

## Intercessions – Palm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

Heavenly Father as we enter Holy Week we give you thanks and praise for your son Jesus Christ who showed us that love can conquer all.

We pray for people around the World that are battling the current pandemic, for those that have been infected and those that have sadly died we ask that their friends and families may find comfort in your loving embrace, whilst we give thanks and gratitude for those who have recovered.

Please Father, strengthen the unity of our nation and those around the World as we strive to fight a virus which does not discriminate, so that we may come together to do what is necessary to overcome the situation we find ourselves in.

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

We pray Lord that you will guide political leaders and medical experts in our country and around the World to understand the virus and ensure they are able to offer the best possible advice. We pray for our health and social care workers as they face ever mounting challenges, giving thanks for the tireless and unselfish work that they do.

We give thanks for our church and the technology which has allowed services to continue, as we pray for those unable to access these at this time we ask that they should feel the presence of Your love, and know that they remain in our thoughts.

God of all blessings we give you thanks for the doctors and nurses working on the frontline at this time. Within our own congregation we give you thanks for Christine O'Brien, Rosie Owen, Laura Jones, Sarah Raistrick, and Karen Mogan. We pray you provide them with the strength and courage required to carry out the tasks they face and that you shield them from harm.

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

We pray for all those in society whose vulnerability has been further exposed as a result of the pandemic, give nourishment warmth and love to all those experiencing difficulties with mental health, shortages of food and lack of shelter at this time; and Father we give you thanks for the Good Neighbours project in Coventry as they assist isolated elderly people through phone support and food deliveries.

We ask for Your help Father to strengthen the resolve of the many people now facing new arrangements such as, working from home and supporting children with their schooling and the increased challenges of looking after loved ones, Lord strengthen their faith and guide them.

Dear Lord, please bless all of our children and young people as they face the uncertainty of missing school, exams and not being able to see their friends.

Dear Lord we thank you for all of the volunteers that have put themselves forwards to help others at this time and for the members of our congregation for all the conversations that people have had by phone over the last week, for family and friendship ties strengthened and renewed – lord we thank you.

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

In the Anglican Communion we pray for the Church in Rwanda, and give thanks for the continuing work of peace and reconciliation.

In our parish we pray for all who live in Stoneleigh Avenue and Styvechale Avenue and for the residents and staff of Melbourne House.

In our CTEC Prayer Cycle we pray for the members of Hearsall Baptist Church and their pastor, Reverend David Sutcliffe.

We pray for all those who are in hospital, who are ill, recovering from surgery, awaiting results of recent medical tests, and the housebound, of whom we name today:

Wena Hughes, Marion Arkell, Ruby Brown and Stephanie Cotton. Give them strength and hope to face their challenges.

Compassionate God we pray to you for the recently departed, naming today Joe North, may his friends and family find comfort in your loving embrace; and in Annual Remembrance we name Elsie Fletcher and Frank Booth, and pray for their families and all those that have lost loved ones at this time.

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

Rejoicing in the fellowship of St. Barbara and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**