

HT Intercessions
19th July 2015

Heavenly Father, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in union with your son Jesus Christ, we ask you to hear our prayers.

Inspire the universal church with the spirit of truth, unity and concord. Grant that all who confess your holy name, may agree in the truth of your word, and learn to live in unity and godly love. Bless our church leaders, both lay and ordained, that they may rightly interpret to us, your Son's teachings, words and example.

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, we ask you to lead all nations in the ways of righteousness and peace. Direct the *rulers and leaders* of nations, that under them their people may be godly and quietly governed. Grant to your servant Elizabeth, our queen and governor, and to all those who serve the people under her, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of true religion and virtue.

Turn the minds of those who carry out daily atrocities in the name of religion. May *all* sides in conflicts, learn to negotiate peaceful outcomes, and to understand that violence only serves to deepen the divide.

Lord, in your mercy.
Hear our prayer.

Heavenly Father, in this beautiful but troubled World, give strength and hope to those who dedicate their lives to the alleviation of suffering; aid agencies, food banks, doctors and nurses, ambulance drivers and paramedics, search and rescue services, fire fighters, lifeboat and helicopter crews, and the host of volunteers on permanent stand-by. Help us to *remember* them, and to thank them as appropriate, in our prayers, and by our generosity of money, time and talents.

Lord, in your mercy
Hear our prayer

Heavenly Father, we commend to your fatherly goodness, all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed, in mind, body or estate. We see the millions displaced from their homes by war, having lost everything, family members and personal belongings. We see the thousands of desperate people risking and often losing their lives in boats, to cross into western Countries. We follow the desperate plight of the people of Greece, and the victims of the fire in Cheshire. Comfort and relieve them all in their need; give them patience in their suffering, and bring good out of all their afflictions. Particularly today, we pray for:

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

Heavenly Father, we commend into your gracious keeping, all those departed this life in your faith and fear, asking you according to your promises, to grant them refreshment, light, and peace, in the life everlasting. (Today, we pray for the soul of :

May they all rest in peace, and rise in glory.

Lord we beseech you, to comfort their families and friends, as they try to come to terms with their loss.

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

Heavenly Father, grant to *all* your people, your heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation, that with meek heart and due reverence, we may hear and receive your holy word, truly serving you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives. As term ends, and exam results await, gives patience and peace to those entering a new phase of their lives; those who will be starting or changing school, those going on to further and higher education and training, and those seeking or starting work. Grant safe journeys to those who travel, and rest and refreshment to those on holiday. Bless our homes and our loved ones here and in other countries.

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

Eternal God, in the quietness of this moment, and in the holiness of this place, be with us all. Enfold us in your love, and fill us with your peace.

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

Amen