

Intercessions for Sunday 29th August 2021 – written by Martin Hughes

We pray that the pandemic situation may improve and we pray for the safe return of what we now call normal life and especially of normal worship - with singing, when the time comes! - in our churches. We pray for the Queen, for this country and for the world, especially for the best resolution possible among the fearful events in Afghanistan and Haiti.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

This is the day when the death of John the Baptist, who was a victim of the political fears and private passions of others, is commemorated. We too face certain fears and know we have many difficult political decisions to make. Grant us wisdom in these things.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Strengthen, we pray, the ongoing work of the Church everywhere - we pray especially for the Diocese of Oxford, the Sonning Deanery, for this parish and for the beloved congregations that meet and worship here. Grant us more than normal spiritual life, bring us new vigour, new insights, rewarding study.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Replenish the minds, we pray, of those beginning new schools, colleges and university terms: make their studies rewarding in all the many and various forms they take.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those afflicted by sickness of all kinds, many of whom are known to us, and especially at this time for those caught up in the NHS backlog and for all those working to get that backlog cleared. We pray for refugees and prisoners.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for ourselves amid many fears - but amid hope and faith all will be well.

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