

Prayers for 7th March 2021

Heavenly Father

As we go through Lent help us draw near to you in praise and to strip away all that distracts us from worship. Help us reflect on Jesus' faithfulness to God in his time of temptation and keep these thoughts in our hearts throughout Lent. We pray for renewal in our lives - may we try to understand the meaning of Jesus' selfless love, so we can reflect that love to others. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for your church throughout the world, in this country and in our parish. We give thanks for all the ways our clergy are supporting us through Lent, for the Lent lectures and reflections, services and prayers. We pray that you will guide us as we consider our response to the financial situation of our parish. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

As we focus on our own spiritual renewal in Lent, let us not forget the world and all its needs. We give thanks for the good news which is emerging on the effect of the Covid vaccinations on illness and transmission of the disease and we pray for all those working so hard to increase the rate of vaccinations here. We rejoice that the Covax programme is beginning to bring vaccinations to poorer countries and we pray that all world leaders will continue to work towards peace, justice and a better world as we emerge from the pandemic. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are unwell and those concerned for loved ones and anxious about the future. We pray for all those who are still vulnerable to Covid, for those who have suffered economically in the last year, for those who have no choice but to go out to work and for those who are afraid to be at home. We remember people who are bereaved and grieving. God be with all who suffer, be their comfort and protection, their strength and shield, their safety and their companion. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

Heavenly Father we offer these prayers to you and ask that you use us to further the work of your Kingdom here on earth so that all people will know that you are among us today.

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