

**Intercessions Sunday 24 June 2018**  
**(Readings; Isaiah 40 v1-11, Luke 1 v57-66)**

**This weekend is fourth Sunday after Trinity and the celebration of the birth of John the Baptist.**

**We pray for all those who live in this parish, each according to their needs.**

**Here at home, as the exam days are almost over and the school holiday season is about to begin and the days are longer, we give thanks for a beautiful day, time to reflect and ponder about the many challenges each one of us face, both individually and as part of a much wider world.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We pray for our own government, its ministers and for Mark Prisk, our MP and indeed all politicians as they seek to discern what is right.**

**We pray for peace in a volatile and uncertain world and our thoughts and prayers are with the people of**

**-Egypt as they prepare for an Election, Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Syria and Venezuela,**

**-Other parts of the Middle East, especially in Jerusalem, where there remain tensions between the Israelis and Palestinians,**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We pray for the Meeting of European leaders who will be discussing this complicated issue. Give them wisdom and clear thinking so a solution can be found.**

**We pray for refugees and asylum seekers wherever they are and of whatever nationality. In particular we give thanks for the naval vessels which continue to rescue migrants as well as aid workers and all who volunteer in any way.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We pray for all those connected with the tragic fire at Grenfell Tower, for the survivors for those who lost loved ones. We pray for those involved in re-housing and rebuilding lives.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We pray Hertford Town Council and all who serve the town and local community, and their work and service in the community.**

**We pray for today's carnival and celebration.**

**Give all those in authority wisdom and understanding, the ability to listen and to seek practical solutions for the good of all.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We give thanks for the Hertford Team Ministry, remembering, Alan, our Rector, Bill, Jim, Melanie and Colin, our church wardens, Penny and Sue, and all who serve here in any way, especially Tracey and the Sunday school team.**

**We pray for Wendy Sellers as she prepares for ordination as a Deacon on 1 July.**

**We give thanks and pray for those planning the Holiday at Home Week and all those who will be helping to run it.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We pray those who work in the NHS, for our local GP surgeries, our hospital, local care homes, ambulance, fire and police services.**

**We also pray for those who work in shops and offices in St Andrew Street. Help us to know what small things we in this church and within our communities can do for our neighbours and the wider community.**

**We pray for two members of our church family, Forbes and Jenny, who were married at St Mary's Hertingfordbury yesterday.**

**Baptism of Terry Rampling and later on, Robyn Moran, who is being baptised later today.**

*Lord in your mercy*

**We remember all who are receiving medical treatment at this time, whether at home or in hospital. We pray for all those who are ill.**

*(Read out list of sick)*

**We remember those who have died including *(Read out list)***

**Phyllis Shepherd**

**Give those who have been left behind strength and courage to cope.... and we remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time....**

*Lord in your mercy*

**Finally we pray for ourselves and for any visitors, that all may feel welcomed, supported and encouraged according to their needs.**

**Give all of us a community spirit, energy and cheerfulness as we seek to serve the common good.**

**We rejoice in the fellowship of St Andrew and all your saints and commend ourselves and all people to your unfailing love.**

**Give us the ability to know our story, enable us to tell our story and to live our story.**

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