

## Intercessions for 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2021

O God our Father, who by the bright shining of a star  
Led the wise men to Bethlehem  
Guide us by the light of your spirit  
That we too may come into the presence of Jesus  
And offer our gifts and worship him,  
Our saviour and our Lord.

Everlasting God we give thanks for this new day as we focus on Samuel, Nathaniel and Philip responding to God's call. God called ordinary people, just like us. May we remember our calling to follow you, walk in your way, live our lives for you and be mindful of your presence each day.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for our Queen and her government, and for all those in positions of power having to make difficult decisions in these unprecedented times in the Pandemic. We pray for the leaders in the rest of the world. Sharpen their consciences and give them the courage to make wise decisions and to meet the needs of all who suffer. Help us to continue to obey the rules of lockdown with fortitude and patience, knowing that we do this for the common good.

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

Lord we bring before you today those involved in education as they cope with the difficulties of home schooling, providing schooling for the vulnerable and the children of key workers. For those working in nurseries who have great anxieties about their situation and for the young people at University again having their learning disrupted and having to stay at home and do their course work on line. We pray that their efforts will be rewarded and they will cope effectively with all the challenges and changes. And we pray for the many parents struggling with home schooling and without the resources to help them.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our Prayer**

We pray particularly today for all those working in hospital caring for the sick. Our exhausted doctors, nurses and support staff working in intensive care. For hospital managers faced with the problem of insufficient beds and resources for those needing to be admitted. We pray for those grappling with the logistical problems of getting the vaccine out to the country. Give them patient faith and the knowledge of your love, peace and healing. In a moment of silence please bring before God someone you are concerned about this morning.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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

Almighty God, we remember those we love, our families, friends and neighbours who are all struggling with life at the moment, some feeling isolated and anxious. We pray for those, both young and old with mental health problems who are feeling abandoned and unloved. Give them courage and hope that the end of this situation is in sight. And we pray for those who are no longer with us who have recently died of Covid or other problems. We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time. We give thanks for their lives and for the happy memories we have of them. May all who mourn find comfort and peace in you.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Faithful God, we thank you for making us your children and the promise that you listen to our prayers and answer our needs.

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**