

HT Intercessions
7th July 2013

Heavenly father, we bring our prayers and petitions before you, in the sure faith, that you will hear them, and answer them.

We pray for the continuing witness, of the many Christian communities around the world, and in particular for this Church of England.

Strengthen and guide our Archbishops, our Bishops, and our own team clergy. At this time we pray for all those who have recently been ordained; and in particular for Alistair Blaine, as he begins his work and witness amongst us. Pour the gift of your Holy Spirit into their lives, as they strive to spread the Good News of Jesus, to work for unity in your Church, and to support the needy in the community.

“Lord, look in mercy on your church, lest we, who know you well, shut out those who are different, difficult or demanding.”

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all in authority, at whatever level. We ask that those who have elected responsibility, at international, national, and local level, will put aside personal ambition, and concentrate their wills for the good of all.

“Lord, grant them regard for your laws, and respect for human rights, that they may lead us in the paths of truth, freedom and peace.”

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, as we watch our television screens, and read our newspapers in comfort, help us to realise the true horrors that are being perpetrated by the *few*, but felt by the very *many*. We pray for the victims of crime, the families and friends of the assaulted, and for the *perpetrators* of the crimes. They are *all* your children, created in *your* image. Grant them all an understanding of your forgiving love.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, we continue to pray for all those people around your world, who are caught up in *political* violence, and we pray for our armed forces, and their families:

We think particularly of the current conflict in Egypt, Syria and Turkey: but also between Jews and Arabs, Christians and Muslims, Shi'ites and Sunnies, between Israel and Palestine, India and Pakistan, North and South Korea ... indeed between the oppressor and the oppressed everywhere.

May your atoning love triumph, and people learn to live in peace with their neighbours.

Pour your Holy Spirit into the hearts of the aid agencies, and the medical teams, dedicated to support, and the alleviation of suffering.

*“Lord, it is your will, to hold heaven and earth in a single peace.
Grant peace in our lands, in our homes, and in our hearts.”*

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we remember before you, those who are still suffering long after their plight has left our television screens: those affected by wars, natural disasters, financial and employment problems, victims of Human Rights violations, political prisoners, the used and the exploited.

Lord, we ask you to bless *our* homes, *our* families, *our* neighbours, and *our* communities.

Grant *us* patience, tolerance, and understanding of the needs of others, the sick and suffering, the elderly, the depressed, the dependent, the mentally disturbed, the dis-eased, and the dis-abled.

Particularly today we pray for Nelson Mandela, Joy Jones, Liz Hodges, Martin, Muriel Greenway, Millie Moran, Carol Parker, Angela Pady, Tony Eggington and Don Lawes. Grant them relief from their suffering, peace of mind, and a knowledge of your sustaining love.

“Lord, surround the frightened with your tenderness, give strength to those in pain, hold the weak in your arms, and grant hope and peace to those recovering.”

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

Heavenly Father, We pray for the dying; and for the souls of the departed, whether or not they knew your love in their earthly live. Particularly today we pray for Bob Pady, that his soul may rest in peace, and that his loved ones find serenity in their mourning.

“Lord, you will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more.”

(In a moment of quiet, let us bring our own personal and individual petitions before our God.)

Heavenly Father, we pray most earnestly for inner personal peace. Jesus commanded us to, *“love one another.”* Before we can truly love others, we need to learn to love ourselves, as we are, with all our imperfections and shortcomings, our desires and our longings. Calm the troubled minds, which lead inevitably to dis-eased bodies.

*“Lord, give us faith, to go out with a good courage, not knowing **where** we are going; only that your hand is leading us, and your love is supporting us.”*

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

Amen

