

## **Old Hills Malvern Churches**

**Intercessions for the St James' Callow End Patronal Service – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2021. 10.30am**

### **The Confirmation of Candidates and Dedication of our Improved Building Facilities**

This Sunday, we welcome Bishop Martin, Bishop of Dudley, to our Church here in Callow End. We pray for his ministry.

Lord, we give thanks for this special day, and we lift up to you Sheila and Amy, who have been confirmed here today. We pray that you will bless them as they move forward in their journey of faith.

**Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us.**

We give thanks, Lord, for this Church of St James. A small church, but with a big heart, and with a willingness to take on changes and improvements so we can be more accessible and a focal point for the wider community.

**Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us.**

Lord, we give thanks for those people who leave money to St James in their wills. Also, those parishioners who give donations for repairs and improvements to keep us functioning and moving forward.

**Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us.**

For some time, Lord, we have had comfortable chairs, which leaves a flexible space, and the PowerPoint giving various worshipping possibilities. Now we come here today for the Dedication and to give thanks for even more improvements completed and to ask God's blessing on those things still to be done – the new floor and carpet, the kneelers at the altar rail, the new lighting, microphones and hearing loop, the bench outside and the raised garden, and that the plans for the disabled access will be completed.

Lord, we trust in you, giving thanks for the past, faith in the present, and hope for the future.

**Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us.**

Lord, let us give thanks for all those people who give up their time doing the unseen tasks within the church, however large or small. We should give special thanks for Andy, Frances' brother. He is a retired Civil Engineer and lives right up north and has put his mind and expertise to solving the problem of the floor and has also drawn up plans for the disabled access.

We give thanks and ask your blessing on all those who work behind the scenes for your kingdom.

**Lord hear us: Lord graciously hear us.**

Lord, as we trust in you, baptised in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and sharing in the Eucharist, may we grow in faith and strive to follow you always.

**Amen.**

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

### **Collect for the Patronal Festival of St James the Apostle**

Merciful God,  
whose holy apostle Saint James,  
leaving his father and all that he had,  
was obedient to the calling of your Son Jesus Christ  
and followed him even to death:  
help us, forsaking the false attractions of the world,  
to be ready at all times to answer your call without delay;  
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.      Amen.

### **Some scripture to ponder on as we contemplate our place in our communities:**

How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.  
*Genesis 28:17*

We have waited on your loving kindness O God, in the midst of your temple. *Psalms 48:9*

Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. *Psalms 127:1*

Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.      *1 Peter 2:5*