

**HT Intercessions**  
**28<sup>th</sup> July 2019**

**Father**, teach us how to pray aright, and grant us **the spirit** to pray.

**Heavenly Father**, 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. Be with the millions of Christians, in the estimated 150 countries, who are daily persecuted for their beliefs.

Give guidance and wisdom to the leaders of this Church of England and the Methodist church, as they enter into fresh discussions about re-unity. May they be conscious that unity of beliefs, does not imply uniformity in worship.

**Lord, in your mercy.**

**Hear our prayer.**

**Heavenly Father**, at this worrying time we ask you to bless the two new leaders of our political parties, our newly appointed Prime Minister, and the members of their cabinets. May they all put aside personal ambition and party loyalty, and work with each other to heal this deeply divided nation; where the few at the top earn obscene financial rewards, whilst a million children are on the threshold of poverty.

Direct the *rulers and leaders* of nations, that under them their people may be godly and quietly governed. That the escalating tensions between Iran, the USA, and the EU, can be resolved by constructive, diplomatic dialogue.

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, gifts, 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 victims of natural disasters, earthquakes, fires, tornadoes, and floods. Comfort and relieve them all in their need, and give them patience in their suffering. But Lord, forgive *our* complacency. Help us to realise that we are in part responsible, by our misuse and mismanagement of the planet's finite resources. Help us to become more responsive and caring. Particularly here today, we pray for:

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**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(s) of :

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May they all rest in peace, and rise in glory.)  
Lord we beseech you, to comfort all families and friends, as they try to come to terms with their loss.

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

**Heavenly Father**, as term ends, welcome holidays begin, and exam results await, 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.

Lord, grant to *all* your people, your heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation. 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**

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