

INTERCESSIONS – HOLMBURY ST MARY 25 OCTOBER 2020

For this Bible Sunday, the response to “Lord, hear us” is “Lord, graciously hear us.” At the end we have the familiar words beginning “Merciful Father...”

So let us pray in thanksgiving for the scriptures, and in intercession for the Church and the world. Lord, hear us...

Word that was in the beginning, your words will never pass away. Your word is our choice. Do not let us stray from your commandments. Give us understanding, for your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Lord, hear us...

We thank you for those who, inspired by your Spirit, wrote down the scriptures, those who have translated the Bible into countless languages down the years, and those whose scholarship continues to show that – in the words spoken to the Pilgrim Fathers as they set out 400 years ago - you have more light and truth yet to break forth out of your holy word. Lord, hear us...

We pray for your Church throughout the world, for its witness and unity, and for its leaders near and far. Give your whole church and every one of us the strength and determination to declare and demonstrate the good news. Lord, hear us...

We pray too for the leaders of the nations near and far. Your word is sharper than any two-edged sword. May they take notice by pursuing that which makes for peace and builds up the common good. In these disturbing times, we think of all the students trying to catch up with their studies and make do with distance learning.

“The babes in Christ the scriptures feed with milk sufficient for their need, the nurture of the Lord. Beneath life’s burden and its heat the fully grown find stronger meat in your unfailing word.”

Lord, hear us...

Lord, hear our prayer for everyone who is ill, bereft, stuck indoors, or wondering what happens next. And we remember in your presence those who have died...[pause]..... Word of mercy, giving succour to the living; Word of life, supplying comfort to the dying. Bring us all in your good time to that place where those holy angels bright are ever singing. Lord, hear us...

So hear us, we humble pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray: let there be light.

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