

Intercessions for Ash Wednesday 17th February 2021

Please feel free to join in with the words **Good Lord deliver us**

Merciful Lord, in this season of Lent, help us to aim high as we seek to renew the discipline of our discipleship.

May we take up the best and give up the rest, and know your mercy and grace in all things.

From all self-seeking, self-promotion and self-indulgence;
from all self-pity, self-glorification and selfishness;
from all self-hatred, self-harm and self-destruction,
Good Lord deliver us.

From all that would keep us from joining in worship;
from all that would stop us from reading your word;
from all that would deter us from coming to you in prayer,
Good Lord deliver us.

From the laziness that would stop us before we begin;
from the carelessness that would mean we would do it badly;
from the impatience that would mean we wouldn't finish,
Good Lord deliver us.

From all that would limit our loving of our neighbour;
from all that would limit our loving of God;
from all that would spoil our attempt to be good,
Good Lord deliver us

By the disciplines of Lent and the encouragement of others;
by the fellowship of your church and the exchange of greetings;
by the desire of our hearts and the need of our souls,
Good Lord deliver us.

By your agony and trial;
by your cross and passion;
by your mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
Good Lord deliver us.

By all that we attempt, strengthened by you;
by all that we long for, fed by you;
by all that is in us, blessed by you,
Good Lord deliver us.

In every ordinary day of Lent;
in every temptation to follow worldly values;
in every attempt to justify our compromises,
Good Lord deliver us.

Give us, Lord, the blessings of a holy Lent, true journeying in Holy Week, and a holy and glorious Easter.

Give us time to receive your teaching and to amend our lives,
give us faith to be open to the graceful filling of your Holy Spirit,
and finally give us leave to come to your eternal joy.

All: **Holy God, Holy and strong, Holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Amen.

Adapted from text by John Pritchard