

Intercessions for 20 October 2024

21st Sunday after Trinity / Healthcare Sunday (Christian Medical Fellowship)

Almighty God and Father, help us to be still in your presence, that we may know ourselves to be your people, and you to be our God.

Let us focus our prayers on the importance of health and healing in our personal lives, our community and wider in society.

Lord Jesus Christ, bless all whom you have called to share in your own ministry of healing: doctors, nurses, and all who work to sustain and improve our health. Give them sympathy, skill, understanding and compassion, and an ever deepening understanding of their task. Enable them to do their work in dependence on your grace and for the promotion of your glory.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

In our own community we pray, Lord, for the work of the local healthcare services, especially for the general practice surgeries in Shere and Dorking, for the hospitals in Guildford and Reigate, and for all other healthcare services that serve our community. We give thanks for and ask for your blessing on all who work for them.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Prince of peace, in our restless and violent world the work of healthcare workers is too often focussed on those who are sick, injured or bereaved as a result of war. We especially ask your blessing on those many skilled doctors working far from home in war-torn countries, caring for the sick and wounded, and sharing their skills and knowledge with local people. We give thanks for the work of the many charities active in this area, including the David Nott Foundation and Doctors Without Borders.

We recognise, Lord, our good fortune in having access to health services in this country that are not available in many countries around the world, especially for the poor. We give thanks for the work of many institutions, such as the Christian Medical College, Vellore, for their mission to provide healthcare for the poorest in society.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Merciful God, we ask you to comfort all who are sick in body, mind or spirit. We especially pray for all who are suffering from chronic, life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses for which there is currently no certain cure. We give thanks for the work of all involved in medical research, especially those seeking treatments for cancers, for dementia, and for degenerative diseases. We give thanks too for all those who provide end-of-life care to those coming to the end of their lives. Let us pause for a moment to remember those known to us personally who are in need of healing of any kind...

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer

Finally, Lord, we pray for ourselves, that we may give thanks for good health while we are blessed with it, and that, when our time comes, we will be given the grace to meet our end with fortitude, and gratitude for the gift of the life that we have enjoyed.

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