

## **Intercessions for Easter 4 – 25th April 2021**

Holy God, your Son remained with his disciples for 40 days after his resurrection, teaching them to love all people as friends and neighbours.

We too are his disciples, and we offer our prayers on behalf of the church, the world in which we live and all those with whom we share it.

Loving God, the letter of John reminds us that “If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person?” Help us as local Churches resting centrally in our village communities to try to aspire to love with actions and truth and not merely with words or speech.

### **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for all world leaders that, using Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd as the ultimate model of leadership, they would lead and care for their own flocks in such a way that peace might abound, righteousness flourish and injustice be eradicated.

### **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Father God, help us to reach out to strangers in our midst. As we remember the way the early Church lived in one heart and mind and shared everything they had may we too in this benefice of two parishes and four churches serving across five villages be always mindful of the needs of others less fortunate and always welcome the newcomer joyfully into our midst. We pray for the new residents moving into Winsmore in Powick in the coming weeks.

### **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Loving God we pray for those who do not know your peace and for those who are struggling with their lives. We ask for your healing on those who are sick, your strength for those who are tired and your love for those who live with despair and fear.

### **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for those who now walk in the valley of the shadow of death. We know from the Psalm that you are with them and have gone before them to prepare them a table overflowing with all good things. Guide those who are left behind in the paths of righteousness and uphold them in their sorrow with the assurance of your goodness and love.

*We pray for the families of Marion Holtom, Val Richings. Diane Taylor, Jenny Hill, Janet Mason, Val Humbles and Rose Davis*

### **Lord, in your Mercy: Hear our Prayer**

Everlasting God, we ask that you would bless us here within this Church or community setting with vision for the future and reverence for the past. Guide us each day as we minister to one another and to the world. Help us each day to bear witness to your name and to do your bidding, always mindful of your amazing love for us.

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

### **Collect:**

Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; 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 for ever.