

Old Hills Malvern Churches - Readings and Intercessions for Sunday 19th July 2020

(Common Worship Readings for Trinity 6 - different readings will be used for Rural Mission Sunday)

OT - Wisdom of Solomon 12:13.16-19. Or Isaiah. 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-end

NT- Romans 8:12-25 Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30,36-43

Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding:

Pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises which exceed all that we can desire;

Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God now and forever. Amen

The New Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell

As we prepare to join together in worship over this weekend, whether in our church buildings or on-line, and as we minister to individuals and communities, many of whom are anxious about what the future may hold, may we continue to pray for God's strength and protection using the words with which our new Archbishop of York blessed us following his confirmation on 9th July:

***May the love of our good and generous God guide and protect us;
may the hope of the gospel sustain us and bring us joy;
when we are lost or lonely; when the road ahead seems hard,
or when the darkness gathers,
may the light and peace of Christ be ours.
Amen.***

Intercessions for Sixth Sunday after Trinity Year A – 19th July 2020

Everlasting God, we join together in praying to you for the needs the church, the world, our communities and ourselves, trusting in your love which reaches out from before the foundation of the world.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Holy God, whenever we start to get offended by your generosity or open-mindedness, give us the grace to repent and join your rejoicing. Guard the Church against self-righteousness and all rules and limits which you would not own, but keep always before us the rule of love.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Creator God, we pray for your world. Forgive us when we are ungrateful when spiritual blindness prevents us from appreciating the wonder of your creation and the endless cycle of nature. Forgive us for taking without giving; reaping without sowing. We pray for the farmers of the world many of whom still use those methods described by Jesus and we especially pray that they may be treated with fairness for their labours. We especially remember those who work with the land here in the Costa Blanca suffering so badly from climate change.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Father God, we thank you for the love we share with our families and our friends. We recognise that they may have faults and they love us in spite of ours. Help us to be flexible and adaptable in all of our relationships and also capable of accepting constructive criticism.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Loving God and Lord of life, we pray for the gift of courage to face up to and cope with illness especially during the Covid-19 Pandemic. We pray for it for ourselves, and for those who we now name before you

We thank you for those who through their courage have come through illness and for those facing the reality that there is little light at the end of their earthly tunnel.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Gracious God, give us ears to hear and minds to understand the message of immortality for the children of your kingdom so that we may look forward with patience and confidence to that time when we will join you in the peace of eternity. We especially pray for any we know who have recently died and are on that journey to you.

Lord in your mercy: hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we thank you for the opportunity of being together in prayer. As we look forward to the week to come, we pray for an awareness of your love and support in all we do.

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