

## Prayers for 30th August 2020

Dear God

You love us as our father and sent your son, Jesus Christ to be our light, a light which no darkness can quench. We thank you for the hope you have given us. Help us to bring our concerns to you in this time of uncertainty and help us to trust in your boundless love. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for the church worldwide, its unity and its message. We pray that all may know the true love of our Lord Jesus Christ and be confident to call themselves Christians. We give thanks for our church here in our parish and we thank our ministry team and all people who work so hard to keep us connected in online worship and a growing number of services in church. We pray for all those who will enjoy the fellowship of the all-age service and picnic at St James. **Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.**

We pray that the leaders of our country may rule with wisdom and justice, and with respect for our people and for other nations. We pray for all countries where Covid - 19 is exacerbating already huge problems of poverty, war and unrest. In particular we remember Yemen and pray that the international community may not forget the ongoing suffering of its people. We pray for teams around the world which are working to combat the virus, whether by caring for the sick, developing and testing vaccines or spreading public health messages. **Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.**

As the summer holidays draw to a close, we pray for all school and college staff and students as they return to a new and challenging environment. Be with all pupils who are starting new schools without the same preparation as in other years. We pray all those who are making decisions about the future of education in the middle of a constantly changing situation. **Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer.**

We pray those in our parish who are suffering in mind, body or spirit. Make your love known to them through the support of families and friends and in the care of doctors and nurses. We pray for all those named on the notice sheet and we bring to mind anyone we are particularly concerned about. May you bring healing and peace to all who are unwell or unhappy in any way. **Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer**

We remember all those who have recently died and those known to us whose anniversary falls at this time. May you bring comfort to their friends and families. **Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer**

We offer you these prayers, Lord, trusting in your might alone and in the knowledge that nothing can separate us from your unfailing love.

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

