

Intercessions on Sunday 20 October 2024 (21st Sunday after Trinity) **by Charles Ledsam**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness. Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, you promised through your son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

We pray for those many parts of the world where there is disaster, man-made or natural, for those affected by the continuing conflicts in Israel and Gaza, Ukraine and Russia and other parts of the world.

Lord in your mercy

We give thanks for the DEC, United Nations and all the charities and organisations trying to bring in food, medical supplies and blankets.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear. We are taught to direct our people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

Lord in your Mercy, hear our prayer

Closer to home we pray for the many refugees still fleeing to Europe and desiring to start a new life away from the terror of bombs, famine, violence and disaster, where they can start new lives and their talents can be more fully used.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Lord in your mercy

Bless and guide Charles our King and Queen Camilla on their visit to Australia and Samoa. Bless all the Royal Family

Give wisdom to our Government, especially as they prepare for the forthcoming budget and difficult times ahead as they seek priorities in the areas of social care, education and health.

We pray for all in authority, especially the leaders of the nations throughout the world, that they may work together for the good of all.

Direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace, that we may seek the common good.

Lord in your mercy

Strengthen our Bishops and all your church, including Alan, Bill, Melanie, Geoff, Forbes, Maria, Kath, Adrian, Lindsay and all involved in working with young people, and all who serve here at St Andrew's and St Mary's.

Lord in your mercy,

We pray for our Town, giving thanks for the BEAM, our new Arts Centre, for people who work in offices and businesses and all those who are working today. Give them hope, pride and confidence for the future in these challenging times.

We pray for our hospitals and surgeries, GP's and medical staff and for all those caring for the sick and the frail. We give thanks for all those providing vaccinations and flu jabs and other medical support.

We give thank for all those dedicated to protecting and improving our environment.

We pray for any newcomers or visitors to our church, especially for those searching for faith.

Lord on your mercy

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit including

Richard, Anthony, Kevin, Debbie, Oliver, Denis, James, Trevor, Paul, Lucy, Dino, Phoebe, Pauline, Robert, Paul, Gordon, Nancy and Mike
and others known to us.

Give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Hear us as we remember those who have died including Barry Parsell, Barbara Hurford, Harold Chaplin, David Alan Kemp (of Brewhouse Lane) and Morris Le Fleming.

Give those who have been left behind strength and courage to cope in their time of grief.

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time;

Derek Sidney Webster, Donald Butler, Lily McCracken, Margaret Miles, Horace Woollard, Stephen Raw, George Ditton and Susan Hitch.

Lord in your mercy

A prayer from Tearfund for our neighbours

All-loving, ever-present God, We pray for our neighbours – for the people we know and love, and for the people we have never met. We pray for our neighbours – for the people across the street, and for the people on the other side of the world. We pray for our neighbours – for the people who look and sound like us, and for the people who couldn't be more different. We pray for our neighbours – for everyone who is struggling, for everyone who is being marginalised and oppressed.

We rejoice in the fellowship of St Andrew and all your saints and commend ourselves and all people to your unfailing love. May we be filled with the Holy Spirit.

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