

## INTERCESSIONS

11<sup>th</sup> February 2007

O Lord, our Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray in faith. Grant us a moment's solitude in which to contemplate the enormity of your coming to Earth in human form.

Strengthen and guide our Archbishops and bishops, our archdeacon, clergy and lay assistants. Particularly at this time, we pray for Father Richard and for his wife Ann. And we pray for our Chaplain designate, his wife and young family. May he, in the power of your Holy Spirit, seek to lead and guide the people in his charge. To instil in his flock, a clear understanding that everyone of us, seeks You in their own way, that there is power and synergy in *unity*, but potential conflict in *uniformity*.

*Lord, hear us.*

*Lord graciously hear us.*

Heavenly Father, we ask for your continued blessing on our Sovereign lady Queen Elizabeth. May your Holy Spirit continue to inspire her, and all members of both houses of her parliament.

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.*

Heavenly Father, the Bible tells us, that your call to humanity, is to be good stewards of all the wonders of your creation. Instil in us a reverence for every living thing. As Christians, we have a duty to better inform ourselves about global issues, so that we can take part in meaningful dialogue, without misinformed ignorance and prejudice.

You have provided enough food in the world to feed all its people. Yet 20% of the world's population, of which we are a part, has 90% of the world's riches. How do we achieve a more favourable distribution? Help

us to understand how globalisation *could* work, but for the greed and corruption perpetrated by governments, companies and individuals. What should *our* role be, in helping to redress the balance of resources, and in helping to *address* the issues of global warming and climate change?

**Lord, hear us.**

**Lord graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for the people of our own community here in Algarve, and in our home countries. At this half-term holiday time, we ask for your blessing on families here on holiday. We think particularly of those in special need: the abused, those who have been mugged or robbed, for those who have been tormented, bullied or wrongly accused. We pray for the homeless and displaced, the orphaned, the unemployed, the hungry, the sick, the sad, the elderly, the confused, the bereaved, the lost and the lonely, those of other faiths and those with no faith. They are all created in your image, and they are all our neighbours who we are directed to love and to care for.

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

**Lord, hear us:**

**Lord, graciously hear us.**

Heavenly Father, we remember all those who have recently 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 Mary, 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,**

**Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen**