

## PRAYERS – SUNDAY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY

Below are some prayer points you can use, whether you are alone, as a couple, or with your family. Feel free to add to them as you wish.

Or, of course, you can also come up with your own prayers.

Alternatively, you can use the full responsive prayer further below.

If there are several of you together you may wish to share the prayers. After each part the person praying may like to say; *Lord, in your mercy*, to which everyone else responds; **Hear our prayer**.

- Praise God for the love He shows to us each day. Thank God for giving us people who care for us, including our mothers. Ask God to help all those whose role it is to care for us and protect us.
- Pray for our leaders, at all levels of government. Pray for discernment in these times that they make decisions which are for the good of all.
- Pray for those people, and those parts of our world, which are not coping well with this pandemic. Pray that all people everywhere might have concern and care for one another and a desire to help each other through these times.
- Ask God to continue to be with all those who are grieving. Pray for Cecile, Bronwyn and Irene, and their families, who continue to mourn the loss of their husbands and fathers. Thank God for the peace and comfort in knowing these men are now with Him, but pray for those who continue to adjust in their lives here on earth.
- Thank God for all we have to be thankful for (take some time consider and list things off here). Ask God to help us to focus more on what we have than on what we don't have.

### **A Responsive Prayer**

Jesus said, 'Do not let your hearts be troubled.' Let us come to our heavenly Father with all our troubles and concerns, and pray for the church and the world.

Lord, be with your whole church on earth, and the church in this country. Keep it faithful, and let your message of forgiveness through Christ be heard and believed.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Be with our synod and its leaders. We commend to you our Bishop, John Henderson, our District Bishop, Paul Smith, and all our District Bishops. Uphold them in their office with true faith and a godly life.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Bless our country, Australia, and help those in authority to strive for harmony, honesty and justice. Remember our Queen, Elizabeth, our Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, our Premier, Annastacia Palaszczuk (QLD)/ Gladys Berejiklian (NSW), those in our local government, and all who maintain law and order.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Guide our industry, our education, our arts, culture and leisure activities, our mass media, our science and technology. Be with the unemployed and the overworked, the sick and the aged, the poor, the needy and the lonely.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Protect our nation from hatred and violence, from arrogance, discord and confusion, and from all evil. Bring unity among the different peoples of our land: the Indigenous and the non-Indigenous people; those born here and those from overseas; the rich and the poor. Be with those who are in any way struggling with the effects of the current pandemic; health, social, financial, emotional.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Thank you for mothers, especially those who care for and nurture their children in the way You intended. Where possible, heal relationships between mothers and their children which are not good. Be with those who have lost their mothers, and those women for whom motherhood has been an unfilled desire.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Help us to care for the land and protect its fragile environment, so that the blessings you give can be passed on to future generations.

Lord in your mercy: **Hear our prayer**

Thank you, Father, that you hear us and care for us in all our needs. Open our eyes that we may see you in your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**