

## **Intercessions**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> October 2010**

**Heavenly Father**, we bring our prayers and petitions before you, in the sure faith that you will hear them, and answer them as appropriate to our needs.

We pray for the continuing witness of the Christian Church throughout the world, and in particular for this Church of England. Strengthen and guide, our Archbishop Rowan, our Bishops Geoffrey and David, Manuel, Bishop of Faro, our Chaplains Bob and Haynes, Canon Terry our celebrant, Fiona and Eckhart, and all those who support your work.

And ever holding Christ as our model, help us to be less occupied with the things that *divide* us, and more with those things that *unite* us.

*“Lord, look in mercy on your Church, lest we shut the door against others, whom we find too different, too difficult, or too demanding.”*

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

**Heavenly Father**, we pray for our Queen Elizabeth, and at this party conference season, for members, ministers and peers in both Houses of her Parliament, we pray for the President of Portugal; and for all those who administer our local governments, grant to them all, patience and understanding, as they strive to redress the balance of our various economies.

We *too*, the better off, need patience and restraint, as we come to understand the implications of any proposed agenda, for the peoples in both our Countries.

*“Lord, we are part of the tension and injustice in the world. Forgive our human selfishness, to which we contribute; heal the resentment between people, of which we are part; and come into the world’s conflicts, in which we share, by being human.”*

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

**Heavenly Father**, we pray for our families and friends around the world, keep them safe, and in the knowledge of your love.

We remember our neighbours worldwide, who are suffering privation, through accidents and natural disasters, through wars and acts of terrorism. Give **us** a true sense of charity, so that we give of ourselves, our money, our time and our talents, without expectation of reward, or selfish feelings of well-being.

*“Dear Father in heaven, let us be peacemakers;  
More ready to call people friends, than enemies,  
More ready to trust, than to mistrust,  
More ready to love, than to hate,  
More ready to respect, than to despise,  
More ready to serve, than to be served,  
More ready to absorb evil, than to pass it on.  
Dear Father in heaven, let us be more like your Son Jesus, the Christ.”*

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

**Heavenly Father**, we pray most earnestly for inner personal peace. Jesus commanded us to, *“love one another.”* But before we can truly love others, we need to learn to love ourselves as we are, with all our imperfections and shortcomings, our desires and longings. Calm the troubled minds, which lead inevitably to dis-eased bodies.

We ask for your blessing on travellers, visitors, and holiday makers, keep them safe, and may they return to their homes, refreshed and invigorated.

We remember the dis-eased and distressed, and those who care for them, families, friends and professionals.

Particularly today, we ask for your blessing on: Fred and Rosemary at home in Wales, but who are constantly in our thoughts and prayers, and for Hazel McCormack, terminally ill in England with brain tumours, (and for .....)

*“Heavenly Father, Lord of the living **and** the dead, hold in your arms of love, all those who are sick and dying, give them the knowledge of your closeness, and the conviction, that nothing can separate them, from the love you showed us in Jesus Christ.”*

We also pray for the souls of the dead, (particularly for .....)  
May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.

*“Grant rest O Lord to the departed, where sorrow and pain are no more,  
neither sighing; but everlasting life.”*

And in a moment’s silence, we bring before you our private prayers, for ourselves and our own personal problems, for our loved ones, for the work and peoples of this Chaplaincy, and for the needs of your world.

*“Lord, grant us the faith of your saints, that loving you above all, we may **be** what you would have us be, and **do** what you would have us do.”*

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