

INTERCESSIONS

01st October 2006
HARVEST LUNCH

Heavenly Father, the creator and preserver of all, at this harvest time of year, we pray for people of every race and in every kind of need; make your ways known on earth, and your saving power among all nations.

We pray for your church throughout the world; guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that all who profess and call themselves Christians, may be led into the way of truth, and hold the faith in unity, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

Guide and support Rowan, our Archbishop, Geoffrey and David, our bishops, for Alan our archdeacon and for Bishop John our priest. May they be fishers of people and shepherds of their flock. Grant them wisdom and patience as they seek a conclusion of the Visitation. We also continue to pray for St. Vincent's Church of England congregation at Almancil.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We ask for your continued blessing on our Sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth. May your Holy Spirit continue to inspire her, and all the members of her government. Grant to leaders of the world's warring nations and terrorist organisations, a vision of the wider picture, a world where weapons are put aside, and decisions made by genuine diplomacy.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Dear Lord, you have provided sufficient food in the world to feed all its people. Yet 20% of the world's population, - which includes ourselves - has 90% of the world's riches. Every day 24,000 babies die for lack of food. Help us to understand how globalisation could work, but for the greed and corruption perpetrated by government, companies and individuals. What should be *our* role, in helping to redress the balance of resources?

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those in our own community, who help to husband your bounty, the farmers and fishermen, the processors and manufacturers, the transporters and retailers. We take everyone for granted, as long as food is on our tables. We pray for a more grateful frame of mind.

We pray for the sad, the sick, and the lonely, in our society. We ask your blessing on those in the nursing home.

Particularly at this time, we ask you to comfort

And we ask for your blessing too, on all those in the caring professions, upon whom they, and we, rely on in our daily lives, doctors and nurses, paramedics and auxiliaries, and for social, psychiatric and support workers. We pray that by their skills and training, they may ease the burden of those in need, and in their care.

And on this Police Remembrance Sunday, we think of the many thousands of officers in the UK, who have lost their lives over the years, in the pursuance of their duty, protecting safety, and maintaining our freedom. Let us also remember the similar work of the GNR here in Portugal.

Let us keep a moment of silence, and remember those who are particularly known to us, and in need of our prayers.

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

Finally Lord, we remember all those who have died, whether Jew, Muslim, Christian or who professed no belief.

Particularly we remember those who have been killed, whether by members of a family or by strangers, or who were the victims of war, both service personnel, and civilians. We think of their loved ones left behind to mourn their loss.

Grant that the souls of the dead, may rest in peace.

And rejoicing in the fellowship of St Luke, St Vincent and all your saints, we commend ourselves and all people to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

Jesus Christ.

Amen.