

Father God we praise you and thank you for the beauty of the earth at this season, for the perfume of the blossoms and the smell of freshly mowed grass. However we see the stretches of dry grass and ask you to send rain speedily for our anxious farmers.

Now we turn our thoughts to our troubled world. Father God, we pray again for the Syrian people, bombed out of their homes and unsure where things will go. May the world powers coordinate their efforts to end this scandalous destruction of a country, and to bring about a swift, clean and just peace.

As we prepare for the upcoming local and national elections, we pray that people will use their vote and that the contending leaders may demonstrate graciousness and self-control and resist the temptation to insult each other.

Lord in your mercy

We pray for your church throughout the world. May your Easter people shine the light of Christ into the darkest places on earth, especially Iraq and Syria where at hope hangs by a thread.

In This country we pray for your blessing on our archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu. May they share their spiritual wisdom at this time of much confusion in public life.

In our own church we wish to give thanks for a wonderful parish weekend away – for the opportunity to meet members of St. Mary's, Hertingfordbury, and to worship together and to socialise in a relaxed environment. We give special thanks for the work of Tracy and for the large number of young people who came on the weekend bringing zest and vitality to the experience of all. Please bless all our young people especially those with exams this summer .

We pray that Alan's talk on the holy spirit will encourage us to take those promises in the Bible literally and so to be blessed with the gifts of the spirit to build up our churches.

Lord in your mercy

We pray for our annual church meeting this morning, praying that, called by the Spirit, there will be those who feel ready to offer their services to the Church family. We also pray for Messy Church this afternoon - for this important outreach into our local community.

Lord in your mercy

And now we pray for those who need your healing touch to bring wholeness in body, mind and spirit, remembering...

.we remember those who have recently died, praying for their family and friends at this time

And now a prayer from Holy Island. A prayer to the Holy Spirit to make us bold in our Mission to the world

Merciful Father accept..

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