

Prayers for Sunday –3 January 2021 – and Following Week (Year B)

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ we pray to the Father.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Blessed Father, we share with all those who continue to give thanks for the coming of Jesus into the world. We give you thanks for the preachers of the world and we pray that the Church will reach out to draw others to you. We seek guidance for all bishops, priests and deacons and we pray that we shall all be led to a vision of you and your love and proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Gracious Father, we give you thanks and praise that we are able to share in your kingdom here on earth. The whole universe belongs to you and yet you care for each one of us. We remember before you all who are striving to bring peace and unity to humankind. We pray especially for the troubled parts of your world where there is conflict and we remember all those who live in fear. We pray that in their distress, they will know the comfort of your love.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Gentle Father, we ask for your blessing on our friends and loved ones. We pray that in this New Year we may learn to be sensitive to the needs of others and caring of each other. We ask that you will remove the burden of suffering from those who are sick. We ask for your compassion and your healing hand on those who are in need within this Benefice. We pray for Charles Field, Karl, Doris, Yvonne and those who have broken bones or are recovering having had falls, Heather, Dorothy and Pet. We remember in our prayers others who are ill and known to us personally. I ask you to join me in praying for Ian's and my friends Chris and Peter McLeod who have caught the corona virus. We pray for all victims of COVID and for the NHS. We remember the doctors and nurses and other hospital medical staff who are struggling to keep up with the demands due to the current increase of admissions caused by the corona virus. Also, we remember the members of our congregation who are shielding or staying at home to stay safe in these strange times that we are living through at present.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Loving Father, you are the giver of life and life eternal. We remember those who have passed into your closer presence and we pray that they know the peace of your heavenly kingdom. We remember those who mourn including the Franklin family, the family of Margaret Stokes, her husband John and daughter Catherine, the family of Fiona Wright, her husband Trevor and the family of Janet. We ask for your blessing upon them so that they may know the comfort that only you can provide.

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

Almighty Father, we give you thanks for the New Year, for all the opportunities that it brings and for the many blessings that you have given to us. You come to us as our Saviour and our friend. We give you thanks and praise and pray that we shall know your presence in our lives. As you led the wise men to your Son, we ask you to lead us to know you and your love.

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