

**Prayers Sunday 24 May 2020 Easter 7/Ascension Sunday**

**Reading: Acts 1: 6-14, Psalm 68:32-35, 1 Peter 5:1-7, John 17:1-11**

**The Sentence for today is from John 17:3**

**This is eternal life, that we may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.**

***The Prayer of the Day***

*Loving God, whose Son, Jesus prayed for his disciples and sent them into the world to proclaim the coming of your kingdom: by your Holy Spirit, hold the Church in unity, and keep it faithful to your word, so that we may be one with Christ in faith, love and service now and for ever. Amen.*

*Let us say the Apostles Creed together: we are on Page 171 in the prayer book.*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;  
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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The response to "Lord, in your mercy" is **"hear our prayer"**

Father, we pray for the nations of the world at this time of Coronavirus recovery. We pray that with the ease of lockdown restrictions in Australia, that new measures will be respected to ensure a safe return to work, and to a life we can share with our family and friends once again.

We pray for the USA, the UK and all countries that are still faced with so many lives lost, new infections and job losses.

Father, we pray for an outpouring of your healing and love to rid the world of this virus. Help us by your Spirit to live in love for you and to care for one another.

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer***

We pray for all the activities of this church that have been on hold, that with the ease of restrictions, due care of ourselves and those around us, that we may gather together again to praise and worship you.

We give you thanks and praise for our emergency services, the health workers, the doctors and nurses putting their lives on the line to help those infected by the virus, we pray your protection over them and we pray for the families and friends of those who have lost their lives.

We pray for others known to us who are in sorrow, need, sickness, awaiting surgery, or any other trouble.

Please protect with your loving care those we love; our families, friends and neighbours. Let your fatherly hand guide, shelter and strengthen them. Remove all anxious fears and doubts. Give us an increasing trust in you and fill our hearts and minds with your peace.

Accept our prayers today in the name of the risen and ascended One Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**