**Intercessions All Saints Ashdon 14th February 2021 By Alan**

Almighty God, you promised to hear the prayers of those who pray in faith: hear our prayers now.

We pray for your Church in this area, in Saffron Walden and the Villages, and across the denominations, that we may indeed shine as a light, that others may glimpse something of you and have a window into hope in these difficult times. Help us to be open to your Holy Spirit and to work, with commitment and effort, at speaking and acting in ways that allow your presence to be seen in our small part of the world.

Lord in Your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

Inspire leaders of nations and leaders in industry, commerce and public life, to have a vision for the common good, and to prize compassion. Remind us that whereas at a time when under threat and pressure we might naturally look to our own interests, that you are a God of Love and Justice who set self-interest aside in these circumstances. Help us not to close down our perspective and look simply to our own interests, whether as nation or as individuals, but to look outward to the needs of others.

Lord in Your Mercy: **Hear our prayer**

We pray for individuals and communities both locally and much more widely across the world whose lives have been seriously impacted by the pandemic. We pray for those in refugee camps, in areas of conflict, and in extremes of poverty and oppression who have none of the resources of health care and the prospect of prevention of illness that we enjoy. We pray for and give thanks for those who work in these very difficult circumstances. Nearer to home we pray for children and young people who are suffering the loss of the natural development of relationships and whose hopes and vision for the future have become blurred and uncertain. We pray too for families in financial difficulty and for those who have lost employment. We give thanks for and ask for your strength and blessing on those who continue to work in circumstances where they are at risk themselves.

Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

We pray for those we know who need our prayers at this time, whether due to illness, distress, difficult home or personal circumstances, bereavement or other reason. We pray for Jeremy and Alison Trew and family as they move and settle into their new home in Saffron Walden. We pray for Wendy Nicolson who is in St Claire’s hospice and for her husband Andy, and pray for Ann Biderman of Ashdon who is unwell. We remember the family and friends of those who have recently died: Agnes Boreham, Reginald Howe, Jane Benson and John Lebus. In a moment of quiet we bring before you those in our own thoughts…….. May they all know your presence and peace.

Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our Prayer**

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