

SAFFRON WALDEN AND VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY

HYMNS AND PRAYERS FOR JULY 2021

This prayer sheet may be especially helpful for those praying at home during Coronavirus restrictions. It covers Sundays in July, with readings and suggested hymns for each week. The text of the readings is given in the Grapevine, which will be sent round each week. We hope that this sheet will continue to connect you to the rhythm of our worship together.

You might like to light a candle, symbolising Jesus as the Light of the World: and to say the prayers and readings out loud. Remember that even if you are by yourself at home, you are still part of God's Church, praying across the world. In the Church's year, we are in what is known as 'ordinary time', with green vestments and church hangings. Yet this year as never before we know that no time can be deemed 'ordinary'. As circumstances change, we bring to God our concerns for ourselves and our world, trusting that he holds us in his love.

Introduction

We gather together, united in purpose though separate in place, in the name of God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

We say together an opening hymn: see pages 5- 10

The Lord is here. **His Spirit is with us.**

We have come together as the family of God in this community.
Help us to pray to you in faith, to sing your praise with gratitude, and to listen to your word with eagerness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

The Spirit of the Lord fills the world, and knows our every word and deed.

Let us then open ourselves to the Lord
and confess our sins in penitence and faith.

We have not always worshipped God, our creator

Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour

Christ, have mercy **Christ, have mercy.**

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.

Lord, have mercy **Lord, have mercy.**

Hearing God's forgiveness

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

As God's forgiven people, we say

Thanks be to God for his endless grace.

Readings *We now follow the readings on the Grapevine:*
Collect (the special prayer for each Sunday)

4 July: 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10; Mark 6: 1-13 (*as Grapevine*)

11 July: Ephesians 1: 3-14; Mark 6: 14-29 (*as Grapevine*)

18 July: Ephesians 2: 11-22; Mark 6: 3—34,53-56 (*as Grapevine*)

25 July: Ephesians 3: 14-21; John 6: 1-21 (*as Grapevine*)

Reflection *You may wish to read the Reflection on the Grapevine, and think what these readings have to say for you in your own life this week.*

We declare our faith together

We believe and trust in God the Father,

from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son,

who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,

who strengthens us with power from on high.

This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God;

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

You may like to base your own prayers around the themes below: feel free to expand and to use your own words

Lord our God, we thank you for the fellowship that we enjoy in the Church, and ask that you will empower us through your Spirit to show forth your love in the town and villages where we live and work.

We pray for our Bishops, and for all in this Diocese who have recently been ordained, or whom you are calling to new roles and responsibilities.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

As we think of the countries of the world, we pray for our own Government faced with the responsibility of making decisions that seek to balance safety with freedom. We also hold up to you the needs of those living under regimes where there is little freedom, and those facing the threat of COVID with minimal health care.

You may wish to pray for places or situations in the news this week.....

May those who lead put self interest and political advantage to one side in a true desire to serve their people.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We pray for our communities and for all those known to us who are in any sort of need or distress. As schools break up for the summer, we ask that teachers may be refreshed through the summer holidays and that children may enjoy time spent with family, whether at home or away.

At this time we pray especially for mental health services for children and young people, stretched now to the limit, and for all who wait for help or treatment.

You may wish to name individuals known to you who are in need.....

Father, you are the source of true health and wholeness. May all those for whom we pray know your comfort and peace, and be given strength to face their difficulties.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

We remember now all those whom we have loved and see no more, commending them to his loving care, and knowing that in His love, we remain close to them, now and always.

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer

In a moment of silence, offer to God any other needs on your heart.

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

Sharing God's Peace

We are the body of Christ.

In the one Spirit we were all baptised into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

As you say this, hold in your mind all who are joining in these prayers today.

The Lord's Prayer *Let us pray together as Jesus has taught us*
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

We ask God's grace for the week ahead

Heavenly Father, sustain us in our joys and in our anxieties. Enfold us in your peace in our waking and in our sleeping, and may we know your presence with us now and always: in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We say (or sing!) a final hymn: see pages 5 - 10

May God give to you and to all those you love his comfort and his peace, his light and his joy, in this world and the next; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us all now and evermore. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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SUGGESTED HYMNS

Sunday 4 July (Trinity 5)

King of glory, King of peace
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my appeal
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my ardent zeal,
thou hast spared me.

Wherefore with my utmost art,
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me,
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise thee;
In my heart, though not in heav'n,
I can raise thee.
Smaill it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.

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Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear on ev'ry page;
our forebears owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten
to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in ev'ry deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Through many a day of darkness,
through many a scene of strife,
the faithful few fought bravely
to guard the nation's life.
Their gospel of redemption,
sin pardoned, hope restored,
was all in this enfolded:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

They mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the vict'ry shall be won;
and then by all creation,
thy name shall be adored.
And this shall be their anthem:
One Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Sunday 11 July (Trinity 6)

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing ev'ry blessing,
if our God our Father be.

Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us:
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heav'nly joy,
love with ev'ry passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

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Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
whose trust, ever childlike, no cares could destroy,
be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
be there at our labours, and give us, we pray,
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Sunday 18 July (Trinity 7)

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways!
Reclothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence praise.
in deeper reverence praise.

In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.
rise up and follow thee.

O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!
interpreted by love!

Drop thy still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the stain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of thy peace.
the beauty of thy peace.

Breathe through the heats of our desires
thy coolness and thy balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake wind and fire,
O still small voice of calm.
O still small voice of calm.

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City of God, how broad and far
outspread thy walls sublime!
Thy free and loyal people are
of ev'ry age and clime.

One holy Church, one mighty throng,
one steadfast, high intent;
one working band, one harvest-song,
one King omnipotent.

How purely hath thy speech come down
from earth's primeval youth!
How grandly hath thine empire grown
of freedom, love, and truth!

How gleam thy watch-fires through the night
with never-fainting ray!
How rise thy tow'rs, serene and bright,
to meet the dawning day!

In vain the surge's angry shock,
in vain the drifting sands;
unharm'd upon th'eternal Rock
th'eternal city stands.

Sunday 25 July (Trinity 8)

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The heav'ns are not too high,
his praise my thither fly;
the earth is not too low,
his praises there may grow.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!
The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out;
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,
my God and King!

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How shall I sing that majesty
which angels do admire?
Let dust in dust and silence lie;
sing, sing, ye heav'nly choir.
Thousands of thousands stand
around thy throne, O God, most high;
ten thousand times ten thousand sound
thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,
whilst I thy footsteps trace;
a sound of God comes to my ears,
but they behold thy face.
They sing because thou art their Sun;
Lord, send a beam on me;
for where heav'n is but once begun
there alleluias be.

How great a being, Lord, is thine,
which doth all beings keep!
Thy knowledge is the only line
to sound so vast a deep.
Thou art a sea without a shore,
a sun without a sphere;
thy time is now and evermore,
thy place is ev'rywhere.