

Intercessions Sunday 29 January 2017

This week has marked the beginning of a year celebrating 400 years since the founding of Richard Hale School. The world today in which our children are growing up is more confusing and complex than the world last year, let alone four hundred years ago. Truth is stranger than it used to be.

As we pray for our world, may we particularly this morning pray for all those who work in education and all those who learn. Let us bring to mind those we know, our family or friends, who are teachers or students

O Eternal God, bless, we pray, all schools, colleges, and universities [and especially in this 400th anniversary year Richard Hale School in Hertford], that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Ilan prayed for the Church, our Bishops, and Viv, commissioned as our Pastoral Assistant)

We pray for those who are going through times of stress, suffering and sickness:

We humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor all them who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity; help us to minister to them thy strength and consolation, and so endow us with the grace of sympathy and compassion that we may bring to them both help and healing: through Jesus Christ our Lord:

Amen

As we prepare for the week ahead, we reflect on what Bill has said to us about *Dethroning Mammon*, the Archbishop's Lent Book:

The Archbishop encourages us to have extravagant generosity

Lord Jesus, teach me to be generous;

*teach me to be generous with my time, especially when it's running low;
teach me to be generous with my patience, especially when it's running thin;
teach me to be generous with my praise, especially when I'm feeling judgmental.*

Lord Jesus, teach me to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost,

*even though I am not sure the cash will last to the end of the month
even though I am tired and feeling old
even though it means I go without*

Lord Jesus, teach me to fight and not to heed the wounds,

the wounds to my health; to my social life; to my pride.

Lord Jesus, teach me to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for any reward,

*not even thanks
not even fame or fortune
not even long life and happiness*

but the blessing of knowing that Jesus is Alive and I am doing your will.

Merciful Father

All

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