

## **Intercessions –Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2020 (prepared by Rachael Moorley)**

Heavenly Father, our provider, our maker and our protector; we thank you for being within us throughout every season of our lives and giving us strength through your constant love and wisdom. We give you thanks and praise for your son Jesus Christ who showed us that love can conquer all. Help each one of us to convey and share this message through our actions and everything that we do.

We pray for people around the World that are battling the current pandemic; both 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, as we begin to relax lockdown rules, strengthen the unity of our nation, and guide political leaders and medical experts to make the right, balanced, decisions, advising the nation wisely on how we can continue to protect everyone, but especially our most vulnerable, from the virus.

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, including those who are waiting on treatment for non-covid illnesses, those with learning disabilities or suffering with mental health problems, victims of domestic abuse, and children suffering abuse.

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

Father lord, who reaches across the ethnic boundaries, forgive us when we fail to see your image in each other, and help us to live in your image and be Christ-like in service and love. Help us to break down barriers in our society, enable us to see the reality of racism and bigotry, and free us to challenge and uproot it from ourselves, our society and our world.

Gracious lord, help heal the division and ease the growing racist tensions in America and elsewhere in the world. Give peace and support to George Floyd's family and all who are affected by this and previous incidents. Give leaders wisdom and grace to respect the right and need of those in peaceful protest, and to respond appropriately to their plea. Through Jesus you taught us to speak out for what is right, make us content with nothing less than a world that is transformed into the shape of love, where racial discrimination and injustice shall be no more.

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

As we enter Carers week, we pray for all who are sick and all who care for them, including those who carry a burden of care beyond their years. We pray for medical staff, for support services, for researchers and scientists. And we remember those who society does not see.

Gracious God be with those whose whole lives are consumed by the loving care of others, and exhaustion leaves them empty from the act of giving. Grant them refreshment, rest and strength enough for the challenges of each day and may they and the ones within their care know God's peace and blessing.

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

We thank you for the continued work and fellowship of St Barbara's and all the people who contribute to this. We are grateful for the varied online services allowing many members of the congregation of all ages continued access to god's word. We pray that those who are not able to access services have the opportunity to engage with the St Barbara's community in other ways. With your good grace and blessing, we look forward to a time when we can again meet and worship together in person.

In the Anglican Communion we give thanks for the perfect model of partnership that you give us as a triune God, and we pray that you will give us a fresh appreciation of the diversity that we enjoy in the Body of Christ through your Spirit.

In our diocese we pray that God would help us to remember that the environment is home to all life, and that we must take responsibility to ensure that all life is respected. We give thanks on World Oceans Day for the oceans of the world, and we hope that some of the environmental benefits from the current situation, can continue to impact our world moving forward.

In our parish we pray for all who live in Belvedere and Berkeley Roads and for the residents and staff of Aylesdene Court.

In our CTEC Prayer Cycle we pray for the members of Earlsdon Methodist Church and their minister, Reverend Doreen Koffie-Williams.

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:

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

Compassionate God we pray to you for the recently departed, naming Joy Tregartha. Please give comfort and support to her husband Roy, and all their family at this difficult time.

In Annual Remembrance we name Phyllis Adams and Elsie Ball, 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.**