

Lord, as we face whatever comes to us today, give us the ability to face it with courage. May one of the benefits of getting older be that we become wiser and less afraid of the twists and turns of life. Give us calm amidst the storms and peace in all things.

We give thanks for all our church leaders. We especially give thanks for Fathers Andrew, George, Bob and Crispin, our Readers, church wardens and all who help in our church life at All Saints and St. Peter's.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, You created us as individuals, we thank You for new ways of being in touch, overcoming loneliness and sharing news of family and friends. We thank You for the gift of solitude, when we can gather our thoughts and simply be.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that today's leaders learn from the great conflicts of the past, that decisions to wage war are always and only taken as a last resort and to protect the world from danger and that we honour all those lives that have been laid down in previous conflicts, by continually striving for God's peace.

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we pray for the sick, both at home and in hospitals or hospices. We pray for the elderly, the housebound and those in care homes. All those mentioned on our prayer boards, and we pray for all those who minister to their needs. In our own community we pray for those living in Cherry Tree Close and Palmers Way. Lord Jesus, who responded to the needs of all those who had faith, comfort and sustain those who are in need of Your grace at this time. As we share a moment of silence together, we bring before You those known only to us and name them in our hearts.....

Lord in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Help us, Lord, to be more like You, to draw a circle that includes rather than excludes. Open our eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people. And give us the compassion and the courage to respond.

Merciful Father accept these prayers for the sake of Your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.