



Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Rickmansworth  
The Church of England and the Methodist Church in Partnership

# Intercessions by Season

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The prayers include petitions for the world, the Church,  
the local community, the sick and those who have died.

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## Advent

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In joyful expectation of his coming to reign  
we pray to our Lord, saying,  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**All**     **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your world as King of the nations.  
We pray for...  
Before you rulers will stand in silence.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**All**     **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your Church as Lord and Judge.  
We pray for...  
Help us to live in the light of your coming  
and give us a longing to do your will.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**All**     **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your people as Saviour and bearer of pain.  
We pray for...  
Enfold us all in your love and mercy, wipe away the tears of failure, fear and  
distress, and set us free to serve you for ever.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**All**     **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us from heaven with power and great glory,  
and lift us up to meet you, where with all your saints and angels,  
we will live with you for ever.  
Come, Lord Jesus.

**All**     **Come, Lord Jesus.**

Merciful Father,

**All**     **accept these prayers, for the sake of your son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

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# Christmas

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Let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, come to your people.  
**All In your mercy set us free.**

Searched for, Christ comes.

To the wise and powerful, star-led to Bethlehem, seeking a king,  
he comes, child of Mary, crowned with meekness, worthy of every gift.

*Silence*

Loving God, we pray for the leaders of the world ...  
Guide them with your light to seek wisdom, justice and peace.

Lord, come to your people.  
**All In your mercy set us free.**

Longed for, Christ comes.

To Anna and Simeon, whose days are lived in faithful expectation,  
he comes, a new life to the old, a living prophecy of hope.

*Silence*

Loving God, we pray for the Church in all the world...  
Unite us by your Spirit, and make us faithful witnesses to the hope we have in you.

Lord, come to your people.  
**All In your mercy set us free.**

Prayed for, Christ comes.

To men and women, girls and boys, crying out in darkness, pain and loneliness,  
he comes, at one with us, our Saviour, healer and friend.

*Silence*

Loving God, we pray for those whose lives are hard and painful or whose existence  
is sorrowful, bitter or empty...  
In their need, may they know your healing touch,  
reaching out to comfort, strengthen and restore.

Lord, come to your people.  
**All In your mercy set us free.**

Unlooked for and searched for, longed for and prayed for,  
loving God, you come to us now as you have come to your people in every age.

We thank you for all who have reflected the light of Christ.

Help us to follow their example and bring us with them to eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All**     **Amen.**

*If another form is used, the prayers may end with the following words*

Merciful Father,

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

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# Epiphany

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Let us worship the Saviour with joy  
and make our prayer to our heavenly Father.  
The Magi came from the east to worship your Son:  
Father, grant to Christians everywhere the spirit of adoration...

**All** Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The infant Christ received gifts of gold, incense and myrrh:  
Father, accept the offering of our hearts and minds.

**All** Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The kingdoms of this world have become  
the kingdom of our God and of his Christ:  
Father, grant an abundance of peace to your world ...

**All** Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death:  
Father, look in mercy on all who are poor and powerless,  
and all who suffer ...

**All** Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

Your Son shared the life of his home and family at Nazareth:  
Father, protect in your love our neighbours,  
our families and this community of which we are a part ...

**All** Lord of glory,  
**hear our prayer.**

Father, we rejoice in our fellowship with the shepherds, the angels, the magi, the  
Virgin Mary, Saint Joseph and all the faithful departed,  
In your unfailing love for us and for all people,  
hear and answer our prayers through your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**All** **Amen.**

*If another form is used, either of these responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy      or      Lord, hear us  
**All**    **hear our prayer.**      **All**    **Lord, graciously hear us.**

The prayers may conclude with the following words

Merciful Father,

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

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## Lent

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Let us pray for the Church of God throughout the world, for...

Lord, hear us.

**All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for those who have power and influence and for all who govern the nations, for...

Lord, hear us.

**All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for the powerless, for all victims of famine and war, and for all who strive for justice and peace, for...

Lord, hear us.

**All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us pray for the afflicted and sorrowful and for all who need our prayers, for...

Lord, hear us.

**All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Let us remember before God those who have passed from this life in faith and obedience, (giving thanks for... )

Lord, hear us.

**All** **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Eternal God, through the self-offering of your Son you have filled our lives with your presence. Help us in our sufferings and trials and strengthen us in our weakness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

*If another form is used, this response, or another, may be used:*

Lord, in your mercy

**All** **hear our prayer.**

*The prayers may conclude with the following words:*

Merciful Father,

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

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## Easter

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In the power of the resurrection we offer our prayers to God.  
Let us pray.

Remember, O Lord, in your love  
the Church throughout the world  
those recently baptised and confirmed  
those who minister to others

*Silence*

May your whole Church know your power  
and be a sign that Christ is risen.

Lord of life,  
**All** **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love the world you have made  
those who seek a fair and proper use of the world's resources  
those who strive for justice and peace among the nations

*Silence*

May the whole earth be transformed by mercy  
and rejoice in hope.

Lord of life,  
**All** **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love those who suffer  
the victims of violence and injustice  
those who mourn

*Silence*

May all in need find comfort, strength  
and freedom in the living Christ.

Lord of life,  
**All** **hear us in your love.**

Remember in your love those who have died:  
those who have confessed the faith  
and those whose faith is known to you alone.

*Silence*

May all your children receive grace and light according to their needs and come at  
last to share with all the saints in life eternal.

Lord of life,  
**All** **hear us in your love.**

Gracious God,  
we ask these prayers through Jesus Christ,  
our risen Lord and Saviour.

**All Amen.**

*If another form is used, either of these responses may be used*

Lord, in your mercy      or      Lord, hear us  
**All hear our prayer.      All Lord, graciously hear us.**

*The prayers may conclude with the following words*

Merciful Father,

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

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## Pentecost

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Gracious God, whose Spirit helps us in our weakness  
and guides us in our prayers,  
we pray for the Church and for the world  
in the name of Jesus Christ.

Renew the life and faith of the Church;  
strengthen our witness;  
and make us one in Christ...

*Silence is kept*

Grant that we and all who confess that Christ is Lord  
may be faithful in your service and filled with the Spirit,  
that the world may be turned to you.

**All** Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Guide the nations in the ways of justice, liberty and peace;  
and help them to seek the unity and welfare of all people...

*Silence is kept*

Give to all in authority  
wisdom to know and strength to do what is right.

**All** Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Comfort those in sorrow;  
heal the sick in body or in mind and deliver the oppressed...

*Silence is kept*

Grant us compassion for all who suffer,  
and help us so to carry one another's burdens  
that we may fulfil the law of Christ.

**All** Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our thanks and praise  
for all who have served you faithfully here on earth,  
and especially those who have revealed to us  
your grace in Christ...

*Silence is kept*

**All** Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

May we and all your people share the life and joy of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All**     **Amen.**

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## Ordinary Time

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One of these responses may be used, or another

Lord, in your mercy      or      Lord, hear us  
**All      hear our prayer.      All      Lord, graciously hear us.**

Merciful Father,

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