

Intercessions – 24th May, 2020 (prepared by Victoria Mason)

Loving God,

Thank you for your love and faithfulness, your generosity and compassion. We bring before you our needs and the needs of the world in gratitude that you invite us into deep relationship with you and praying for your help in responding to that invitation.

We thank you for our church of St Barbara's and for the gift of being able to gather online when our church building is closed. We thank you especially for Tulo, the Raistrick family, Simon and all those who have gone to such lengths to make this happen. We pray that you would be at work in all of us, showing us how we can share your love at home and in our communities.

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

As we come to the end of Mental Health Awareness week, we pray for all who struggle with mental health. We pray that those who have lost vital support networks in recent months would be able to access the help they need. We pray that your love and healing would be especially tangible to those for whom each day is a test of endurance. Would each of us know our innate value as your children.

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

As the pandemic spreads globally, we pray for those working to mitigate the worst effects on the poorest communities. We pray that you would bless the work of the Anglican Alliance, Christian Aid, Tearfund, CAFOD and all those seeking to support communities facing multiple crises. We pray for those in Africa and Asia affected by the plague of locusts and ask that you would protect the vulnerable from the threats of food insecurity and starvation. We also pray for those recovering from the cyclone which devastated parts of the Solomon Islands last month.

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

We pray for political, religious and financial leaders across the world. We pray that they would seek and find wisdom, looking to the common good not only of their nation but of all the nations.

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

As we participate in *Thy Kingdom Come*, we pray that many people may be filled with the Spirit, and come to know and love Jesus Christ. We also pray that you would sustain all those involved in organising and supporting *Thy Kingdom Come*.

In our diocese we pray for all headteachers and their staff as they support the children of key workers and children with special needs in school and provide work for children who are currently being home-schooled.

In our parish we pray for all who live in Arden Street & Avondale Road and for the residents and staff of Melbourne House. We thank you for CTEC and we pray for the members of All Souls' Church, for their priest, Father Paul Burch, and for their deacon, Paul Rabvukwa.

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

In our parish we pray for all who live in Arden Street & Avondale Road and for the residents and staff of Melbourne House. We pray for all those who are housebound, ill, recovering from surgery or awaiting the results of recent medical tests, of whom we name today: Hazel Cantes, Stephanie Cotton, Gwyn Morgan, Wena Hughes and Valerie Loft.

We also commemorate the departed – Tony Harper and Beryl Elkington. In Annual Remembrance we remember Bob Hope, Doris Greenup, Sybil Cope, Thomas Hill, Dorothy Welford, Stephen Hutt and Alan Hill.

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

We pray that you would lead us in the week ahead, filling us with your Holy Spirit and drawing us ever closer to you.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ.