

INTERCESSIONS

25th April 2010

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

Heavenly Father, pour your Holy Spirit, into those, whose lives are dedicated, to interpreting to us, the knowledge and wisdom of the Good News: your Archbishop Rowan: your bishops, Geoffrey, David and Manuel: your Archdeacon, David: your priests, Bob and Haynes: your Lay Readers, Fiona and Eckhart: and all the members of your Church Council, who hold their annual meeting this week.

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

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

Heavenly Father, 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, The 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.

Particularly, at this time of national elections in Britain, we pray, that would-be MPs of all the parties, will put national needs before personal gain, and honesty before spin. Help the electorate to think carefully about the choices before them, and to exercise their gifts, of freedom, and opportunity to vote.

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

Heavenly Father, you alone, know and understand, the needs and aspirations of each individual. Bestow the grace of Your Holy Spirit on each one of 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, both here[□] and abroad, 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, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we remember now, those people throughout your world, who are underfed, or displaced from their homes and lands, because of war, accident, or natural disaster. We ask you to grant patience and understanding, to all those, whose plans have been ruined or disrupted, by the Icelandic volcano, and for those thousand of people still stranded abroad, and caught up in civil unrest. We remember too, the businesses and organisations, which have also been effected. We pray for baby Lillian, who should have been baptised today, for her parents Adam and Carla, and for all the members of her extended family. We pray also of the sick and the dying, for those who care for them; family members, aid agencies, and medical teams. Particularly we pray for the work of the nursing home here at Palhageira. Let each one of *us*, find positive ways of supporting others.

We pray for Fr. Bob, as he undertakes his walk of the Algarve Way this week: for the witness to those he will meet *along* the Way: for generosity of his sponsors, and for those in the Home *he* is supporting.

Let us keep 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 your Holy Spirit. Particularly, we ask for your blessing on Brian Pereira, who is in Faro hospital suffering from cancer and two recent strokes, and for Jean Moore who has recently undergone major surgery for cancer. We also remember

(Silence)

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

Heavenly 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 the Christ, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, *and* in the fellowship of St. George, St. Luke, St. Vincent and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole of your creation, to your unfailing Love.

“**Heavenly Father**, you endued the blessed martyr St. George, with grace to stand up for his Christian belief, grant *us*, 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

