

Intercessions for Fifth Sunday of Lent – 21st March 2021

Everlasting God, your son chose twelve disciples to work together to spread the good news of the gospel to the whole world, please help us as we work together for the common good. Together with our new Rector Leonard Onugha and his family, may we delight in sharing in each other's spiritual gifts and enable everyone to make their own contribution - however small. May we always be ready to toil and not seek rest, but labour to do your will as we work together to renew our parish with Rev Leonard. We give thanks for your guidance through our interregnum and thanks for all those who have worked so tirelessly to maintain the life of our Parish.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer.

Creator God, we pray for peace in our world; may all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace, love, and reconciliation. We pray for the peoples of the world and all who offer their services in the leadership of the affairs of the world that they may uphold what is right and good. We ask for wisdom for those who bear the load of making decisions about the Coronavirus with all its possible widespread consequences.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer.

Father God, we thank you for all those who help our community to run smoothly because of their jobs, voluntary work, or neighbourliness. Help us to be supportive and encouraging and to step into situations where we can serve. Bless our neighbours and strengthen those who are working in your name to bring healing and comfort to those in need.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer.

Merciful God your Son Jesus Christ healed the lame with a touch and raised the dead with a word – hear our prayers today for those who are laid low by sorrow and illness, or by fear and weakness; breathe new life into them as we name them in our hearts.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer.

Merciful God, we thank you that our journey towards death and decay is not the final phase of in our life story. We thank you, that by your faithfulness we are born to a new and living hope in a future where love and life will never end. May we always trust in you as we pray for those who have departed this earthly life.

We pray especially for Sarah Everard and her family.

Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer.

Loving God as we go forth from this time of worship, help us to remember that you do infinitely more for us than we can ask or imagine. Hear our prayers for all your creation and gather us in the embrace of your abundant and life-giving Spirit.

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