

Prayers 5.3.17

We thank you, Father, for those days in the desert when, through prayer and fasting, Jesus discovered your will for his life and overcame the temptations of the Evil One. Help us, during these days of Lent, to come close to you and to listen to your voice. Give us strength to overcome the temptation to please ourselves and live life without you. Teach us your way. For Jesus sake.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for the church:

We pray for our church here at St Andrews and for St Mary's Hertingfordbury. We pray for those who meet at Carlton Court on a Thursday and for some who are no longer able to join us here. Help us to remember that we are all part of the body of Christ and give us compassion and love for each member of that body.

We pray for our staff team, Alan, Bill, Colin, Melanie and Jim and we pray for our church wardens Penny and Brian. For all who play a part in the life of this church we ask for your blessing, whether what they do is seen or unseen.

We pray for our Archbishops Welby and Sentamu. Give them wisdom, courage, and your strength for the difficult role they have in governing the church.

We pray for our weekend away at Belsey Bridge and ask that you will bless our time together. Help us in our fellowship with one another and deepen our faith and commitment to you so that we can serve one another and the community in which we live.

We pray for the forthcoming Mental Awareness workshop in the Centre and ask that you will give us a greater understanding and compassion for those who suffer in this way.

We pray for our young people especially those who are facing exams at this time and we pray for Tracy. Thank you for her enthusiasm and passion, bless her we pray in all that she does.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our world:

Father we are faced daily in the news by man's inhumanity to man and we feel helpless in knowing what we can do and are fearful for the future of our world. And yet we know that you are a God who cares and so we ask that you give us a greater desire to pray, the will to give if we can or even get involved if that is your will, so that we can make a difference.

We remember especially today those who suffer because of famine in Nigeria, Lebanon and South Sudan.

We pray for the Central African Republic where displacement, ill health and trauma are ongoing realities and we pray for Eritrean Christians who are suffering imprisonment and torture because of their faith.

Father we pray for all those individuals and organisations working in the frontline of aid and we pray that you will strengthen the will of those who fight for justice and peace.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for ourselves:

Jesus has said – come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

In the quiet let us bring to God those things that trouble and concern us.

And then let's pray for the person on our left and right.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for those who need your wholeness and healing touch in mind, body, and Spirit;

Especially remembering.....

And in the quiet those known only to us.....

We remember those who have died.....

And the anniversaries of those who have died at this time.....

Bring your comfort to all those who mourn and grant us, with all who have known you in their hearts, a share in your eternal kingdom.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

As the days lengthen and the earth spends longer in the light of day, grant that we may spend longer in the light of your presence, O Lord and may those seeds of your Word, which have been long buried within us grow, like everything around us, into love for you, and love for people; to become a visible declaration of your Lordship in our lives. Grant, Father, that this lent there may be a springtime for our lives in Christ.