

Old Hills Malvern Churches

Intercessions. for The Baptism of Christ as celebrated on 17th January 2021

Everlasting God, we give thanks for this new day and as we gather in worship, at home or online, to focus on the Baptism of our Lord, let us remember our own Baptisms and our calling to be Christians. May we be filled with such joy as we believe in you that our hearts overflow with love for you and for all who we meet along our journey and help us to understand the mystery of the baptism of your Son. May we walk in your way, live our life for you and be mindful of your presence day by day.

Lord; in your mercy hear our prayer.

Father God, we pray today for our friends, our families and our Christian community, that united by our common baptism we may always welcome the newcomer, the stranger and all who are vulnerable.

We also remember today all involved in education – for our schools in Madresfield, Callow End and Powick, and the nursery school providers, as they support our children's education and learning in difficult and trying circumstances. We pray for those students unable to re-join their apprenticeships, colleges, or universities, praying that their efforts to learn or study online or in private study will be justly rewarded and that they will achieve their full potential.

Lord; in your mercy hear our prayer.

Loving God we pray for those who face difficulties in their personal lives. We raise before you all who are sick, the bereaved, those with problems in their families, in their relationships, in their isolation, neighbourhoods or in their workplace. The pandemic has created a real sense of viral anxiety that affects people in so many ways. Give them a patient faith in their troubles and the knowledge that you share their sufferings with them.

Lord; in your mercy hear our prayer.

Mighty God, Lord of unending being, we pray for those whose earthly lives have ended. We remember those whose anniversary of their passing falls at this time and for the souls of all who have passed away recently. We give thanks for lives well lived and for happy memories. May they find rest in the eternal joy of heaven and let all who mourn their passing find comfort and peace.

Lord; in your mercy hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for making us your children, for feeding us with the spiritual food which satisfies our longings and for the promise that you listen to our prayers and answer our requests.

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

Some General Intercessions from some very well-known people of Faith or not:

*Lord we ask that you help us and defend us. Deliver the oppressed, inspire and encourage those who feel insignificant, raise the fallen, reveal yourself to those in need, bring healing to those who are sick, show your ways to those who are lost, raise up the hungry and weak, and take the shackles off those who feel trapped by circumstances and the world. May every nation come to know that you alone are God, that Jesus Christ is your child, that we are your people, the sheep of your pasture. **Amen***

After St Clement of Rome 1st Century

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, all that I have and possess. Thou hast given all to me. To Thee, O Lord, I return it all. All is Thine; dispose of it wholly according to Thy Will. Give me Thy love and Thy grace, for this is sufficient for me. For with these I am rich enough and desire nothing more. Amen

Ignatius of Loyola

My Lord God I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, will I trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Thomas Merton

O Lord, grant me to greet the coming day in peace. Help me in all things to rely upon thy holy will. In every hour of the day reveal thy will to me. Bless my dealings with all who surround me. Teach me to treat all that comes to me throughout the day with peace of soul, and with firm conviction that thy will governs all. In all my deeds and words guide my thoughts and feelings. In unforeseen events let me not forget that all are sent by thee. Teach me to act firmly and wisely, without embittering and embarrassing others. Give me strength to bear the fatigue of the coming day with all that it shall bring. Direct my will, teach me to pray, pray thou thyself in me. Amen.

Metropolitan Philaret of Moscow