

Reading –

I want to start by praying for James Furlong, David Wails and Joe Ritchie-Bennett, the victims of the stabbing incident in Reading last Saturday. They were innocent people caught up in a terrible situation and cut down in the prime of their lives. They were a teacher, lawyer and scientist; all looking to do good in the world. We give thanks for the things they achieved, for the positive impacts they had on so many peoples lives. We pray that there families can come to terms with their loss and remember that You are ultimately in control.

I also want to lift up all those other people affected in some way by the incident in Reading last Saturday evening. Lord, may your peace be upon them all, whether they were involved directly, nearby, friends of the victims, or the emergency services who both responded and now take on the investigation. You are a God of Peace and as people reach out and ask “Why”, we pray that they hear your response and gain some level of comfort.

Also, help us to remember that Reading is a wonderful city rich in diversity of every sort, help us to celebrate that, and give us confidence to contribute to that diversity now and into the future.

Our Country –

Lord, as we enjoy this wonderful weather and people are also getting more freedom out of lockdown, please help us all to be patient and kind with ourselves and each other. Help us to remember that we have to live together and love each other. We pray that we will respect each others opinions and be able to listen to understand. We also pray for all those impacted by the Coronavirus either in terms of their health or their wellbeing., please show us all your love and give us wisdom.

We prayer for the politicians who are having to make tough decisions. Whatever choice they make, there will be critics. Help them to make decisions based on what YOU would do, to be guided by YOU and to strong in their convictions.

Our World –

Lord, our world appears on some days to be in total crisis. This is your creation and we are your people. We pray lord, that we will be better stewards of this world. We think about our environment, and how we can reduce the negative impact we have on it. Help us to make the right choices.

Our Church and Ourselves –

Lord, we pray for all those who are unwell in our Parish. Please give them comfort through their illness and cast your healing hand over them. Please take a moment to call to mind those who we know personally and lift their situation to the Lord.

Finally, Lord, we give you thanks. You are an awesome God, full of love and compassion. We ask that as we go about our dalily lives we remember that the Holy Spirit is with us at all times, and everything that we do, we do for Your glory.