

## Prayers for 2<sup>nd</sup> August

In the press of life, in all our needs and concerns, hopes and fears, let us draw close to God and pray to know his presence and hear his word.

Lord, you know how complex the world of your creation is and how concerning we find it, as we hear and read of so many things that are out of kilter both close to home and across the globe. Help us, even as we pray for those people and those places now, to see also your good purposes for them and to trust you for their futures:

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are busier than they can bear, who hold huge responsibility, who make choices with far-reaching consequences. We pray for our Queen and for those in government both nationally and locally; we pray for those who lead our churches and our businesses; we pray for those who seek to hold their families together and find safety and food.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are particularly affected by the Covid-19 crisis, both those who are suffering and those who care for them, for those who are going out and those who must stay at home. Grant all of us wisdom to the best we can, and peace in our anxieties.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the grace to be able to stop when we need to and turn to you, and for those for whom that is not easy, because of circumstance or temperament. We pray for grace to hear the prompting of the Spirit to teach us the time and show us the way.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the grace to see the spaces and places where we can find respite from the relentless pressures of the world, and enter into them, whether by going away or in the chapels of our hearts and homes. We give thanks for those whose provision and prayers, support and understanding can make this possible.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for the grace to stay by your feet and listen for your word; to receive it gladly and consider it carefully. We pray for the grace to give ourselves anew to you in service and in love, and to be co-workers with you for your kingdom that is to come.

Lord of the Church, hear our prayer, and make us one in heart and mind to serve you with joy for ever. Amen.