

Intercessions for Good Friday

Heavenly Father, who loved the world so much that You gave Your only Son to share our humanity and die the cruellest of deaths to ensure that we may fully live, on this Good Friday we bring our love and concerns for the world to the foot of the Cross, knowing that in all our joy and pain You are with us, Your compassion overflowing.

We pray for our precious and beautiful world, spectacular in its creation, yet marred by drought and flooding; habitat destruction and species loss; the plundering and misuse of its rich resources. We acknowledge our own role in environmental disaster.

Heavenly Father, we bring our world to the foot of the Cross, asking that You
Heal our world and heal our hearts.

We pray for our human family within the world, glorious in its diversity, yet marred by hatred and prejudice; by failure to understand; and by the selfish agendas of both governments and individuals that lead to wars, displacement, deprivation and persecution. We acknowledge our own personal guilt in so many areas.

Heavenly Father, we bring our human family to the foot of the Cross, asking that You
Heal our frailty and strengthen our hearts.

We pray for a world overtaken by the pandemic; for governments working largely in the dark; for health services under strain; for poorer and less democratic countries that bear even heavier burdens. We pray for a just sharing out of vaccines, free from political wrangling. We acknowledge our often-selfish desires to put ourselves and our own country first.

Heavenly Father, we bring the shared task of caring for the world's welfare to the foot of the Cross, asking that You
Heal our governance and guide our hearts.

We pray for those bereaved by the pandemic; for survivors living with long term after-effects; those suffering from fear and loneliness; those pushed to the brink of poverty or tipped over the edge; and for all those seeking for meaning in life or whose faith is challenged. We look for understanding of what part we personally may play in bringing Your love to those in pain.

Heavenly Father, we bring the sufferings of every individual to the foot of the Cross, asking that You
Heal us, one and all, in body, mind and heart.

We pray for our own community here in Wolverhampton; for those in positions of responsibility – town councillors, clergy, health care professionals, teachers, police – and for our friends and neighbours, thanking You for all that is good but recognising the challenges and seemingly-insoluble problems of 21st century society. We pause to remember silently all those known to us personally who are struggling in any way.....

Heavenly Father, we bring our community, as a whole and as individuals, to the foot of the Cross, asking that You
Heal our brokenness and encourage our hearts.

On this Good Friday, we bring these prayers to You in the confidence that the death of Jesus opened the way to the life in all its fullness that is Your desire for us all. May we offer ourselves as servants to allow You to work in and through us to shine Your love into this beautiful but hurting world.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen