

INTERCESSIONS

Easter Eve 2010

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, we keep this special vigil, remembering Jesus' pain and suffering, the insults and abuse He endured, and His ultimate sacrifice on the cross. Grant that by faith in that holy sacrifice, we may find help and salvation.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, give grace and guidance to our Archbishop, Rowan, to our Bishops Geoffrey, David and Manuel, to our Archdeacon, David, to our Chaplains, Bob and Haynes, and to all their helpers. May they develop an increasingly broad vision, for the future of your kingdom, throughout your world.

Bless *us* who worship here, waiting outside the tomb, confused frightened, and afraid. We are ashamed of our short-comings, and our wrong-doings, which were the cause of your Son's passion. Be with us Lord, when all is dark, and we are lost and alone.

Send down on us, the blessing of your wisdom, the patience of your strength, and the life of your Holy Spirit.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, as we wait outside the tomb, we remember how Jesus wept over Jerusalem. We pray most sincerely for peace in your world, for a solution to the protracted problems in the Middle East, Israel and Palestine, Afghanistan and Iraq. Lord inspire the leaders of the countries of the free world, may they all learn to work together, and to trust each other, and aim for peace amongst all the peoples of your world.

Oh God, we pray for a cessation of all wars and violence. Where Jew or Moslem or Christian, are oppressed by their history and their hatred, make us aware of your aching love for *all* your peoples.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, as we wait beside the tomb, we think particularly of the families of the service men and women, fighting on both sides of this world's conflicts, and of the media personnel, who put *their* lives on the line, for our information; for the families who watch and wait, outside *their* tombs, wondering if, and when their loved ones will return.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, as we contemplate the sealed tomb, we pray for ourselves. We pray for courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousies, within our families, our chaplaincy and our community. We pray for all those in the caring professions, who cast rays of hope into darkened lives: medical teams, social services, educationalists, guidance counsellors, and legal and security personnel. We pray that by their skills and training, they may ease the burden of those in need, and restore hope.

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

Heavenly Father, on this **Easter Eve**, as we wait in loneliness, we remember those who are alone, those who are ill, and those who are injured. We remember those who have recently died, through war, accident, natural catastrophes, or illness, and for those left behind to mourn. Some we *know*, some we have only seen on television, some who profess to know you, Jews, Moslems and Christians, and those who profess *no* faith.

Particularly this Easter Eve, we pray for all those we know in need of our prayers: Fred and Rosemary,

Save us O Lord, while waking, And guard us while sleeping,
That awake we may watch and wait, And asleep we may rest in peace.

Heavenly Father, your Son Jesus, the Christ, said, "*Be of good courage*", grant us now in our darkest hour,

courage to hold fast to our Christian faith,
courage to maintain a brave witness,
courage to overcome our temptations and fears, and
courage to persevere to the end of our lives.

**Merciful Father, accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour,
Jesus Christ. Amen.**

