

## **Sunday 8 May – Fourth Sunday of Easter**

### **Prayers written by Frank Le Poidevin**

Heavenly Father, we pray for your church worldwide, for archbishops, bishops, and all who hold positions of authority in the church; and we pray for all priests, ministers, and teachers, and all who seek to spread abroad your gospel of love and truth. Reveal yourself to us in all your glory and enable us through the power of your Holy Spirit so to order our lives that we reflect your goodness and love wherever we go, whoever we meet. We pray for our APCM to be held later this morning and for your guidance in any decisions we may be required to make that your name be glorified in the local community.

Heavenly Father, as we acknowledge your greatness we humbly pray for faith, the faith which can enable us, both corporately and as individuals, to accomplish great things for you. Forgive us that we are so often concerned about our rights that we overlook our responsibilities; that we are sensitive about the things which affect us and indifferent to those which affect others. Give us courage and confidence to oppose all evil, and zeal to strive for all that is good.

Heavenly Father, we pray for our Queen and members of the royal family. We give thanks for her long life of loyalty, commitment and duty. We pray for your blessing on preparations for the forthcoming jubilee celebrations and a joyful and memorable weekend of both national and local community activities.

Heavenly Father, we pray for our world, for peace and justice and harmony between peoples and nations, for the laying down of arms in those parts of the world where there is war. We pray for an end to hostilities in Ukraine; for the people driven from their homes and livelihoods and seeking refuge, often at great risk to themselves. Endue the leaders of all nations with wisdom, integrity and compassion enabling them to pursue all that makes for justice and peace for all their peoples.

Heavenly Father, we pray for all who suffer in any way: for the homeless and those without work; for the aged and lonely, the heartbroken, the unloved and the downtrodden. And we give thanks for those agencies which seek to alleviate suffering and hardship in the world. Strengthen and encourage all who give themselves, selflessly, to helping those in need.

We pray now for those known to us who are ill, including: Jan Banks, Ken Cathcart, Dorothy Lawrence, Hazel Chapman, John Leaworthy, Ellen Vigar, Christine Eaton.

Give to them all comfort and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Heavenly Father, comfort those who have lost a loved one, as we pray for those who have completed their time on earth, that they may be brought to peace and everlasting joy: Margaret Milton, Betty Adkins, Linda Lewis, Kit Gray, Jean Chambers. From our Memorial Book we give thanks for the lives of: Duncan Nutt, Phyllis Chapman.

Lord, what we have not, give us  
Lord, what we know not, teach us  
Lord, what we are not, make us  
    forgive what we have been  
    sanctify what we are  
    and order what we shall be  
        for your mercy's sake.

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