

## All Saints Prayers - Sunday 24 January 2021

Dear Lord, let my words be your words, let my thoughts be your thoughts, and my touch be your touch, my friend Jesus Christ.

Dear Lord, thank you for being here with us when we need you the most. Open our hearts that you can hear our prayers, especially with this dreadful virus that has killed so many people. We pray that the vaccine can be delivered as quickly as possible throughout the world, and that we will be able to hug our nearest and dearest so that the healing of the world can begin. Bless the bereaved, especially in our village and beyond. God bless all the people living in high-rise buildings that may feel alone and anxious, everyone that has anxiety, calm and steady them and keep them safe in your loving arms and let them know you are there,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Dear Lord, we give thanks that America has a new president, Joe Biden, who we know has been through some very hard and difficult times. Help him Lord to see the way forward, that he can begin to heal the American people and start to help the world with climate change, breaking down the barriers between black and white and ethnic minorities, and all the difficult decisions that he will have to make. Bless him and his family. We pray for the children and families that are suffering of starvation and Civil War and the refugees who are trying to make new lives elsewhere. Give us all the wisdom Lord to be aware of everyone's beliefs and to accept all the races and creeds as God has made them all,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the community of our wonderful village of East Budleigh, our Village Shop where nothing is too much trouble, the team that will deliver shopping when necessary, where people find ways of making life more fun, especially thinking of Alice who organized a treasure hunt for the families, and our church for its care and consideration of all faiths. Thank you especially to Martin and Karen for delivering sermons that are relevant, interesting and understandable,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Every day Lord, we see wonderful and good things. Let us write down 3 things that have made us smile, then in the morning let us look at those things we have written down and add 3 more each day and so on, so that by the end of the week we will realize just how lucky and blessed we really are,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Dear Lord, let us be kind and gentle. Let us have the courage to ask someone we don't know if they are OK, maybe ask if we can pay for someone's shopping, or simply tell someone how lovely they look. This can have a huge impact on someone's day and makes you feel good yourself,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

This following prayer is for everyone who is maybe feeling overwhelmed at this time.

### Footprints in the sand

One night, a man had a dream, he was walking along the beach, with the Lord at his side. Across the sky flashed scenes from his life. He saw a set of footprints in the sand, his own, and those of the Lord, but looking back he noticed at times along the path, there was only one set of footprints. This was often at the most difficult times of his life. He asked, "My Lord, you said that if I allow you, you would walk with me all the way, but in those times of trouble, there is only one set of footprints. Why have you left me when I needed you the most? The Lord answered...."My precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trouble, when you only see one set of footprints ... that's when I was carrying you."  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Dear Lord, help us to have faith in this troubled time. Bless all those who are unwell in our community, Hanneke Coates, Rosie Smith, David Beagley, John Heavens, Philip Ringrose, Glenys Callaghan, Gillian Andrews, Joan Renshaw and everyone in the NHS working so hard. We

thank you for our health and strength, and loving Lord, we pray for and bless all those who are weak and ill and suffer weariness. Lord give us thoughtful, kind and loving hearts. Show us the kind deeds that may be done to some way help a suffering one, and especially at this moment in time I'd like this to read the words of Saint Patrick.

Christ as a light, illuminate and guide us, Christ as a shield overshadow and cover us. Christ be under us, over us, beside us and on the left and on the right, be before us, behind us and about us, be within and without us,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

God be in our head and in our understanding. God be in our eyes and in our looking. God to be in our mouth and in our speaking. God be in our hearts and in our thinking. God be at our end and at our departing,  
Lord in your mercy hear our prayer

Help the people Lord that are suffering with flooding in parts of the country, along with everything else that is going on, and with all these thoughts may I read a prayer that I think is very profound.

God grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change,  
the courage to change the things we can,  
and the wisdom to know the difference.  
Amen

Accept these prayers for the sake of our Saviour Jesus Christ  
Amen