

## **Intercessions at 10 am on Mothering Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

Let us pray for the Church and the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

As we join with your Church throughout the world in worship of you, we give thanks on this Mothering Sunday for all who give loving care and ceaseless love to others. We pray for those whom we love, for our family, our friends and our neighbours. Help us all to live so that we may strengthen and enrich the life of the family. Help us together to build a Church family which welcomes the stranger, the lonely and the needy, and a neighbourhood that is a place of trust and friendship, where all are known and cared for:

And we remember that throughout our lives we have reason to be thankful for our mothers. Heavenly Father, We thank you for our mothers, for all they have done for us, and we pray that the love they show for us may be reflected in the way that we show our love for others and in the way we each strive to live our lives according to your will.

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

Loving Father, we pray for your Church in this time of uncertainty,  
for those people who are worried about not attending collective worship,  
for those needing to make decisions in order to care for others, and  
for those who will feel more isolated by not being able to attend.

Grant us your wisdom, and help us turn our eyes, hearts and minds to you,  
In loving service to your name.

We give thanks for our partner churches in CTEC and for the churches of this country, unable to meet together, but with whom we are united in praise and worship.

We pray for our leaders and the leaders of our sister churches. Strengthen Christopher and John, our bishops and all your Church in the service of Christ; that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

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

Compassionate Father, on World Water Day we pray for billions of people across the world who live without safe water. We give thanks for the gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life, and we pray that the leaders of the nations may recognise the inherent dignity of all humankind and make safe water available to all.

We pray those who are guiding our nation (and all nations) at this time of international crisis, that they may make wise decisions and shape policies for the health and well-being of our nation and world.

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

Merciful Father, we give thanks for the medical services around the world working to contain and combat the COVID-19 coronavirus. Protect doctors, nurses, hospital workers and medical researchers, as they deal with the pandemic, and we pray that through their skill and insights, many will be restored to health:

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

Gracious Father, we give thanks for the people of our parish, and in this time of concern about coronavirus, we bring before you those who are self-isolating or social distancing. Help us to find creative ways of staying in touch with them and to give them spiritual and practical support. Sustain and uphold those who are anxious or fearful or lonely, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may rejoice in knowing that nothing can separate us from your love.

Give grace to us our families and friends, and all our neighbours; that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Merciful Father, we pray for all in our church family who are ill or housebound, recovering from surgery or awaiting results of recent medical tests, and today we remember particularly Wena Hughes, as she waits for essential surgery. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Eternal father, we pray for the souls of the faithful departed and we ask you to look mercifully on all who are now facing the bitterness of bereavement. We commemorate all whose anniversaries fall at this time, remembering by name: Robert Payne, John Hall, Joyce Benger and John Hare.

We remember with gratitude those whose love and faith have left their mark on our lives.

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ; according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

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

Merciful Father,

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