**Intercessions: All Saints Church Ashdon, 23rd May 2021 Prayers by Alan**

Holy Spirit, we are together here in this place, aware of God’s love for us as seen in Jesus Christ, and needing again the resources to live our lives well. Blow a wind of refreshment through our churches both here in Ashdon and around Saffron Walden; make us open and sensitive to your presence within us; give us the skill to detect your activity in the world around us; help us to attempt what we know to be good, sure of your power at hand to help us; and bring us the joy and fellowship of abiding in God.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Holy Spirit, send the wind and refining fire of your Spirit through the hearts and minds of leaders of nations to dispel all that is contrary to your will, and fill the void with compassion, inspiration and vision for a better world. Give insight and courage to those who work for peace and reconciliation. We pray particularly for Israel and the Palestinian people, for Myanmar, for the Yemen and for other parts of the world still living in fear of violence.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Holy Spirit, guide and give integrity to leaders of our nation; those in government, industry, commerce, finance and all walks of public life. We pray that they may fulfil their responsibilities with a view to the wellbeing of the whole community and our environment. Help us all to be mindful of the needs and situation of those beyond our shores, praying particularly for the prevention and relief of suffering from impact of the pandemic in India and other places poorly resourced. May the drawbridge of our island nation be one that is let down in hope and generosity, rather than hauled up in self-protection and self-interest.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Holy Spirit, we thank you that you are with us throughout our lives and in particular circumstances. We pray that you will be with Sam and Anna as they prepare for their marriage. We pray that you will give comfort and healing to those we know who are unwell, anxious, or in any kind of difficulty. We bring them to mind now and ask for your healing touch. *Pause.* We thank you too that your Spirit holds us in fellowship with those we see no more but remember for good and continue to entrust to you.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

Merciful Father

**Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, Amen**