength in knowing you are with them; where they are persecuted let them find courage to continue faithful, knowing that you will never leave them; where they are young in the faith let your Holy Spirit build them up in the knowledge of your love; where they are affluent and accepted keep them constant in Your service. As we are blessed by the prayers of others, may our prayer be a blessing to those who love and worship you in other lands.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Let us pray for those who seek to make peace in this divided world:

- For those agencies who travel to any country in the cause of peace;
- For governments who are prepared to send units for the difficult role of peace keeping;
- For those who work on opposing sides in disputes between management and workers;
- For Christians and those of other faiths who quietly and steadfastly advocate and live in the way of peace, and thereby work for its growth;
- For ourselves, where we have known the bitterness which hatred and strife can create in families and between individuals, to sow seeds of peace;

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Let us pray for those who are ill or in need of God's help at this time. Lord God, hear our prayer for those who are ill, in hospitals, at home, or wherever they may be. Give them courage, hope and peace, and the knowledge that you are present in their weakness, pain and suffering. May the skills and knowledge of those who care for the sick be fully used to help and to heal.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

We pray for those whose hearts have been saddened by the death of someone close and dear to them. Give to them the strong comfort which no one else can give; let them know the comforting power of the resurrection of Jesus.

*Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer***

Let us pray for the beauty of the world around us. Lord God, we praise and thank you for giving us so much to enjoy in the world. Open our eyes to see all the beauty around us as Summer turns to Autumn; help us to appreciate your greatness in giving us the different seasons, each fulfilling our needs. Help us to safeguard them so that our children and future generations will benefit from the natural beauty which you have created.

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