PRAYERS FOR CHURCH Sunday 23rd MAY 2021

Come down O love divine, seek thou this soul of mine and visit it with thine own ardour glowing. On this Pentecost Sunday, may we be filled with your love and enthused by your Spirit to share that love with all we meet in this coming week.

Intercessor: Joan Thomson

Let us pray. To the words: Come, Holy Spirit Please reply: Holy Spirit come

Lord Jesus we ask for a fresh breath of life and power in each church community which breaks down our barriers and fills us with your love. We ask you to bless and guide all leaders of nations and peoples throughout the world. We pray for Kevin our Bishop, Dom our Rector and Kevin our lay reader as they care for us in your name. Make us a church here at St Michaels where people will find new life and hope. Make us attractive as a church through the love and joy which spill out naturally from our faith and the way we live our lives. Silence Come, Holy Spirit - Holy Spirit come.

We pray for the grace to see this world and its needs and problems through the eyes of love, hope, justice and mercy; for the grace to abandon prejudice and build bridges of reconciliation. We think especially of Israel and Palestine, Myanmar and India and all countries where there is war, famine or discord. *Silence*

Come, Holy Spirit - Holy Spirit come.

We pray for the spirit of loving kindness to fill our homes and places of work; for family rifts to be healed and long-standing conflicts resolved. We pray for all those who fear the future; all who are struggling with poverty or hunger of the fear of losing their home. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control are the results of seeds sown daily by the Spirit in our lives. Each day in some small way, may we nurture those seeds within us so that we will show the fruits of the Spirit in all situations. We pray for Rachel and Ben, married here last Friday, that their union in your eyes, may be a long and happy one. *Silence* **Come, Holy Spirit - Holy Spirit come.**

We pray for the restoration of those who are sick in wholeness and well-being; for courage and patience in all suffering and for good to come from every painful, destructive experience. Loving God, we remember and give thanks for all the faithful departed; Stewart Symons, Ernest Marsland, Geoffrey Walton and Bridget Robinson. May they rest in peace. We pray for recently bereaved families and the opportunity for us all to prepare carefully for meeting God face to face. *Silence*

Come, Holy Spirit - Holy Spirit come.

In Silence, we name before you those whose needs are our own particular concern.....

Lord, what we know not, teach us What we are not, make us What we dare not, inspire us to do.

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