

Intercessions for Sixth Sunday of Easter -Year A – 17th May 2020

Gracious God, you are anything but unknown to us for you made us, our world and everything in it and so we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Holy God we pray for your church throughout the world, for sceptics and believers, for clergy high and low. For all those who seek God at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews, for all who search for life. We pray for the stillness to listen to the voice of the Spirit and to recognise what our personal relationship with you has done for us. We pray for all who strive to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel especially in these difficult times when we cannot meet together in our church buildings.

(Short Silence)

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

Creator God, we pray for prime ministers and presidents, for bosses and wardens; for leaders and trendsetters. For those who set the targets at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. For all who wield power, that they may be guided by the Spirit of Truth. We especially pray all the worlds' governments as they continue to do their best during the Covid-19 Pandemic

(Short Silence)

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

Father God, we pray for family and colleagues, friends and lovers, for neighbours and strangers, For all those who we are missing with whom we normally would break bread: at home, at work, in the community, and in our church but we continue to pray

for all who grow, harvest and prepare the food we eat and for those who continue to deliver to shops and supermarkets. We give especial thanks for those who continue to risk their lives, in those shops and supermarkets and in delivery and postal service

In our own community we pray for:

Oldham East Churches, the area dean, clergy, all who support the clergy and their congregations,

Revd Sally Robinson who is preparing to take up her First Incumbency, and the parishioners she will serve.

The staff and residents of Oakdene and Millfield residential homes. Also, for those living in sheltered accommodation including Medlock court. Keep them safe in your tender loving care.

Hey with Zion school, Head teacher Mr Clowes, staff, children of keyworkers and their parents. Headteachers, staff, children of keyworkers and their parents.

Those living on Astbury close.

Anniversary of Baptism , Halle Harrison

(Short Silence)

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

Loving God, we pray for the sick, Jean Smith, Christine Moorfield, Phil, Maureen McGovern, Leslie Hodinott, Elizabeth Mayall, Enid Firth, Evelyn, Mary, Betty Heap, Brenda Robinson, Angela, for the fearful and alone, for those who are troubled, for those in pain at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. We pray that all who suffer, may feel the Spirits healing presence. We especially ask for healing for those with Corona Virus and for our wonderful health service who are at the frontline.

(Short Silence)

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

Merciful God, we pray for those kept fresh in our memory and for those long forgotten, for all who ever took the breath of life at home, at work, in the streets, and in the pews. We pray for mercy and forgiveness for the dead and those who mourn them, may they find rest in the Spirit's embrace and we commend them to your keeping for ever. We pray especially for the souls of those who have died recently: Betty Robinson, Mariam, Jessie Murgatroyd, Amy Hall, Francis Potter both laid to rest this week and those whose anniversary falls at this time including the lives lost in the Manchester Arena bombing-Ariana Grande concert in 2017.

(Short Silence)

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

God of heaven and earth, companion in life, Spirit of truth, to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts. Help us to keep your commandments and to love one another as you love us.

We also offer special prayers for:

Revd. Paul Robinson and his regiment who are assisting with various projects to help contain the spread of coronavirus, Brenda Robinson, (Paul's mum) suffering with coronavirus, Jonathan Schofield, senior consultant making difficult decisions at MRI, Tracie Schofield, working at Wythenshawe A&E, for Mark Baines who has volunteered to work in ICU, Louise Rice working in A/E, Gareth Farnon-Jones in his role as paramedic, Janet Harrison, Wendy, Liz, midwives maybe risking their lives to bring new life safely into the world, Sandra, a registrar, Adrian, a care-worker, Mathew Shepherd, a paramedic, those who are at great risk as they have to get up close and personal with those who are working on the frontline as they fit personal and protective equipment.

Merciful Father: **Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

Amen

“The Jesuits in the USA have circulated this prayer which I think many will find useful”

Jesus Christ, you travelled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.
