

Intercessions Sunday 31 August 2025

(Eleventh Sunday after Trinity)

by Charles Ledsam

Openhearted, open-handed and barefooted, 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.

Let us take some time now to thank God for some of the blessings in our own lives, any recent holidays or maybe short breaks away and being able to spend time with friends or family.

Lord in your mercy...

We pray for those many parts of the world where there is disaster, man-made or natural, for those affected in the continuing war in Ukraine, the Middle East and other world conflicts. We think particularly of the people of Europe where forest fires rage and indeed in North Yorkshire. We pray for the safety those involved in search and rescue and for the safety of those affected.

Lord in your mercy...

Closer to home we pray for the many refugees fleeing to Europe and desiring to start a new life away from the terror of bombs, famine, violence and disaster, where they can start new lives and their talents can be more fully used. We pray for wisdom among our leaders and their ability to find practical solutions.

Lord in your mercy...

Bless and guide Charles our King, Queen Camilla and other members of the royal family and we thank you for the loyal service they give across our community; give wisdom to our Government and all in authority, especially the leaders of the nations throughout the world, that they may work together for the good of all.

Direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace, that we may honour one another and seek the common good.

Lord in your mercy...

Strengthen Jane, Bishop of Hertford, and all your church, including Alan, Bill, Scott, Melanie, Geoff, Forbes, Kath, Maria, Nick and Adrian and the Churchwardens, who serve our two churches; 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...

We give thanks for the gift of sport and the joy, inspiration and benefit it brings to so many. Today we think of all those involved in the Women's World Cup and the joy it has already brought to so many people. We give thanks for all the dedication, commitment and hard work of all who help in sport.

Lord in your mercy...

We pray for all those who have recently been married including Matty and Eli Penson and those preparing for marriage in the next few weeks. We pray for any visitors and newcomers.

Lord in your mercy...

We pray for our town councillors, and indeed for our town with its businesses and shops, many struggling to cope with the changes in our shopping patterns.

Lord in your mercy...

We also pray for our schools, for our teachers and those students returning to school shortly. Encourage them in their desire to learn.

We pray for those suffering from stress, depression and anxiety with health problems, fear of losing their jobs and the mental and physical implications of not being able to meet and participate in their usual activities.

Lord in your mercy...

We pray for those who are unwell, including:

Pauline, Dino, Robert, Paul, Lucy, Yvonne, Judy, Georgina, Alexander, Joy, Hazel, Phoebe, Chris, Mick, Edward, Val, June

...and for those who love and care for them.

Mary gives thanks for a measure of recovery and thanks all at St Andres for their kindness and cards.

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

We pray for those who have died and may be known to us.

Hear us as we remember in Years' Mind those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

Winifred Kemp, Andrew Davies, Jill Scott-Haughton, Walter Simpson, Nell Lloyd, Hilary Mason and Kamal Sheikh

Lord in your mercy...

Help us to be openhearted, open handed, barefooted, of good cheer, humble, welcoming and supportive neighbours.

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