

**Christ Church intercessions**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Lent, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

Father, we give you thanks for this day, and for the many blessings you give us within it.

Lord, in your mercy ...

We pray for all those who serve us within this Church, our Team ministry, Deanery and Diocese: We pray for Archbishop Justin, for Bishop Christopher and Bishop Richard; for our priests: Alison, Mark, Duncan and Hannah. We pray for Simon, our Deacon, and Nick in training for Ordination; also for Desmond and Alison, our Church Wardens. We give thanks for the various spiritual groups taking place each week, and for the people who run them and attend them. We pray for all those who contribute to making our worship – throughout the Team Ministry – meaningful, enjoyable and safe.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we pray for your continued blessing upon our Team Mission plan, and for our endeavours to make it happen. We give thanks for one another – our gifts, our talents – and we pray for a steadfast commitment to making others aware of your presence in this place.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we give thanks for our Queen and members of the Royal family as the Queen looks forward to celebrating her Platinum Jubilee in June. But we pray for her Majesty particularly on this day, which marks the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the accession to the throne. We give thanks for her long and dedicated reign, and pray that this will be a celebration to lift the spirits of the nation.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we pray for all those who are suffering throughout the world, particularly those who have been affected by natural disaster in Tonga and the surrounding area. We pray for people who live in areas where natural disaster too easily occurs. And for those living in situations of war and political unrest. We pray for refugees: for all who are homeless, hopeless and stateless; and we remember, also, people in the UK who have suffered from the recent storms with lengthy power cuts and isolation.

Lord, in our mercy ...

We give thanks for the many blessings and benefits of living in this country. But we pray for those people: single, couples and families who will be greatly affected by the

increase in energy costs, and those who are already affected by increased costs in day to day living. We pray for people who have lost jobs and businesses in the pandemic, and those now living in residential ghost towns with very few opportunities for employment.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we pray for all those who are sick: those people we remember within our three Churches, and our own friends and families. We pray for those awaiting surgery, medical tests and the results of tests or a course of treatment. We pray for people in other parts of the world, who have never seen a doctor, and who die or become disabled through illness and disease which could easily be dealt with in the West.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we pray for people on the streets. We give thanks for those who offer them help, understanding and security. But we pray for those who opt out of a society that caters for a literate, computer-using population.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we give thanks for all those who have come forward for Baptism, and those preparing for Confirmation. We pray for couples preparing for marriage within our Team Ministry, and those who come to Church to attend funerals. We pray for all those who come within our doors – that they may be aware of your presence and your comfort and blessing in their lives.

Lord, in your mercy ...

Father, we pray for the souls of those who have died: for those we remember but see no longer. As we look towards the Season of Lent, help us to be more thoughtful and aware of your presence among us. We give thanks for the Saints: for those who have shone the light of witness into all our lives and the lives of many people through the ages.

And with all the saints, we offer our prayers before you as we say:

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