

Sunday 1 February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Prayers written by Pat Southwood

Let us pray for the church and the world and thank God for his goodness.

God of hope we pray this week for light in the darkness of our daily lives, for your light which shines into the darkest corners of our hearts.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

God of justice be in the minds of all leaders and rulers, so that they may govern with compassion and wisdom acknowledging the needs of the whole world.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

God of peace let the power of forgiveness and reconciliation be ever present in the hearts of all people.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

God of love help us to feel the power of your love and give us the joy of knowing that your love surrounds us and that you are always with us.

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

God of faithfulness and healing be with all whose lives are blighted by pain and suffering.

We bring to you all those who are sick at this time surround them with your love and give them hope in their times of trouble. Remembering from this community :- Jericho Hasieber, Jo, Sarah, Sue Copsey, David Casemore, Michael, David Richards and Joanne Fearis

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

God of hope we thank you for those people who have given us the examples and models by which we try to live. Let your light shine on us and on those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Comfort them in their sorrow and sustain them in the knowledge of your love.

Terance Horsfall, June Dennis, Ben, Marian Little and Dorothy Smith.

And from our memorial book we give thanks for the lives of James Dawson, John William Tubb, Jeanette Guest and Eric Tuthill.

May your light shine on them and us forever

Lord hear us. Lord graciously hear us.

Lord Jesus Christ, Light of the world when we are frightened and all around us seems dark and threatening, show us your light

When we are sad and tears blind us help us to hope.

When we are too busy to notice what is happening around us calm us and help us to find peace.

When our own selfishness gets in the way; free us from ourselves so that we may see your love at work in the world.

Help us to follow in your footsteps living in the light of your love treasuring all that you have given us.

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