

HT INTERCESSIONS

Easter Sunday 2011 (24th April)

Heavenly Father, on this **glorious 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.

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

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

Bless all who worship here today. Save us, 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.

Heavenly Father, on this **peaceful 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 our lives and in your world. We pray for a peaceful solution to the protracted problems in the Middle East, and the countries of North Africa, in Israel and Palestine, Afghanistan and Pakistan ... the list seems endless.

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 most earnestly, 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.**

Heavenly Father, on this **blessed Easter Morning**, with its 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 we remember too, the media personnel, who daily 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.

We remember too, those many thousands of people who have been affected by the recent natural disasters around the world, droughts, fires, floods, earthquakes and tsunamis. Whilst we see what is happening on our screens, give us a true sense of, charity of thought, and of sacrifice.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **resurrection Morning**, we pray for ourselves. We pray for courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousies within our families, our church and our community. Fill our hearts and minds with a true understanding, of the meaning of Christ's resurrection for each of us.

Help us from today, to heal our misunderstandings, to strengthen our friendships, and to welcome strangers into our lives, in your name.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Morning**, full of new hope and promise, we pause to remember those who are ill and injured, rejected, persecuted and unloved, disturbed and dying. 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.

Particularly on this **Easter Day**, we ask you to bless, Derek, Joy Jones, Martin, Don Lawes, Amanda Harvey, Joyce Townsend, Jonathan Keen, Len Rudman, Violet Haukozi, Philip Best, & Simon Brayton. Grant to them all, relief from pain, peace of mind, and a knowledge of your risen love.

Lord, we pray for the souls of those who have recently died, and are now risen with you in heaven. Particularly today we give thanks for the lives of Terry Sanders and Gwen Ironmonger, and we ask for the comfort of your Holy Spirit, to comfort and sustain their loved ones, left 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, this hope, and this joy.”*

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