**Intercessions for Sixth Sunday of Easter - Year A – 17th May 2020**

Gracious God, you are anything but unknown to us, for you made us, our world and everything in it. So we pray with one voice, proclaiming your presence to all the earth.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Holy God we pray for your Church throughout the world, for sceptics and believers, and for all the clergy. We pray for Father David, Mother Paulette, Jane, Jacqueline and Deborah, and for all who work for the good of the church community at Holy Innocents. We pray for all those who seek God at home, at work and in the streets, for all who search for faith.  We pray for the stillness to listen to the voice of the Spirit and to recognise and develop our personal relationship with you.We pray for all who strive to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel, especially in these difficult times when we cannot meet together to worship.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our government and for those who are guiding our Nation at this time and shaping national policies to manage the Coronavirus; may they be guided by the Spirit of Truth to make wise decisions.

We pray for all nations of the world who are making similar decisions, especially those countries where there is less infrastructure in place to manage the consequences of the Covid 19 pandemic.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Father God, we pray for family, friends and colleagues, for neighbours and strangers. We pray especially for those we cannot meet with during this lockdown time, and those who are self-isolating or who live alone. We give thanks for all keyworkers who risk their lives to provide food, run transport systems, look after those who are vulnerable, and keep us safe in these difficult times.

We give thanks to our doctors and nurses who are working selflessly with skill and dedication to sustain our National Health Service. Grant that they may receive the resources and support they require to meet the demands of each day. Keep them safe and healthy, O Lord, and bless their families and loved ones at home.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, we entrust to your tender care those who are sick and troubled, for the fearful and alone, for those who are sick in body or mind. Give courage and faith to those who are ill in hospitals, at home and in care homes, knowing that whenever danger threatens your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe. Comfort and heal them, and restore them to health and strength, we pray.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, we pray for all those who have departed this life, both known and unknown to us. We think especially of those whose anniversary of death falls at this time, as well as all those who have died in the Covid-19 pandemic. Give mercy and forgiveness to the dead and those who mourn them; may they find rest in the Spirit’s embrace. We commend them to your keeping for ever.

(Short Silence)

Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

God of heaven and earth, companion in life, Spirit of truth, to you alone we turn our eyes and lift our hearts. Help us to keep your commandments and to love one another as you love us.

Hail Mary, full of Grace,

The Lord is with thee

Blessed art thou amongst all women

And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus

Holy Mary, mother of God

Pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of our death

Amen.

Merciful Father:

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