

# **Intercessions on 28 July 2024**

## **by Andrew Goodman**

*Readings: 2 Kings 4. 42-44 & John 6. 1-14*

Collect: Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lord, we have heard two readings this morning where you provided bread, and in a few minutes in the prayer that you gave your disciples we will ask for our daily bread. We acknowledge that all things are from you, and thank you for your care, provision and protection. But we know that it is not the same for everyone, and ask you to prosper the work of one charities that we support, International Health Partners, as they seek to provide medicines, medical supplies, primary healthcare and hygiene products to the Horn of Africa where more than 43 million people in Ethiopia, Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia and Somaliland experience food insecurity and acute malnutrition, and where infectious diseases such as cholera and diarrhoea are rife.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, we believe that you uphold and sustain all that you have made, and ask your forgiveness for the way we abuse the freedom you have given us to live in a relationship with your creation. Prosper the work of another charity that we support, Tearfund, as they seek to respond and provide

appropriate assistance to communities affected by some of the consequences of the climate change that we have caused, in places which have experienced severe storms, thinking today particularly of the Philippines following Typhoon Carina and Ethiopia following heavy rains and landslides.

Prosper the work, too, that Tearfund undertakes with partners to build resilience in vulnerable communities so that when there is a hazardous event they are better able to cope with the impacts, reducing the risk of disaster.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, we see the continuing devastation in Gaza. Prosper the work of a charity that we support, Embrace the Middle East, and their partners. They have asked us to pray that you give them boldness, strength and courage as they continue to serve, and that you protect them and those who are fleeing the fighting as it moves around the country, particularly children, the sick and older people. May the aid that they desperately need begin to flow freely across the border.

Lord, we are concerned that war may spread in the Middle East, with Israel surrounded by people who show so much hatred towards them, and Israel's propensity for retribution. Give the world's leaders the courage and imagination to work unceasingly for justice and peace as we ask this in the name of the Prince of Peace.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, as well as literal storms - typhoons, monsoons, etc. - we know storms can take other forms, such as physical, sexual, emotional and financial violence against women. Prosper the work of Ella's, a charity that we will support this year, as they seek to support women and families in London who have survived trafficking and exploitation.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, we thank you that two people will be interviewed on Tuesday for the position of Children's and Families worker here. Guide both the interviewers and the interviewees as they seek to discern who might be the right person to undertake this work.

Prosper the work of St Andrew's and other churches and organisations based in Hertford who support, nurture and disciple children and young people who so enrich our communities.

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

Lord, we remember those who are suffering physically, mentally and emotionally. Those known to us include: .....

Restore to them the healing and joy of your salvation.

We remember those who have died recently: .....

Lord, we thank you for sending the Holy Spirit to comfort us and give us peace. Bring comfort and reassurance to those who mourn that you are with them in their pain and sorrow.

We remember the anniversaries of: .....

Lord, in your mercy - hear our prayer

The psalmist wrote:

“Let your work be manifest to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and prosper for us the work of our hands” [Psalm 90.16-  
17]

So, Lord, prosper the work of our hands and our minds,  
wherever we may find ourselves, as we go through the  
coming week.

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