

Intercessions All Saints East Budleigh 31st January 2021

A verse from our Hebrews reading this morning in The Message translation:

It was for people like us, that Jesus had to enter into every detail of human life. Then when he came before God as high priest to get rid of the people's sins, he would have already experienced it all himself – all the pain, all the testing – and would be able to help where help is needed.

Dear Lord Jesus, we thank you that you lived this human life with all the struggles that we experience and can help us to come to God without fear of rejection or condemnation. We thank you that you call us to live out the light of God in our community. We ask for your mercy on us today as we live in times of fear, of grief, of despair.

We pray for all in our community who are struggling; for the lonely; for those with medical symptoms that they feel are not worth asking for help with, for those in debt with no way out of their predicament.

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

We pray for all the medical staff exhausted and bewildered by the pandemic. Give them your comfort and strength. We pray for those who are suffering from long covid who cannot get back to their normal responsibilities and feel guilty and useless. We pray for those giving vaccinations that all the vulnerable will be immunised. We pray for the care homes in our area and all the staff working so hard to keep everyone safe.

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

We pray for countries of the world where the pandemic is only now getting hold, for wisdom for governments enforcing lockdowns, for fair and effective distribution of vaccines and for mercy on so many who have no means of support and are left hungry and in despair.

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

We do pray for Martin and Louise, for Trevor taking the services at St Peter's today, for our archdeacon, Andrew Beane and our Bishops, Jackie and Robert. Bless them in their ministries. We pray too for our churchwardens and all those who are part of the fellowship here in the Raleigh Mission Community that we might be beacons of light and hope in dark and difficult times.

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

We pray for the sick – especially for those on the pew sheet - Rosie Smith, David Beagley, John Heavens, Philip Ringrose, Glenys Callaghan, Gillian Andrews, Hanneke Coates, Joan Renshaw, The Reverend Karen Young

We pray for those who have departed this life without the chance to be comforted by their families and friends that they may find eternal comfort in heaven. We pray for your Spirit to surround the bereaved left behind. May they each one know your love and grace.

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

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day, so may the light of your presence, O God, set our hearts on fire with love for you; now and for ever.

Merciful Father . . . **Accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour Jesus Christ, Amen**