

Sunday 1 November – All Saints Day

Prayers written by Wendy Borgartz

Let us pray for the church, all the world and all the saints.

O God, our Heavenly Father: we thank you today for calling us your saints. Despite our unholy lives, you look at us and see Jesus' perfect life and death covering our lives. Thank you, Father.

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

Thank you, Lord, for every Christian who has helped us on our journey and encouraged us to keep believing when we felt like giving up. Thank you for all those who taught us the faith. Thank you for those who made the ultimate sacrifice of their lives to ensure others could hear of your love in Christ.

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

Father, we pray for your healing hands of comfort for all those who are suffering today in body, mind or spirit. From our community we lift to you Sarah, Jean, Graham, Faheem and Owen and those known to each of us individually or to You alone....

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

We remember the saints in heaven. Thank you for releasing them from the burden of sin and death in this life and for keeping your promise to them. We pray for all who are mourning the loss of a loved one and especially think of the family and friends of Sally Hunt. From our memorial book we give thanks for the life of Joanne South, and we remember all those we have loved and see no more....

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

We pray for your church on earth, that it may remain faithful to the apostles' teaching and that it will strive for unity. We pray for all Christians, especially those under persecution, that they may imitate the martyrs in bold witness to the gospel. We pray for those who are not yet part of your church and for those who have left it, asking your Spirit to convince them of your love for them in Jesus.

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

Bring peace to those nations in conflict and where there is political instability. Protect those who are poor and hungry and give them hope. Move those with plenty to share with those who have little. Help all people to love their neighbour as themselves.

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

God of life, we give thanks for the love you have shown to the world through all your saints. We look forward to being part of the crowd around your throne in heaven on the last day. In the meantime, keep us looking to Jesus and help us to keep giving a clear witness to him, living the holy lives you have called us to live by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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