

HT INTERCESSIONS

Easter Sunday 2007

Lord, teach us how to pray aright,
With reverence and with fear.
Though dust and ashes in Thy sight.
We may, we must draw near.

Lord, on this **Easter Morning**, we keep the special memory of your son Jesus' glorious resurrection. Grant that by faith in that holy manifestation, we may recognise and understand that your kingdom, is here and now, and in our hearts.

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

Lord on this **Easter Morning**, give your church, the courage to give up her preoccupations with herself, and to give more time to spreading the good news in the world, and in our community.

Give grace and guidance to our Archbishop Rowan, to our Bishops Colin and John, and to all clergy and their supporters. May they develop an increasingly broad vision, for the future of your kingdom.

Bless *us* who worship here. Save us as a congregation, from being too inward looking and over-occupied with our own affairs. Help us to take our eyes *off* ourselves and to turn them *on*, to those outside. Help us to remember that your church does not exist for itself, but for the sake of others.

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

Lord, on this **Easter Morning**, we remember how Jesus appeared to his disciples in the locked room, and said, “ *Peace be unto you.* ”

We pray most sincerely for peace in your world. We pray for a peaceful solution to the protracted problems in the Middle East, Israel and Palestine, Afghanistan and Iraq. And we pray, that differences between the USA, Jordan, Iran and Syria, can be resolved through diplomacy and not by threats of more military hostility.

Lord inspire the leaders of the countries of the free world, the future deliberations of the United Nations, Nato, the European Community, and the Arab League. May they all learn to work together and to trust each other, and aim for peace amongst all the peoples of your world.

Oh God, we pray for a cessation of all wars and violence. Where Jew or Moslem or Christian are oppressed by their history and their hatred, make us aware of your aching love for *all* your peoples.

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

Lord, on this **Easter Morning**, with it's gift of eternal life, we think particularly of the families of the service men and women fighting on both sides of this world's conflicts, and whilst we rejoice at the safe return of the captured sailors and marines in Iran, we pray for the souls of the soldiers killed in Iraq this week. We remember too, the media personnel, who put their lives at risk, for our information. And we pray for the families who watch and wait, wondering if, and when their loved ones will return.

We pray also for the families in these war torn countries, who have lost loved ones, whose homes have been destroyed, who have insufficient water and food for their children, and inadequate medical support.

At home, we pray for the victims of knife and gun crime, of muggings, assaults, and break-ins, and for the wasted lives of both victims and attackers.

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

Lord, on this **Easter Morning**, we pray for ourselves. We pray for courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousies within our families, our church and our community.

Let us pray for all those in the caring professions, upon whom we rely on a daily basis: doctors, nurses, paramedics and ancillary staff, for social, psychiatric and support workers, teachers and lecturers, marriage guidance counsellors, police, probation and prison officers, magistrates and judges ...

We pray that by their skill and training, they may ease the burden of those in need, and in their care.

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

Lord, on this **Easter Morning**, let us pause, and remember those who are ill and injured. Some we know, some we may have seen on television, some who profess to know you, Jews, Moslems and Christians, and those who profess *no* faith.

Lord, we pray for the souls of those who have recently died. And we ask that the comfort of your Holy Spirit, will sustain their loved ones, left behind to mourn.

(Silence)

*“Christ, you are risen from the dead.
We, are risen with you.
May our lives never deny this eternal life,
This peace, and hope, and joy.”*

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