

Intercessions for Sunday 27th September 2026

Gracious God,

It's September and change is in the air. Children are back in school, students are attending university courses, teachers and lecturers have eased back into their busy work lives. We pray for those young people who are anxious about this transition, the strangeness of new schools or classes, new methods of work, new companions in new places. Give them all confidence in themselves and in the systems they will be part of. And for those who recognise you as Lord, be their rock and their guide.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our Prayer.**

In September nature is beginning to move on, stripping back the summer foliage, but with a final burst of summer fruitfulness. Our faith too has to move on, not relying on past experience and yesterday's answers. Make us ready for the journey, moving on to wherever you may take us, without doubting your loving presence. Keep us from a stagnant faith that never changes but grows. Open us to new things this autumn.

Lord, why do people hate when there is so much to love? There is hatred and fear in conflicts throughout your world, in the Russia-Ukraine war, Iran war the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Myanmar civil war and cartels and gang violence in Latin America, and it has been going on for too long. We believe love is stronger than hate because hate only divides and love unites. Take hold of the unruly passions of sinful men and women, and patiently teach them, and us, the ways of love.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our Prayer.**

When we think of how you lived your life we know your life was love from beginning to end: love for the lame, the leper, the lost, love for the ill-prepared who had insufficient wine for a wedding, love for the mistaken who favoured money more than discipleship, love for the misguided who identified you as their enemy, love for the cowardly who denied you once, then again and again, love for the callous who bartered your clothes while you hung in agony.

Love all the way, and your footsteps I know I must follow.

Lord, we are here with a bundle of concerns – mistakes made, tasks unfinished, decisions to be taken, relationships to attend to, people on our hearts. We bring these bundles to you and ask for your kindness and wisdom. Help us give proper attention to these things, not to duck them or keep them to ourselves, but to open them to you for you to touch them with your guidance and grace. We pray in quiet now for what is chiefly on our hearts today...

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our Prayer.**

We also pray for those known to us who are suffering in many different ways, we especially think of ... **(names on sheet)**.

God, develop our capacity for goodness that we live lives that encourage those around us, lives that are nurtured by you, especially those whose lives feel hollow or empty with the recent loss of a loved one. We especially remember at this time.... **(names on sheet)**.

Lord in your mercy – **Hear our Prayer.**

Lord, we believe; help our unbelief.

God of September, Lord of the year, lead us through this month with faith, hope and love.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of St Peter and St Margaret and all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole of creation to your unfailing love.

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