

# **Intercessions on Sunday 25 April 2021**

## **by Charles Ledsam**

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, and let us thank God for his goodness.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, you promised through your son Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen our Bishops and all your church, including Alan, Bill, Wendy, Melanie, Geoff and Forbes, and all who serve here at St Andrew's and St Mary's.

We give thanks to the faithful and continuing hard work of our church wardens, Sue and Jane, Robin, David and Chris and all who work to support our two churches.

We pray that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love and reveal your glory to the world.

*Lord in your mercy, Hear our Prayer*

Looking at the wider world, we pray for peace amongst all nations, for all who are affected by Climate Change. Help us to be responsible for our country and the health and lives of people around us.

*Lord in your mercy*

Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen and support her in this period following the loss of Prince Philip, her husband of 73 years; give wisdom to all in authority, especially the leaders of the nations throughout the world.

At a time of a world pandemic, economic challenges, financial hardship and growing unemployment, direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace, that we may honour one another and seek the common good.

We think of and pray for the people of India at this time, for their medical services and the extreme challenges that the pandemic has brought.

*Lord in your mercy*

We pray for our Town, especially for its shopkeepers, people who work in offices and businesses, councillors in this time of lockdown. We pray for those who are working today.

We pray for our surgeries, GPs and medical staff as they plan and deliver the vaccination programme, and we give thanks for those who have been safely vaccinated.

Help us to continue to care for and respect one another at this difficult time, especially those who have not yet been vaccinated.

*Lord in your mercy,*

We give thanks for our schools, the students, teachers and support staff, especially remembering the work carried out both at St Andrew's and Hertingfordbury Cowper Schools.

*Lord in your mercy*

We give thanks for those listening to our services on zoom, marvelling at the ways they have adapted during the pandemic and the opportunities for outreach and as a place of welcome and healing.

*Lord in your mercy*

We pray for those suffering from stress, depression and anxiety and all the sick, together with those who love and care for them. Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit especially

Peter, Yvonne, Joe, Julie, Susan, Bernard, Douglas, Claire, Dean, Paul, Forbes(Snr), Pat, Alma, Laurel, Barbara, Imogen, Tom, Susan and Phil.

Give them courage and hope in their trouble and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer*

Hear us as we remember those who have died, including Royston Perry.

Give those who have been left behind strength and courage to cope in their time of grief.

We remember those whose anniversaries fall at this time:  
Allen Cobb

*Lord in your mercy*

We pray for all those who feel that they are living at work, not just working from home at this time, for the stresses and strains on parents and young people and all who feel anxious. Help us to be sensitive to them in their time of need.

We pray for all those who have birthdays this week, especially Brenda and Emily.

May we create "Neighbourhoods of Hope" and ensure that we keep a watchful eye on one another, especially as we gradually emerge from this long lockdown.

May we try to be good shepherds and offer words of encouragement and hope to those whom we meet and to whom we speak.

We rejoice in the fellowship of St Andrew and all your saints and commend ourselves and all people to your unfailing love.

Give us the ability to know our story, enable us to tell our story and to live our story.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son, our saviour Jesus Christ. Amen