

Intercessions for the Presentation of Christ or Candlemas - February 2nd 2025

Faithful God, we thank you for the example of Simeon and Anna, and their faithful service and witness, for their patient waiting for Christ to be revealed. Help us to serve you faithfully and patiently, watching for you to be revealed in our own lives.

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Holy God, as we remember the older and retired people in our churches, we give you thanks for all that they do in our Sunday worship, in our church fellowship and in our communities. Send your Holy Spirit to inspire them to use and share their life experiences with wisdom, humility and gladness.

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

and unity, and for all world leaders that they will continue to seek for an end to the suffering caused by war and violence, injustice and inequality, disease and prejudice, poverty and hopelessness and bring healing to the world. We pray especially for those fighting terrorism throughout the world and for peace in the Ukraine and Holy Land.

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for our Church communities, that each of us will might make use of our individual talents enabling each church group to flourish as a witness to the "One Body" of the church. Help us to spread the warmth of your love to everyone we meet.

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Gracious God, we pray for the work and service of all care homes and day centres for elderly and sick people, and for the charity organisations and shops who raise money to help. We pray for all finding their life painful, lonely or uncertain, especially those who are ill or vulnerable. Help them to sense your comfort in times of need and bless their families and carers.

(add the names of those requesting our prayers)

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Merciful Lord, your love reaches beyond the grave. At the end of our days on earth be with us and with those we love. May those who have gone before us rest in your eternal peace. We remember before you those who have died and we pray for all whose life is saddened by the death of a loved one, be with them in their loneliness.

(add names of the recently departed or on Anniversary list)

(Short Silence) Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

Everlasting God, we pray for ourselves; as we go from this church today to start the week ahead, we ask that in all we do, we may we walk more closely with you at our side safe in the knowledge that your fatherly love and care knows no bounds.

(Short Silence) Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen**