Third Sunday of Epiphany

Prayers of Intercession

24/01/21

Dear Lord, teach us to remember to pray for others and keep us from being self-centred in our own prayers. May we be so bound up in love with those for whom we pray, that we may feel their needs as acutely as our own, and intercede for them with sensitivity, with understanding and with imagination. We pray for Fr David, Mother Paulette, Jane, Deborah and Robyn who continue to underpin our gatherings safely each Sunday.

**The Church of Christ**

Lord, send out your light and truth upon your Church, that they may bind us together as they lead us to your kingdom. Instil in us the same sense of urgency and mission that your Son inspired in the fishermen of Galilee, as we seek to do your will through our hands and feet. And to sustain us on the journey ahead, kindle, we pray, the flame of your love in our hearts.

**Lord, in your mercy; Hear our prayer.**

**Creation, human society, the Sovereign and those in authority**

Lord, we pray for the world that we live in, truly a global village thanks to modern communications. As we daily hear news of disaster somewhere on our planet, help us not to become insensitive to world events, and respond with what help we can, without losing heart and courage. We pray especially for the USA and their new administration, may their force for tolerance, change and forgiveness continue to receive your light and guidance to withstand barriers of any guise. Faithful to your covenant with the earth, steady our hearts and wills in times of great turbulence, that we may fulfil your purpose for us as heralds of your just and lasting peace.

**Lord, in your mercy; Hear our prayer.**

**The local community**

Lord, we thank you for the strength you give us to build our community, to maintain our settled routines of caring and sharing. But now we ask you to help find our fire, to burn from us all that dims your light. Kindle an answering flame in the lives of those around us, that darkness may be driven back and glory stream into your world, transforming it so we may walk in your light.

**Lord, in your mercy; Hear our prayer.**

**Those who suffer**

Lord, we bring before you all those that are in pain or despair. Give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Inspire them with the belief and trust that neither death nor life, angels nor domains, powers nor things present, or things to come, height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation can separate us from your presence, and that we are more than conquerors through your love.

**Lord, in your mercy; Hear our prayer.**

### The communion of saints

We pray for all those who have passed and anniversaries fall around this time. We also keep in mind those who have passed before the completion of their anticipated journey in this life, particularly due to the pandemic. We thank you for the lives of all who have encouraged us and taught us of your love, and now live in your fuller presence that they might be brought within the saving embrace of God and welcomed to the peace of their everlasting home.

**Lord, in your mercy; Hear our prayer.**

***We pray with Mary***

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.

Almighty Father, hear the prayers we offer and use our bodies, minds and spirits to your praise and glory. Help us to accept your invitation to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

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