

**Intercessions, January 21, 2018**  
**Julia Davies**

The response for today's intercession is...

**Lord in your Mercy, Hear our prayer**

We pray for the Anglican Communion worldwide in all its richness and diversity.

We pray for people of all faiths and those whose faith is known to God alone.

**Lord in your Mercy ...**

We pray for all who are sick in body, mind or spirit and ask for your presence with them.

We remember before you

Jeannie Oulton and family, Barbara Beer and family, Audrey Muirhead and family, Gillian McNicholas, Caroline Falkner, John Duerkop, Don Walton, Merle Wallis, Janet Hardy, and for those on our prayer chain; for all those serving in the Canadian Forces at home and overseas, and for those facing surgery.

We bring to mind all saints living and departed – especially those who have touched our own lives.

**Lord in your Mercy...**

We pray today for our dear friend Margaret as she celebrates her 109<sup>th</sup> birthday. Be close by her Lord in these her twilight years. May she feel your loving spirit beside her.

**Lord in your mercy ...**

“The shadow of the dove

When dawn's ribbon of glory around the world returns and the earth emerges from sleep – The shadow of the dove is seen as she flies across moor and city.

Over the warm breast of the earth she skims, her shadow falling on the watcher in the tower, the refugee in the ditch, the weary soldier at the gate. The shadow of peace falls across the all-night sitting of a council, across the tense negotiators around a table. The shadow of hope is cast across the bars of a hostage cell filling with momentary light - rooms tense with conflict, bringing a brief respite, a sliver of gold across the dark. She flies untiring across flooded fields, across a city divided by hate and fear, across a town wreathed in smoke. The shadow of reconciliation, the dove of peace with healing in her wings, is felt and seen and turned towards as she makes righteousness shine like the dawn, the justice of her cause like the noonday sun. Holy Spirit of love, bring healing, bring peace."

[by Kate McIlhagga]

We remember all refugees and all victims of war. We call to mind the refugees fleeing Syria frozen to death.

We pray for all suffering unimaginable pain and anguish.

### **Lord in your Mercy ...**

God of justice, keep us silent when the only words we have to utter are ones of judgment, exclusion or prejudice. Teach us to face the wounds in our own hearts (Silence) *GOD OF JUSTICE, GIVE US POWER OF SPEECH TO RESIST INJUSTICE, OPPRESSION AND HATE, NOT ONLY ON OUR OWN BEHALF BUT FOR OTHERS WHO ARE NOT HEARD. MAKE US PEACEMAKERS AND RESTORERS OF THE STREETS.*

God of power, keep us silent so that we may listen respectfully to another person's pain without trying to fade or fix it, for you are present within each one of us (Silence) *GOD OF POWER, GIVE US COURAGE TO SHARE OUR GIFTS OF SPEECH TO COMFORT, UPHOLD AND STRENGTHEN. LET US BE A GLIMPSE OF YOUR LOVE TO THOSE IN NEED.*

God of love, in the silence of our hearts give us words of welcome, acceptance and renewal so that when we speak, our words come from you (Silence) *GOD OF LOVE, GIVE US VOICES OF PRAISE TO CELEBRATE EACH OTHER AND THE GLORIES OF CREATION BELIEVING THAT WE ALL LIVE WITHIN YOUR BLESSING.*

**Amen**

*With help from 50 Great Prayers from The Iona Community selected  
by Neil Paynter*