**Prayers of Intercession**

• The first, A Prayer for All People, is a modification of the Prayer for All Sorts and Conditions of Men from *The Book of Common Prayer*, as found in *A Prayer Book for Australia (1995),* pp.15*.*

• The second, A Prayer for All People and Christ’s Church here on earth, is a comprehensive pattern allowing considerable input from the leader. It is based on that in *An Australian Prayer Book (1978)*, pp.140ff, with some additional scope in the suggested prayer topics. It requires careful preparation.

• The third and fourth intercessions are also from *An Australian Prayer Book (1978)*, pp.156-158. The third is in litany form, with versicles which the leader may add to or amplify, and a short unvaried congregational response, while the fourth is briefer and may be better used with the set wording for both leader and congregation.

• The fifth intercessory prayer, A Prayer for Our World, is the shortest form provided but is actually the most dense and most wide-ranging in its coverage.

1. *A Prayer for all People*

God of everlasting love, who provides all things,

 we pray for all people:

 make your way known to them,

 your saving power among all nations.

 We pray for the welfare of your church here on earth:

 guide and govern it by your Spirit,

 so that all who call themselves Christians

 may be led in the way of truth

 and hold the faith

 in unity of spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.

 We commend to your fatherly goodness

 all who are afflicted or distressed

 in body, mind or circumstances *[especially. . .]*:

 relieve them according to their needs,

 giving them patience in their sufferings,

 and deliverance from their afflictions.

 This we ask for the sake of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

**Amen.**

2. *A Prayer for all People and Christ’s Church here on earth*

 Almighty God,

 your Son Jesus Christ has promised

 that you will hear us when we ask in faith:

 receive the prayers we offer.

 *For Christians throughout the world*

*We give thanks for... ... ... We pray for ... ... ...*

Christians in other countries, especially where there is suffering, danger and persecution; those sent out as missionaries, especially ... ... ...;

 Christians in our country; the Anglican Church of Australia; this diocese; N our archbishop and N our regional bishop; this parish; N our minister(s) ... ... ... .

Strengthen your people for their witness and work in the world.

 Fill your ministers with your Spirit,

 that they may faithfully preach the gospel

 and administer your holy sacraments.

 Unite in the truth all who confess your name,

 that we may live together in love

 and proclaim your glory in all the world.

 Father, hear our prayer,

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 *For all people*

*We give thanks for ... ... ... We pray for ... ... ...*

the peoples of the world and their leaders;

countries in crisis;

 the Queen of Australia, leaders of Federal, State and

Local government; the police and those who administer our laws; all men and women in their daily work.

 Give wisdom to those in authority in every land,

 and give to all peoples a desire for righteousness

and peace,

 and the will to work together in trust,

 to seek the common good

 and to share with justice the resources of the earth.

 Father, hear our prayer,

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 *For our community*

*We give thanks for ... ... ... We pray for ... ... ...*

one another; our local community; those caring for people in need; those who teach Scripture in our schools; people known to us (especially ... ... ...).

 We commend to your keeping, Father,

 ourselves and each other,

 our families, our neighbours and our friends.

 Enable us by your Spirit to live in love for one another and for you.

 Father, hear our prayer,

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*For those in need*

*We pray for ... ... ...*

those who suffer; the sick; the poor; the depressed; the lonely; the unloved; the persecuted; the unemployed; those who grieve; and those who care for them ...

 Comfort and heal, merciful Father,

 all who are in sorrow, need, sickness or any other trouble.

 Give them a firm trust in your goodness;

 help those who minister to them;

 and bring us all into the joy of your salvation.

 Father, hear our prayer,

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*Thanksgiving for those who have died trusting in Christ*

 *We give thanks for the life and witness of ... ... ...*

We praise you, Lord God,

 for your faithful servants in every age

 and ask that we may share with them Christ’s resurrection glory,

 through his death and rising again for our salvation.

 Hear us, Father,

 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 **who lives and reigns with you**

 **in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

 **one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*or*

 Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 who taught us to pray

 **Our Father ... ... ...**

3.*A prayer for all people and Christ’s Church here on earth*

 Let us pray for all people and for Christ’s Church here on earth.

 *The names of particular persons or needs may be added to any of the petitions; other similar petitions may be added.*

Almighty God,

 whose Son Jesus Christ has promised that you will hear us when we ask in faith: receive the prayers we offer.

 We pray for the peace of the world and the welfare of your holy Church.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

We pray for *N* our Archbishop, and for all the clergy and people.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Elizabeth our Queen, for the leaders of the nations, and for all in authority.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

[We pray for seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**]

 [We pray that we may share with justice the resources of the earth, and live in trust and goodwill with one another.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**]

 We pray for the aged and the infirm, for widows and orphans, and for the sick and suffering.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the poor and oppressed, for prisoners and captives, and for all who care for them.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

 We pray for ourselves, and for each other.

 Lord, in your mercy,

 **hear our prayer.**

We praise you, Lord God, for the communion of saints, and for the glorious hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

 Hear us, Father,

 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 **who lives and reigns with you**

 **in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

 **one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*or*

 Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 who taught us to pray,

 **Our Father ... ... ...**

4. *A prayer for all people and Christ’s Church here on earth*

 Let us pray for all people and for Christ’s Church here on earth.

 Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;

 **that we all may be one in Christ.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

 **that your Name may be glorified by everyone.**

We pray for all bishops, priests and deacons;

 **that they may be faithful ministers of your word and sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and exercise authority in

the nations of the world;

 **that there may be peace and justice among all.**

Give us strength to do your will in all that we undertake;

 **that we may be blessed in all our works.**

Have compassion on those who suffer or are in grief or trouble;

 **that they may be delivered from their distress.**

 We praise you for all your saints who have entered into joy;

 **may we also share in your heavenly kingdom.**

 Hear us, Father,

 through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 **who lives and reigns with you**

 **in the unity of the Holy Spirit,**

 **one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

*or*

 Accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord,

 who taught us to pray,

 **Our Father ... ... ...**

5. *A Prayer for our World*

 Almighty God,

 we praise you for your creation, and all you richly provide.

 Enable us to live in such a way that your majesty and

mercy are seen by all.

 **Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

All governments rule under your authority.

 May they work for the good of those they rule,

 seeking your justice and peace in every law and action.

 **Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 Enable those who are engaged in industry and commerce, the media and education, sport and the arts, to fulfil their responsibilities with integrity and an attitude of service.

 **Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Comfort and strengthen those who are gripped by poverty, weakened by illness, or oppressed by cruelty. May they know your love and experience your care.

 **Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 Inspire your church here on earth to proclaim the gospel of your love in the death and resurrection of your Son. May all people hear the call to trust you. **Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

 Help your people to display your compassion to all those in need. May the poor and the lost of this world find in you their true wealth and sure identity.

 **Refresh and equip us, O God,**

 **to be your faithful and obedient people,**

 **through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**