

Prayers for 4th October, 17th Sunday after Trinity

As we prepare to pray, let us still our minds and perhaps meditate for a while on these words:

The 'wise' are those who are willing to adapt their patterns of thought and life to this complex world, rather than attempting to force the world to conform to their preconceived ideas. Wisdom demands that we respect and actively embrace a deep mystery, something that transcends the boundaries of human comprehension.*

Father God we come to you in prayer, knowing that there is so much about the world in which we live, that we do not understand. We come to you in humility to place into your hands our concerns for ourselves, those we love, our circle of friends and neighbours and for those more distant from us. Hear us as we come to you.

We pray for the church throughout the world, thinking of those with whom we normally worship, those who worship in other churches of our team, the Diocese and further afield. In a world of uncertainty may the church be a place of safety and hope; a place where your love for the whole of creation is made known and can be found. Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

Father God, we pray for peace in the world. Peace between nations and peace within nations. We pray for those in positions of leadership that they may seek wisdom and justice and serve those in their charge to the best of their ability. Lord in your mercy... **Hear our prayer**

We pray for the community in which we live and for all who seek to build a sense of community and purpose for those living here. We pray for all in our schools and places of learning, for our local council, for all who attend to our needs in businesses and in hospitals and surgeries and in the care homes. Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

We pray for those who are in any kind of need whether in body, mind or spirit. We pray for those whom we love, those whom we count as friends and those living in our community but who we do not know. Father God we pray for them, that you will bring to them healing and peace.

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

Eternal God we give thanks for the gift of life and bring before you those who have died. May they rest in peace and rise in glory. We pray for those who mourn, that they will be comforted in their distress and sadness and know in their hearts your promise of life and love which transcends time and place and binds us all together. Lord in your mercy...**Hear our prayer**

*From 'Through a glass darkly' by Alister McGrath 2020.