

## HT INTERCESSIONS

Sunday 22-08-10

**Heavenly Father**, you are love, and from you, flows that love which is the source of *all* love. Your love draws everyone together, as members of your family, in a deep and eternal unity.

Bless, we pray you, our most gracious sovereign lady, Queen Elizabeth, as Governor of this Church of England. Replenish her with the grace of the Holy Spirit, and grant her health and a long life.

We pray for Rowan, our Archbishop of Canterbury, for John and Colin our bishops, and for Toby, Elizabeth, Joanna and Sally, our priests. Grant to them all, and members of their councils, wisdom and patience, as they seek to heal the deep divisions in the church.

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

**Heavenly Father**, you have included all your commandments, in the one commandment of love, that we should love our neighbours as ourselves; so that, if we love *not* our neighbour, we cannot fulfil your law. Help us to interpret your law of love, in the context of our daily lives.

We ask for your love, to shine into the lives of the leaders of the nations, and all those in authority, at whatever level; that their actions may demonstrate a love of your world, and its finite resources, and a love for the people entrusted to their charge.

Particularly we pray at this time, for a successful outcome of the talks about to resume between Israel and Palestine, and for the member countries of the United Nations, as they discuss the hostilities and problems around the world. Grant them humility and understanding, and a vision of Your Kingdom here on Earth. And we continue to pray for those armed forces and civilians, involved in the ongoing problems in Afghanistan and Iraq.

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

**Heavenly Father**, we pray that your love may be felt by people in their darkest hours;

We think of the families and friends of those caught up in the many wars being waged around the world; the lonely; the disturbed; the bereaved; the oppressed; those displaced from their homes and lands; the hungry; the sick in mind, body and spirit; prisoners; and victims of earthquake, fire, famine and flood, in Haiti, Pakistan and China.

We pray too, for the aid agencies and the medical teams, who seek to bring them succour, relief and support.

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

Help us Lord, to interpret your commandment to love one another, and to love our enemies, in the light of recent events in the world.

How should we react to terrorists, who purport to carry out their atrocities in your name?

How should we react to muggers and burglars, and those who threaten our liberty, and freedom of speech?

How should we respond to those, whose religious views differ from our own?

What does it mean, to “*turn the other cheek*”?

*“Blessed Lord, who by your word and example of Jesus, has shown us the meaning of true neighbourliness, and the way of love, grant that we may learn to recognise as our neighbours, every fellow human being who needs our help, and to serve them with unselfish love, like your own love for us.”*

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

Lord, we ask you to pour out your love, on our families and friends, here and abroad, and on the members of our community.

Bless all those who have recently married, or are preparing for marriage. May their love for each other, mirror your love for them.

Bless the children, and their parents, who are preparing for baptism.

Bless all those who have received, or are anxiously awaiting the results of public examinations; those about to start a new school, college or university; and those who are looking for, or starting their first job. Bless all travellers and holiday makers, that *holidays* may be Holy-days. Grant them refreshment of spirit, and renewal of strength.

Today we pray for *Derek, Hazel, Adrian and Seb McCormack, Julia Dexter, Margaret Lawton, Joy Jones, Jonathan Keen, Martin, Doreen, Bob Pady and Angela, Don and Ann Lowe, Sally*, and for all those known to us individually, who need your love, our prayers and our support.

*(Pause)*

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

**Heavenly Father**, we commend into your loving keeping, the souls of *Lilian Platt* and *Jessie*, and all who have recently died, whether or *not* they knew your love in their **Earthly** lives, grant to their eternal spirits, your light, your peace and your love.

And as we rejoice in the fellowship of St. Mary and all your saints, we commend ourselves, with all our concerns, and the whole of your creation, to your unfailing love.

*“Heavenly Father, fountain of love, pour that love into our souls, that we may love all your creation, and grow in that love: that dwelling in your love, we may dwell in you.”*

**Merciful Father,  
Accept these prayers,  
For the sake of your Son,  
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**