

Prayers, 7/3/2021 3rd of Lent

When I say **Lord, hear us**, please respond ***Lord, graciously hear us.***

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

Lord, we come to you in the assurance that you are present with us now.

Grant us, Lord God, a vision of our world as your love would make it:

- a world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry;
- a world where the benefits of civilised life are shared, and everyone can enjoy them;
- a world where nature is respected and resources are shared and renewed;
- a world where different races, tribes and cultures live in tolerance and mutual respect;
- a world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love.

And give us the inspiration and courage to build it, through the power of your Spirit.

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

With joy, we give you thanks for the work and inspiration of David, Martha and Virginia and for the tireless work of our churchwardens. Be near them when they call upon you for guidance. We thank you, too, for the gifts and generosity of Suzette Jones, who is leading our weekly Christian Mindfulness sessions throughout Lent. Encourage our faith and enrich all who participate in church services - in church and online - and in our Lent discussions and meditations. Enable all who participate to develop their faith and support each other through discussion, fellowship, prayer and action.

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

We pray for staff, students and families everywhere, as schools re-open tomorrow, after this long and difficult period of lockdown. Be close to the staff and pupils at the Surrey Hills All Saints School as they look forward to the arrival of their new Headteacher, Simon Coles, who will join them after Easter. Be close to Simon as he prepares to take up this vital role in the life and future of the school.

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

Bring courage and hope to all who suffer at this time – to those who are sick and those who mourn. We hold Prince Philip in our prayers this morning as he recovers in hospital.

In a moment of quiet, we pray for those known personally to us who are suffering at this time. [PAUSE] We ask you to give them your strength; be close to them.

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

Lord, as we reflect upon your unbounding love for us, and your rejoicing when we turn again to you after we have lost our way, help us to see more clearly the path that leads our lives to follow you.

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