

## Sunday Prayers 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 (Mothering Sunday)

### Choral Eucharist

Let us pray

Heavenly Father, at this time of international fear and uncertainty  
Grant us courage and steadfastness.  
Help us to live each day mindful of its blessings, however small, however hidden,  
and open our eyes to your many gifts to us, gifts that we so easily take for granted.  
Give us this day our daily bread – and grant us a spirit of generosity to share what  
we have with those who have little.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray today for all whose lives and livelihoods have been devastated  
by the coronavirus pandemic.  
We pray for the sick and the bereaved.  
We pray for those whose lives are in turmoil because their work, or their income has  
evaporated, and who do not know how they are going to survive.

We pray for all who are fearful for the future.  
We remember those who are alone and lack personal support, particularly the  
elderly and the vulnerable; those who feel lonely and abandoned; those who are  
forced to self-isolate. Those who are separated from friends or loved ones.  
And we pray for those whose mental state is particularly vulnerable at this time.

Open our eyes to all that we can do, however small, to ease their plight; and open  
our hearts to the pain of all your suffering children.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

We pray for all members of the medical profession: for our doctors, nurses, and all  
their support staff. For those who are struggling so courageously to cope with a  
rising tide of desperate need. We pray for those who are exhausted, and  
overwhelmed by the task of caring for those who are sick or in hospital.

And we pray for the leaders of the nations.  
That they may govern wisely and well during this time of acute public need, and  
economic chaos and uncertainty.  
We pray for our emergency services; for all who are striving to keep the fabric of our  
life intact.  
For those who work to feed our nation, producers, suppliers, and those who work in  
our stores.  
And we pray that the spirit of your generosity, your love, and your grace, may touch  
the hearts and minds of us all.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the church throughout the world, and for this church of St Bride.

We give thanks for all who have kept alive the flame of faith here over so many centuries. May this holy place continue to be a beacon of light and an oasis of peace for all who come.

On this Mothering Sunday we give thanks for our mother the Church. And we remember all who know the joys and the challenges of motherhood; we give thanks for the lifegiving spirit of maternal love; but we remember those who live with the pain of childlessness; those who have watched their children suffer.

And we pray for ourselves and for one another, and we ask your blessing upon our life as a community of faith and as part of the family of Christ.

Heavenly Father, we ask for your blessing and guidance.

May your love surround us

May your wisdom inspire us

May your will direct us

May your strength sustain us

And may your holy angels guard, protect and defend us

In all that we do.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Merciful Father,

Accept these prayers

For the sake of your son,

Our saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen