

Intercessions on Sunday 1 March 2026 (Second Sunday in Lent) by Charles Ledsam

Today is St David's Day and the first day of meteorological Spring.

We extend a special welcome to the Worshipful Mayor of Hertford, Councillor Steven Watson and members of the Town Council

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.

In these very unstable and unsettling times, we pray for peace, hope and resilience in our world and indeed among our neighbours, no matter what race, colour, religion or creed they are.

Lord in your mercy

Following the attacks on Iran and many Middle East countries, we pray that the leaders of the nations may be guided by truth, wisdom and justice in all that they do.

Four years on, we pray especially for the people of Ukraine and Russia that there may be an end to this war. We remember the families of the many thousands who have died in that time. We also pray for the tragic situation in Gaza and other areas of the Middle East

We pray and give thanks for all charities and organisations helping to support those who have become refugees and are hungry, lonely and homeless. Give strength and courage to all who suffer.

Lord in your mercy

We pray for this nation, for your servant, Charles our King and Queen Camilla, William Prince of Wales and all the Royal family.

At this massively unsettled time in the world, which faces economic pressures, financial hardship and environmental and social challenges, give us all the ability to settle our differences and work together for the common good.

Lord in your mercy

Strengthen our Bishops and all your church, including Alan, Bill, Melanie, Geoff, Forbes, Adrian, Maria, Kath and Nick, and those who serve here at St Andrew's and St Mary's in any way.

May 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

We pray for our Town, for our Councillors and its businesses, remembering those who work in offices and businesses, especially those who are working today.

We pray for any visitors today.

Lord in your mercy,

We give thanks for the gift of music and the arts. We pray for all those who teach music, especially here in our schools and in this town and surrounding areas.

Lord in your mercy

We pray for those who are unemployed, suffering from stress, depression and anxiety and all those who love and care for them.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind or spirit including;

Robert, Roger, Paul, Paul, Pauline, Phoebe, Georgina, Sienna, Alexander, Lucy, Joy, Dino, Matthew, Hazel and Maureen

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

Hear us as we remember those who have died, including Denise Hall.

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;

Eva Wollard, Harold Randolph Howard, Audrey Mann, Dorothy Austin, Dennis Cheesman and Mable Lillian Burrige

Lord in your mercy

May we create "Neighbourhoods of Hope" and ensure that we continue to keep a watchful eye on one another in these times of uncertainty and unsettlement.

May we try to be good shepherds, continue to be a welcoming church 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. May we be filled with the Holy Spirit.

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