

## Intercessions for Palm Sunday

As we journey together through Holy Week, from the joyful entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, through the Last Supper Jesus had with his friends, to the anguish of the Cross, may we understand the depth of the love that sent Jesus into the world to be our Saviour.

Lord Jesus, what have you not suffered,  
What have you not given, for us?  
We can never fully understand you  
But we can love you  
And wonder  
At the depth of the darkness  
Which you entered on the cross  
And the depth of the love  
Which held you there.

Almighty God,  
as we stand at the foot of the cross of your Son, help us to see and know your love for us, that in humility, love and joy we may place at his feet all that we have and all that we are. Through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen

Let us pray to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for all who stand in need, and those who work alongside them.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all who are vulnerable, sick, or at risk in any way. We pray especially for everyone, around the world, who is struggling with isolation, without the essentials they need, or the care, fellowship and love of friends and family. May they know your love through the actions of others and the comfort of your presence with them in these difficult times.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer.

We give thanks for the work of all who support parents and children.

Heavenly Father, from whom all parenthood comes, teach us and all parents, so to understand our children, that they may grow in your wisdom and love, according to your holy will. Fill us with sensitive respect for the great gift of human life, which you have committed to our care; help us to listen with patience to their worries and problems, and give us tolerance to allow them to develop as individuals. Thank you for teachers who inspire confidence and a love of learning in their pupils. We pray for those expecting a child in the near future that they may be assured of the best

care at this exciting yet worrying time.

We give thanks for all whose support and skill surround and sustain the beginning of life.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Father, we struggle with the lack of freedom to go where we please as well as living in isolation with our families, as much as we love them.

We pray for all who support couples who are experiencing difficulties.

Lord God, give them sympathy, understanding and insight, that, by your grace,

Hurts may be healed, faults forgiven and misunderstandings removed.

Lord, let the light of your presence bring joy back into their relationships, and peace and harmony back into their homes. May our relationships and marriages, be a source of encouragement to others and examples of your love.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died due to Coronavirus and other illness, and those who have reached the natural end of a long life.

We think of all those we have loved, but see no longer, who live on in our memories.

Heavenly father, be with all who mourn and surround them with your love,

That they may not be overwhelmed by their loss, but have confidence in your goodness

And strength to meet the days to come,

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who are working at home, and those who work in essential services in the community, especially in health care.

Thank you, Heavenly Father for our National Health Service, working to bring relief to those suffering from the virus, and saving lives.

Thank you for carers who put others before themselves and give so much to enable them to live at home. We pray too for parents who care for disabled children, wives and husbands who care for their loved ones, in sickness and in health. We pray for children who care for their parents and friends who care for their neighbours. Help us all to recognise the needs of others and the need to support those who care, quietly and without complaint.

Surround them all with your love and give them courage and patience in their task.

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We pray for leaders across the World, especially our own government and expert advisers as they formulate plans in this ever changing crisis, and coordinate the response we desperately need to save lives. Be with them in their efforts and give them hope, wisdom and determination to succeed.

Lord in your mercy  
Hear our prayer

Let us pray too for our Church, and all who pray. May our homes be places of worship and prayer, where your love is shown and shared.

Heavenly Father  
Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son  
Our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen