Prayers for Sunday 17th May 2020 - EASTER 6, YEAR A

Blessed are you, Lord our God, for out of your love you have made all things. You come to us and give yourself to us. Help us to be aware of your love in our lives and to give ourselves to you in love and in doing your will.

Blessed are you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Lord, as you abide in us, let our lives show your love for all of your creation. We remember all Christians who are being persecuted for their faith or have to suffer scorn and mockery from those with whom they live. We pray for all who witness to you amid danger and opposition. We ask your blessing upon all who are new to the faith. We pray for those who have recently been converted and for those who have been baptised and confirmed. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord, we remember all places where people are suffering from tyranny or lawlessness.

We pray for all who are oppressed or used as cheap labour. We ask your blessing upon all who strive for justice, freedom, peace and fair trade.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord, may our homes reflect the love we share. Keep us sensitive to the needs of each other. We remember before you all who feel unloved and unwanted. We ask your blessing upon all homeless people and refugees. We pray for all who are suffering from broken relationships and broken trust. We remember those who feel isolated in this Corona virus lockdown, all essential workers who continue to serve us in spite of the dangers they face. We pray now for those who are returning to work that they may stay alert and safe and in so doing protect themselves and others. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord of light, we ask your blessing upon all who are struggling with darkness and fear. We remember those who have been involved in accidents or in acts of violence this week. We pray for all who have suddenly become ill and those who are in hospital. We remember those in our own community who are sick and for whom prayers have been requested: The Patients of Langley Green Hospital and for Christine, Richard Aldridge, William MacKeen, Graham, Angela, Shirley, Billy, Colin, Sharon, John Hartridge, Sarah Colgate, Evelyn Kerr, Sheena Cook, Ann Utting, Joyce Willoughby, Rose Scarborough and others whom we remember in our hearts. in so doing protect themselves and others. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

We pray particularly for those suffering from the Covid 19 virus and for those treating them in our hospitals, care homes, hospices and in their own homes. We also pray for the work of the scientists as they strive to find a vaccine that will protect us all. We pray for all who anxiously await the results of a medical examination or test.

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord of the nations, we pray governments throughout the world that they may do what is right in your sight to shield and protect those whom they represent.

We pray for our own nation and for those in authority that they may act wisely and justly in all things.

We pray for those in our own community who serve those in need and for the many acts of kindness being shown and ask that this spirit of love may remain. Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Lord of life,
we rejoice in the power of the resurrection
and we remember before you those who have
recently died: Doris Pedder and Eunice Clement,
and those whose years mind falls at this time:
Miŝa Knox-Crawford, Louis Ashton, Ethel Harris,
Geoff Juggins, Peter Hale, Erin Dawson, Lloyd Thomas,
Cecilia Withrington, Jim Wells and Arthur Challoner
We ask your blessing upon our loved ones departed from us.
May we all abide in your presence and eternal love.
Merciful Father ...

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

We end our prayers with the words our Saviour taught us saying together:

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen