

HT INTERCESSIONS

Sunday 3rd June 2018

“Lord hear our prayers, and let our cries come unto You.”

Heavenly Father, we pray for the unity of your church worldwide. Bless Steven and Colin our bishops, Toby and Ness our priests, Tina and our assistant clergy, and all our spiritual leaders. We ask you to bless Ross, as he prepares for his ordination as priest, and to bless the work of the Pastoral Team. Bestow on them all, patience and prayerfulness, as they bear witness in the community.

“Draw your church together, into one great company of disciples.”

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

Heavenly Father, help us to understand, that your kingdom is here, now, and in our hearts and lives. Help us to *feel* it, help us to *demonstrate* it to all around us. Help us to *act it out* in our daily lives, not just once a week here on Sunday. We pray that those acts of witness - the Acorns, Witney Churches Together, The Street Pastors, The Night Café, The Beer Festival, the Food Festival, Christian Aid, The Food Bank, and all the events organised by the churches, of all denominations, will strengthen the *unity* of your kingdom here in Witney.

“Your kingdom come O God, Your rule on earth begin.”

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

Heavenly Father, in this troubled Country of ours, support our leaders, both nationally and locally. May they act in a true spirit of honesty and openness, for the benefit of *all*. But *we also*, need understanding, patience and restraint, lest we come to misinformed or selfish conclusions.

In this troubled *World*, we ask you to bless the leaders of the Countries, seeking peaceful solutions to the world's problems, may their discussions and decisions prove to be of lasting benefit to *all* their peoples. We think particularly of those caught up in the situations surrounding North Korea, Israel and Palestine, and the ongoing humanitarian disaster in Syria. We pray for justice, peace and reconciliation.

“Heavenly Father, be with us as we learn to see one another with new eyes, hear one another with new hearts, and treat one another in new ways.”

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

Heavenly Father, our hearts go out to those caught up in the latest natural disasters here in the UK, and around the world; and to the myriad displaced persons, migrants and refugees.

We pray for those in our *own* community who are sick, sad, lonely, depressed or distressed; and for those who strive to support them. Particularly we pray for the thousands of *children* around the world who are orphaned, displaced, trafficked and abused.

Today, here, we pray for: Natalie, Andy, Jose, Ian and Dorothy

“Heavenly Father, protect those whom we love, but who are separated from us. Guide them when they are uncertain, comfort them when they are lonely or afraid, and bless them with the warmth of your presence.

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

Heavenly Father, we pray for the dead; for *all* those risen with you to new life, and for the *unity* of the souls of the departed.

And we ask for your comforting Holy Spirit, to envelop all those left behind, who remember their *earthly* unity, and mourn.

Pause

*“Lord, pour down on us all, the blessing of your wisdom,
The patience of your strength,
And the life of your spirit.”*

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