

HT INTERCESSIONS

Sunday 26th February 2017

Heavenly Father, as we prepare for Ash Wednesday, and the season of Lent, we pray for your church today, gathering all around the world in tiny churches and great cathedrals, to praise you, to hear your holy word, and to meet you in the bread and wine. Give us a sense of expectation as we come, and inspiration as we go. Bless Steven our bishop and all the clergy, particularly we ask for the guidance of your Holy Spirit, to support Alastair and Ross, as they prepare for the next stage of their vocations.

pause

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

Heavenly Father, we pray for the world, which struggles to live justly and in peace. We pray for those who have to search for daily food, or walk long distances for clean water. We remember with sadness those whose lives are cut short by disease or violence, and those who have fled their homes in fear. We pray for those who meet persecution and torture, with courage and dignity. Particularly today, we think of the homeless of our own land, those sleeping rough, cold and hungry, and in need of medical help. May your kingdom come, and your will be done, here on earth, as it is in heaven.

pause

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

Heavenly Father, we ask you to bless all those people, who sustain us by their love and forgiveness. For the network of those with whom our lives are inextricably linked, and who make up the fabric of our family and community life. Make us alert to each other's needs, and quick to serve and encourage one another. May *our* gentleness with each other, reflect *your* gentleness with us.

pause

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

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are laid low by suffering, and those who are experiencing the assault of pain. We *trust* your love for us and for all people, and your deep desire for our wellbeing. As we think of

and name in our hearts, those known to us personal, who are in the grip of suffering, help us to pray and to act, that they may know your comfort and healing, both now and in the coming days.

pause

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

Heavenly Father, we remember those who have given us the examples and models, by which we try to live. We think of those who have lived and died in quiet holiness, and whose prayers have helped to sustain the world. (Today we pray for the soul of _____) Help us to live in the light by which they lived, and to worship the source of that light, Jesus, the Christ, our Lord

pause

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

Heavenly Father, as springtime begins to unfold once again, help us today and every day, to realise that you will be speaking to us through the events of the day, through people, through things, through events, and through all your creation. Give us eyes, ears and hearts, to perceive you, however veiled your presence may be. Grant us your Spirit of discernment.

Pause

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

