

Prayers for Sunday 31st May – Trinity Sunday

Holy God, send us out to go beyond our comfort zone to places where hope is lost. Send us to need and not places of comfort; to the rebels and the protesters; to the despairing and the questioning. Send us: to people who need healing in our own community and beyond; to the desperate and the difficult and, even though we feel our own inadequacy, help us to trust that you are with us. We pray for the ability to make time for situations we might try to avoid and attention to hear your call to us as we watch the news. We pray for the grace we need to put others first, the desire to help others to grow in your love, and for a sense of adventure as we try to live our one precious life fearlessly and joyfully.

Holy God, Trinity of unending love: **Come close to us and hear our prayer**

Holy God, send us to make peace. Send us to bring together what has been broken. Send us: to the failed and failing; to the angry and argumentative. We pray for honesty about our own mistakes; for a calm mind and a gentle way of relating to other people and of attending to people whose views are not our own. We pray for the bravery to bring people together although it is often painful to reconcile differences. And we pray for the political courage and leadership that is needed to bring warring factions together.

Holy God, Trinity of unending love: **Come close to us and hear our prayer**

Holy God, send us to speak your message. Send us to live out our faith. Send us: to the lost and loveless; to the excluded and powerless to draw them into your love. We pray for welcome to be the lived experience of our church community, showing the all-embracing love of the Trinity to everyone. We remember people in our society who feel on the margins of society and for everyone who feels overlooked. And we pray for the generosity that includes and affirms others.

Holy God, Trinity of unending love: **Come close to us and hear our prayer**

Holy God, send us to the children and young people. Send us to listen, to hear, to nurture and to see the potential within each one of them. Send us: to face with them the big life questions they ask; to hold their concerns and fears for our future and for our planet home. We pray for leaders of children's work and for youth workers as they respond to the anxiety many young people suffer and ask for your peace in the stress of exam season. We pray for wisdom so that we can help children and young people to flourish and to live with courage in a tough world. Help us to build communities where children and young people can find their place and know that they are loved. We pray together for optimism and trust in your gospel of hope for us and for the world.

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Holy God, send us to the victims. Send us to the ground down and the vulnerable. Send us: to those who have been abused or who have experienced violence; to people who are homeless and to the refugees fleeing for their lives. We pray for everyone who has been displaced by war especially in Gaza, in the West Bank, in Southern Lebanon and in Ukraine. We pray for those who listen to the painful stories of abuse; for truth to be spoken and lives to be healed. We pray that you would shape us into communities that live out the movement of grace that is at the heart of the Trinitarian life.

Holy God, Trinity of unending love: **Come close to us and hear our prayer**

Holy God, send us to challenge assumptions. Send us to speak up. Send us: to challenge thinking on some of the issues of today; to be human, living as people made in your image, even when technology threatens the way we live and think and changes the way we treat each other. And, as we are reminded of the idolatry of profit,

we pray for a coherent faith response to AI's potential and the danger that it could concentrate power in the hands of a few rich people. As a consultation on social media ends, we pray that we would put the experience of children and young people at the heart of our responses to internet and social media use and ensure connection without compromising safety. We pray for self-discipline and wisdom as we search, scroll, click and post.

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Holy God, send us to bring healing. Send us to care for the sick. Send us: to the suffering and the silenced; to the distressed and despairing. We pray for the week ahead that you would lead us to do what we can to meet the needs of others. We ask that you would be close to everyone in need of your love and remember the ongoing suffering caused by the spread of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo and in Uganda. And in the quiet we name to you the people we are most concerned about today.

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Holy God, send us to care for the beautiful and fragile earth on which we live. Send us to ask 'why' and 'what shall we do?' as we see how unprepared we are as a country for blistering heat. Send us: to ask the awkward questions about what happens when people's homes are too hot to live in; to use resources of water and energy wisely in our own homes and to advocate for all your creatures. We pray for the unprecedented heat to be a true wake-up call and especially we pray for action on care homes, schools and overcrowded spaces and badly insulated homes where people are most at risk. We pray for the will to change and the courage to start big conversations about how we should live.

Holy God, Trinity of unending love: **Come close to us and hear our prayer**

Holy God, Trinity of unending love,
send us out with peace, hope, kindness, patience,
generosity, faithfulness and self-control.
But above all send us out with love,
trusting that you will be with us now and always.

Amen

