

Intercessions for St Mary's Patronal Festival 6 Sept 2020 :( Luke 1: 46-55)

On this day when we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary, I have used the reading from Luke, Mary's hymn of praise, as a structure for our intercessions.

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, <sup>48</sup>for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.'

- We pray for all Christians, for St Mary's church here in Baldock on our patronal festival. Strengthen our faith Lord, in your love for each one of us. Help us turn to you in moments of joy as well as sadness. May we be humble enough to listen to your will and excited enough to proclaim your presence in our lives so that others may be inspired to follow and serve you also.
- Lord in your mercy
- **Hear our prayer**

*"Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;*

<sup>49</sup> *for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."*

- Loving God, we pray for all leaders for their actions to be inspired by your values of love, faithfulness, compassion and equity. May those in authority serve the common good, rule justly and work for peace at all levels. Help Christians in public roles have the courage to acknowledge your power and grace. We pray for Queen Elizabeth who openly acknowledges your guidance in her life.
- Lord in your mercy
- **Hear our prayer**

<sup>50</sup> *His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation."*

- Merciful Lord, bring wholeness, comfort and healing to all those who suffer in any way today. For those in hospital, awaiting test results or operations and those who are affected in any way by COVID 19 throughout the world. May they know your loving presence with them and be strengthened to face life day to day.
- Pew sheet names
- As we remember those generations who have gone before us, may we be sure in the knowledge that those we love but see no longer are safe with you in the kingdom of heaven, where one day we too will be made whole again through your love.
- We pray for Graham Chalkley, for his family and friends who mourn him and at the anniversary of their deaths we remember (pew sheet names).
- Lord in your mercy
- **Hear our prayer**

<sup>51</sup> *He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;"*

- Faithful Lord, Your way is the truth..... We pray for those who follow you and stand up against injustice. Help us all to take steps to live more simply, less wastefully and use the earth's resources with more care to preserve what we, the human race, have not yet destroyed. Open our eyes and hearts to the most vulnerable in society, the victims of climate change and exploitation and guide us to do what we can to let the earth and all its people breathe and survive in harmony as you would wish. Change the hearts of self-centred rulers and give them hearts of inclusion, humility and generosity.
- Lord in your mercy
- **Hear our prayer**

<sup>53</sup> *he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty."*

- We pray for the most needy in the world: children, the people of the Yemen, refugees, innocent victims of world where money and status is the driving force over compassion and love, the homeless, those using Foodbanks, those persecuted for their faith or their gender or their social standing. Protect them all oh Lord and may you fill them with your courage, love and the hope that their lives will be transformed when they encounter you,

O Lord. transform the rich and powerful to receive your grace and to share what riches they have.

- Lord in your mercy
- **Hear our prayer**

<sup>54</sup> *He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy,* <sup>55</sup> *according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.”*

- May the Christian church flourish and grow, with your power from on high.
- You love us unconditionally Lord. Help us respond to your love and share your good news with others.

Merciful Father

Accept these prayers

For the sake of your Son

our Saviour, Jesus Christ

Amen

Katrina Nice 6.9.20