

## Intercessions for Christian Aid Week and VE Day 2020

*Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.*

As we gather at the start of Christian Aid week, we are also commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the ending of war across Europe in May 1945, let us pray:

This prayer is from **From the Act of Commitment for Peace:**

*Lord God our Father,  
we pledge ourselves to serve you and all humankind, in the cause of peace,  
for the relief of want and suffering,  
and for the praise of your name.  
Guide us by your Spirit;  
give us wisdom;  
give us courage;  
give us hope;  
and keep us faithful now and always.  
Amen.*

*Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.*

## A prayer for Christian Aid Week 2020

Love compels us to fight against coronavirus alongside our sisters and brothers living in poverty.

Love compels us to stand together in prayer with our neighbours near and far.

Love compels us to give and act as one.

Now, it is clear that our futures are bound together more tightly than ever before.

As we pray in our individual homes – around the nation and around the world – we are united as one family.

So, let us pause and find a moment of peace, as we lift up our hearts together in prayer.

*Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.*

For the health workers tending the seriously ill

for the scientists working on a vaccination

for the researchers analysing data and identifying trends

for the media outlets working to communicate reality

for the supermarket workers, hygiene and sanitation providers

for the good news stories of recoveries and effective planning

for the singing from balconies by locked-down communities

for the recognition that isolation doesn't need to mean loneliness

for the notes through letterboxes offering help and support

for the internet and telephones and technology that connects

for the awakened appreciation of what is truly important

Thanks be to God.

For those who are unwell and concerned for loved ones

for those who were already very anxious

for those immune suppressed or compromised

for those vulnerable because of underlying conditions

for those in the 'most at risk to coronavirus' categories

for those watching their entire income stream dry up

for those who have no choice but to go out to work

for those who are afraid to be at home

for those who are more lonely than they've ever been

for those who are bereaved and grieving.

God be their healer, comfort and protection,

be their strength, shield and provision

be their security, safety and close companion

And raise up your Church

to be your well-washed hands and faithful feet

to be present to the pain

to respond with love in action

if even from a safe distance.

*Even in the darkest moments, love gives hope.*

God, in your mercy, Hear our Prayer

Merciful Father - receive our prayers in the name of Jesus, our Lord - Amen

(Prayers based on the Christian Aid prayer set for 2020, embellished for local circumstances and the COVID pandemic and the 875<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day)

Rev Gary Crellin