

## Intercessions for Easter Day

- Evelyn:** God made you, God made me,  
He made the world for us to see.
- Emily:** God loves us and long ago  
He sent his Son to tell us so.
- Isabelle:** Jesus showed us many things,  
To love and share and pray and sing.  
To learn and show our love and care.  
He promised God is always there.
- Emily:** He died but then came back to life!  
Let's celebrate for he's alive!

Let us pray, for the Church and for the world and let us thank God for his goodness.  
Almighty God, our heavenly Father,  
We bring before you this joyous Easter morning, wherever we join in prayer from, the story  
of your Son's great sacrifice and salvation of all the world. As we listen and reflect on a  
poem that speaks of those who witnessed the Easter story, we pray for ourselves and our  
own stories of faith...

At the foot of the cross,  
Those lost strangers who were gathered  
there  
the onlookers, soldiers and criminals.  
Heedless of the love He came to share.

They saw the cross, the nails, the thorns,  
the depths of agony.  
At last, as darkness engulfed them all  
Their blinkered eyes could see.

At the foot of the cross,  
Those dear to you who were gathered there  
your beloved Mother, followers and friends.  
Who'd watched you grow, heal, teach, serve  
and care.

They saw the cross, the wounds, the pain,  
Divine humility.  
As your love enfolded them, they gazed upon  
the Saviour you came to be.

Stood near the empty tomb,  
One dear to you who was grieving there...  
'My Lord, where have they taken you?  
I cry out through my tears,  
His broken body moved from here,  
The worst of all my fears.

I long for his return to me,  
The man who drove my torment out,  
Prophet, Healer, Teacher, Friend...  
His Faith and love so pure throughout.

The gardener approaches me,  
Questioning why I weep.  
Lost in my thoughts of Jesus,  
I tell him who I seek.

"Mary" he calls my name,  
And now I know that it is 'he',  
My Lord, my friend, my saviour,  
Who died for you and me.'

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

**Isabelle:** Father God,  
Good Friday is a time for sadness, but Easter morning is a time for gladness. As we face both  
positive and difficult situations in our lives, we pray for...

- People who are in hospital.
- People who are caring for them.

- People who are awaiting test results or operations.
- People who care for us.
- People who make life changing decisions for us all.
- People who are creating and innovating to help us in the future.

We pray especially for all of those people who come to our own minds this morning.  
[PAUSE]

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

Let us not forget the importance of prayer. As we miss our familiar ways of life and patterns of worship this Easter time, let us lift our prayers to you. We pray for our broken world. For those who are in poverty. Let them not be forgotten in our own plight. The poorest in our world who lack the medical facilities, vaccination programmes, infrastructure and advances to combat disease. We hold in our prayers the charities who work tirelessly beside them and we pray particularly for Christian Aid and Unicef.

For those who are separated from their families at this time and those who are concerned for their families, livelihood, jobs and stability in the face of prolonged illness or redundancy. We pray for the Mother's Union and their efforts to support and uphold family life.

For those who are suffering due to famine and especially those who are in war-torn areas such as Syria and Jesus' own birthplace.

For those who have lost their lives both young and old and for their loved ones at this time.

Risen Jesus,

Help us to remember you are always there for us.

**Risen Lord, give us hope.**

Deepen our faith in you.

**Risen Lord, give us hope.**

Help us to rest in the power of your love.

**Risen Lord, give us hope.**

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

Early on the first day of the week, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden and was the first to witness your resurrection, so may we meet you today and every day. Call us, as you called her; speak to us, as you spoke to her and remind us that you are the living Lord.

Thank you, that through our journeys of faith our stories can become part of your story.

Help us to share your story in all of our words and in living out our lives. Fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that others may recognise your love through us.

**Emily's acrostic poem:**

**E** Early Easter sunshine.  
**A** An Easter garden full of joy.  
**S** Suddenly Mary saw him.  
**T** The amazing Lord Jesus had risen from the dead.  
**E** Everyone must hear his story.  
**R** Risen for us all.

Merciful Father,

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