

**SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 - PRAYER OF THE CHURCH- LENT 2A**

*God called Abraham to follow him and promised him a son through whom blessing would come to all nations. Let us pray for the people of every nation, that God would bless them through Jesus Christ his Son and through his word in the Holy Scriptures.*

Heavenly Father: thank you that Jesus was obedient to your word in every respect and that he lived a perfect life for us. Forgive us our neglect of your word and the prayers it contains. Renew in us regular and faithful use of the psalms, and bring us to glorify you for your wonderful creation.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for the nations of the world, that they may receive the blessing of peace and prosperity. Help all people value the world you have made and use it responsibly.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Watch over all travellers, exiles and refugees. Guide them to a home they can call their own.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Thank you for moving people to enquire into the Christian faith. Make our witness effective, and work saving faith through your word. Bless all parents who are preparing for the baptism of a child and help their sponsors to be a good example of the Christian life.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Give true knowledge and firm faith to those who preach and teach your word. Help them love those they teach and give them the skills they need.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Comfort those who mourn and support and strengthen all who are sick and injured, or in other need, including *(insert name(s) here)* and others known to us and whom we now name in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Father, you justified Abraham because he believed your promise. Grant that all may believe in your Son, Jesus Christ, so that they may not come into judgment, but receive life, forgiveness, and salvation through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**