

## INTERCESSIONS

Pentecost May 2002

“O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace, eternal Source of Love, In flame, we pray, our inmost hearts, with fire from heaven above”

Pour your Holy Spirit, O God, into those whose lives are dedicated, to interpreting to us, the knowledge and wisdom of the Good News: your bishops, Geoffrey, Henry and Manuel: your priests, Eric and David, your lay readers and the members of the Church Council.

May they and we, always hold before us the model and example of Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Lord, hear us.**

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We ask You to grant wisdom and understanding to all those in positions of authority, in our local, national and international lives. May the Holy Spirit inspire Queen Elizabeth and the members of her government, George President of Portugal, and the leaders of warring nations and terrorist organisations.

Help them all to see the wider picture, to put aside their weapons, and to take up genuine diplomacy.

**Lord, hear us.**

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

You alone, know and understand the needs and aspirations of each individual. Bestow the grace of the Holy Spirit on us. Help us to put aside our petty differences, to become more tolerant of others, to refrain from gossip, to celebrate our individuality, to realise the power of unity, and to distinguish it from uniformity.

Let Your Holy Spirit fall too, on our families and on our friends, on those with whom we come into daily contact, and on all our neighbours. Sustain and strengthen the residents, refresh the holiday makers, and grant to all, a knowledge of your love.

**Lord, hear us.**

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

We remember now O Lord, those people throughout Your world, who are underfed or displaced from their homes and lands, because of war, accident, or natural disaster. We think also of the sick and dying and of those who care for them; the aid agencies, the medical teams and the negotiators. Let each of us find positive ways of supporting others.

A moment's silence, as we remember those, whose faces we have seen in our papers and on our television screens, those near and dear to us, and all those in need of the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

**Lord, hear us.**

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Hear us, Father, as we remember those who have died; and as we pray for *their* Holy Spirits, grant us, with them, a share in Your eternal kingdom.

And rejoicing in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, *and* in the fellowship of St. Luke, St. Vincent and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole of your creation to Your unfailing Love.

“May the fire of Your Holy Spirit, consume in us, all that displeases us and You, and kindle in our hearts a burning zeal for the service of Your Kingdom.”

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

**Amen**