

The Lord's Prayer *Let us pray together as Jesus has taught us*
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

We ask God's grace for the week ahead

Heavenly Father, sustain us in our joys and in our anxieties. Enfold us in your peace in our waking and in our sleeping, and may we know your presence with us now and always: in the name of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

We say (or sing!) a final hymn:

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of Glory, pure Father of light
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render, O help us to see:
'Tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit, be with us all now and evermore: and may we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

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SAFFRON WALDEN AND VILLAGES TEAM MINISTRY
PRAYERS FOR SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2020 (TRINITY)

Since Advent, the Church has followed the life of Jesus from God's promise to send his Son to us, through his birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension to heaven, and last week gave thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Today we celebrate the wonderful and mysterious nature of the Trinity – God, being both Three in One and One in Three, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. You might like to light a candle at home while you use this leaflet, symbolising Jesus as the Light of the World: and to say the prayers and readings out loud.

Introduction

We gather together, united in purpose though separate in place, in the name of God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

*We say together (or why not **sing!**) an opening hymn:*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

The Lord is here.

His Spirit is with us.

We have come together as the family of God in this community. And especially today we praise you, one God in three Persons, for revealing yourself to us as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Help us to pray to you in faith, to sing your praise with gratitude, and to listen to your word with eagerness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers of Penitence

God our Father forgives us in Christ and heals us by the Holy Spirit. Let us put away all anger and malice, and confess our sins to God our redeemer.

Father, you come to meet us when we return to you
Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Jesus, you died on the cross for our sins.
Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Spirit, you give us love and peace.
Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

Hearing God's forgiveness

May the God of love and power forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by his Spirit, and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Gloria *As God's forgiven people, we say together in thanksgiving*
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Readings *We now follow the readings on the Grapevine:*

Collect (the special prayer for today)

First Reading: Isaiah Chapter 40, verses 12-19 and 27-31

Gospel reading: St Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 28, verses 16-20

Reflection *If you are using this prayer sheet privately, you may wish to read the Reflection on the Grapevine. In a moment of quiet, think what message this may have for you, and ask God to help you live it out in your life this week.*

We declare our faith together

**We believe and trust in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.
This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Father of heaven, whose love profound a ransom for our souls has found: we pray for the world, created by your love, and for its nations and governments. Give them wisdom, integrity, and courage to make just decisions for their people.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**
Almighty Son, incarnate Word, our Prophet, Priest, Redeemer, Lord: we pray for the Church, created for your glory, and for its ministry to reflect your love for all. Inspire all who work to comfort and support others, whether family, friend or stranger. We pray especially for all hospital staff and carers combating the virus, all those working to find a vaccine and a cure, and all key workers and volunteers: and we pray for teachers and students as schools reopen.

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer**
Eternal Spirit, by whose breath our souls are raised from sin and death: we pray for families and individuals, created in your image: for the lonely, the bereaved, the sick and the dying. We hold before you especially those on our own hearts
..... Breathe on them the breath of life, and enfold them in your comfort.

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

And we pray for the process to choose a new Bishop of Chelmsford
God of provision and care, discernment and knowledge: lead us in your love, empower us by your Spirit, and equip us with your gifts; give us hearts full of love for all people, minds open to the signs of the times, and wisdom to know how to respond to the voice of your calling. We ask this through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

In a moment of silence, offer to God any other needs on your heart.
Merciful God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, accept these prayers, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.

Sharing God's Peace

Peace to you from God our heavenly Father. Peace from his Son Jesus Christ, who is our peace. Peace from the Holy Spirit, the life-giver.
The peace of the triune God be always with you. **And also with you.**
As you say this, hold in your mind all who are joining in these prayers today.

If you are joining the Eucharist celebrated live via Zoom, do follow the priest saying the Eucharistic prayer, with the standard responses. While only the priest can physically receive the consecrated bread and wine, all will be invited to say this prayer of Spiritual Communion, inviting Jesus to enter your deepest being.

**My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**