

A Prayer for our Leaders in Parliament

Gracious God, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit to lead and to guide our members of parliament. Bless them with patience, humility, wisdom, and empathy as they consider the path ahead. Put on their hearts, dear Lord, the poor and the marginalized as they consider what steps would create the best future for all those who live in our lands. Remind our MPs of their duty to serve the interests of all their constituents, perhaps especially those whose voices are most often drowned out by the powerful and the privileged. Lord grant them ears to hear, wisdom to discern, and voices to speak truth. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

A Prayer for Unity in a Time of Political Division

Holy God who brought into being all the people of this earth: give us the grace to set aside our egos and opinions so that we can see your presence in the eyes of those with whom we disagree. Remove from our hearts all hatred, prejudice, and fear replacing them instead with love, empathy, and the peace that passes all understanding. Unite us, sovereign Lord, in our quest for a strong future for all in this nation and remind us, always, to be mindful of the needs of others. We pray these things in your Holy Name, Amen.

A Prayer for the Poor and Marginalised

Lord of Life, we come before you this day to raise up our siblings in Christ who are most vulnerable – the poor and the marginalised, the immigrants and refugees, the racial, ethnic, and religious minorities and all others who seek to call this place home despite being made to feel unwelcome or unloved. Wipe the scales from our eyes and help us to see all whom we encounter as your beloved children. Embolden us to use our voices to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves, and humble us to support them as allies, rather than appropriating their message, when they voice their truths. Holy One, ignite in us a passion for justice that constantly seeks to share the blessings of our lives with all whom we encounter. We ask this in the name of God who is Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier of us all. Amen.

A Litany for our Nation in the Lead up to Brexit

Leader: God of Light and of Darkness, today we offer to you our whole selves as we hold up the hopes and fears of our nation in this time of political unrest. Lord, we know that you are God and through you all things are possible: bring unity, strength, trust, and hope to all the people of this United Kingdom and to all the people of the European Union as our political leaders seek a path forward for all.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Holy One, you said, “the first shall be last and the last shall be first.” Remind our leaders of their duty to serve and to put the needs of all ahead of the wishes of the powerful few. We pray especially for: Boris, our Prime Minister; Nicola, our First Minister; Donald, the President of the European Council; Jean-Claude, the president of the European Commission; David-Maria, the President of the European Parliament; the House of Commons; the House of Lords; the Scottish Parliament; and all those in local government as they strive to work together to find agreement and to move forward.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Blessed Father, we are a United Kingdom of many nations – keep us mindful of the needs of all our citizens. We hold up before you especially those living in border counties in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland, those whose communities are ports of call on our coast lines, and all those whose lives and livelihood depend on the daily coming and going we have taken for granted for so long. Send your Holy Spirit to remain with them in this time of uncertainty and remind our leaders of the real impact that decisions will have on the lives of those living on our borders.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Generous Lord, there are many among us who are afraid. Calm our fears as you calmed the seas while on the boat with the disciples. Send us neighbours and friends who can support us and sympathise as we lay our uncertainty down at the foot of your cross.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Loving God, be with all those who rely on the state for vital assistance needed to survive. Remind our political leaders of their duty of care so that no person needs to go without. Open all of our eyes to organisations and not-for-profits that supplement provisions for the needy among us. Give us generous hearts that we might donate from our bounty to ensure our neighbours have all that they need.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Merciful Lord, in you we have all that we need. We raise up to your Grace all among us who are business owners, trades persons, and those whose livelihood depends on trade with organisations and companies outside of our borders. We pray that those on both sides of the border will remain on the hearts of those who seek to make decisions for our future. Help all of your children to sense your loving presence with them as we move closer to clarity about the future of trade and commerce for our nation.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Great Healer, we pray to you for all who are sick and all those who work to bring health and wholeness through our NHS. Ensure the continued provision of care before, during, and after political decisions so that we may continue to worship you in body, mind, and spirit.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: Dear Jesus, you were once a stranger in a strange land; help us to remember the immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and all those who live in this nation but are not yet citizens. Grant us empathy and patience as we seek to support those who are uncertain of what their future in this place might hold, or indeed if they will continue to be welcome here after the results of present negotiations. Be with all those who live with this daily uncertainty and grant to them the peace that only your love can bring.

This is my prayer.

Congregation: **This is our prayer.**

Leader: God of Grace and Glory, in this time of acrimony and division help us to remember that all things in this life are transitory. Set our sights firmly on a future that, regardless of the outcome of Brexit, includes and prioritizes reconciliation with our friends and neighbours, both here and abroad. Enable all of us to see a future that includes a wealth of experiences that can be gained only through mutual friendship and sharing with those whose lives and cultures are different than our own. We pray all of these things, and all of the prayers of our hearts that are known to you alone, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; One God, forever and ever. **Amen.**