

HT INTERCESSIONS

Sunday 15th September 2013

Heavenly Father, we believe that you hear our prayers, and will be faithful to your promise to answer them.

Bless, we pray you, Queen Elizabeth, the supreme Governor of this Church of England. Bless our archbishops and bishops, our clergy, their assistants, and us, as members of their congregations.

We pray for the Church in Wales, having agreed to allow women priests to become bishops; and we ask you to bless those responsible in the Church of England, as they prepare for their deliberations in November. We ask you to bless the work of Magnus and Ulrika, and the people of the parish of Bor in Sweden, with whom we have a link.

Forgive us *all* our fears, our anxieties, our prejudices, and our misunderstandings. Strengthen our common bonds, and deepen our resolve to promote the *unity*, of your church.

Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, you have commanded us, to love our neighbours as ourselves. Help us to interpret your law of love, in the context of our daily lives.

We pray that the witness of the Witney Feast this weekend, will bring the community closer together, in friendship, fellowship and love, as it has done for the last 700 years.

At this time of Party Conferences and International Gatherings, we ask for your love, to shine into the hearts of all our leaders, 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.

Soften the hearts of the oppressors, in the troubled countries of the World, and be with those, who are risking their lives, fighting for their freedom from oppression.

As we witness the unfolding struggle in Syria, we ask you to bless the international efforts to avert military action, and to bring about a peaceful settlement of hostilities, grant *us* a spirit of understanding, of tolerance, and of empathy, with those on *all* sides involved in the conflicts.

**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 be waged around your world; the millions of refugees and displaced people; the children who have lost their parents, and who are denied an education; the lonely; the disturbed; the oppressed; the exploited and abused; the hungry and thirsty; the sick in mind, body and spirit; prisoners of conscience; and the victims of earthquakes, tornadoes, fires, famines, and floods.

We remember with deep gratitude, the charities, the aid agencies, the food banks, and the medical teams, who seek to bring relief and alleviation of suffering. Help *us*, to remember that, even at this time of restraint, without *our* active support, *they* cannot carry on their humanitarian work. Let us not pass by on the other side.

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

Heavenly Father, 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 entering a new phase of their lives; children starting new schools, students leaving home for the first time, to join courses at colleges and universities. Those starting new jobs, or are still seeking employment.

We remember, those individuals and families, affected by financial problems, faced with loans and debts. We pray for the members of our local Councils, who have to balance their finances, and manage our services, grant them wisdom and patience, and a willingness to listen to those they represent.

We remember; think about, and pray for all our neighbours who are in any way distressed: particularly Joy Jones, Liz Hodges, Martin, Muriel Greenway, Millie Moran, Angela Pady, Tony Eggington, Don Lawes, Harriet, Zac Durkin, Joan Potter and Jean Crane.....

Grant to them all, alleviation of their suffering, peace of mind, and an understanding of your love for them.

Heavenly Father, we give thanks for the lives and witness of all those who have died, whether or not they knew your love in their *Earthly* lives. (Especially we pray for the soul (s) of

Grant to their eternal spirits, your light, your peace and your love; and comfort and strengthen those who are left behind to mourn their passing.

And as we keep a moment of silence, we remember those known to us personally, who need *our* prayers, *our* support, and *your* love.

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

*Heavenly Father, as the colours of autumn unfold once again, help us today and every day, to realise that you are **with** us, and **speaking** to us through the **events** of the day, through **people**, through **things**, and through **all** your creation. Give us eyes, ears and hearts, to perceive you, however veiled your presence may be.*

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