

Lord God, we thank you for the gift of life  
and for the faculties which enable us to enjoy it.  
You have given us our eyes to see the beauty of your world,  
ears to hear speech and the Sound of Music,  
our lips with which to speak in friendship to others,  
And our hands with which to minister to their needs.  
Help us, through the grace of your holy spirit,  
to use all that we have in your service and for your greater glory.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

### **Money and possessions**

Lord Jesus,  
you taught us that our life does not consist in the abundance of our possessions.  
Save us from the sin of covetousness,  
from the love of money,  
from the materialistic spirit of the age.  
Guard us from the wrong use of money:  
from selfishness, carelessness, or waste;  
and from that obsessive love of money which is a root of all evils.

Enable us to be good stewards of what is entrusted to us;  
to give or spend or save according to your will;  
so that neither poverty nor wealth may hinder our discipleship,  
harm our neighbours, or destroy our life;  
Help us to set our affections on the things of eternal worth,  
the things that money cannot buy;  
that we may lay up treasure in heaven,  
and may know that even now, in knowing you,  
we possess the true riches.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

### **Writers and broadcasters**

Heavenly Father, who through your Son

warned us that by our words we shall be justified or condemned:  
we pray for writers, speakers, journalists and broadcasters  
whose words so powerfully influence the life of the nation.  
Help them to recognise in the words they write or speak  
a power for good or for evil, and to use them responsibly  
as those who must give an account;  
May they raise, and not lower, our moral standards,  
and increase, not diminish, the true welfare of mankind;

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

### **Those who serve the community**

God our Father, we remember before you with gratitude  
those who in their different capacities serve the community.  
We pray for those who safeguard the public health and minister to the sick;  
those who provide for the welfare of the young  
and care for the elderly and infirm;  
those who work for local charities,  
who care for and lobby for those  
with a multitude of problems and issues.  
Assist them in their varied duties,  
and deepen within us all the spirit of loving service;

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

### **Local government**

Almighty God, we pray for those who exercise authority in government,  
- local and national.  
Grant that they may be upright in character and wise in judgment,  
seeking first and foremost the good of the community,  
not their own advantage;  
direct and strengthen them in all their work;  
open their eyes and ears to the needs of those they serve;  
give them your wisdom and guidance to work to the benefit of their communities.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

## **These whose work is dangerous**

Eternal Father, strong to save,  
we pray for those whose work is often dangerous  
and on whom the lives of others so largely depend:  
for the members of the armed forces, the police, and the fire brigades;  
for coastguards and those who man the lifeboats;  
for the crews of helicopters engaged in rescue service.  
Uphold them, O God, in the fulfilment of their duties,  
and protect them in every peril of land and sea and air;  
we ask it In the name of Christ our Lord.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

## **Unemployment and redundancy**

Lord Jesus, you said to your disciples,  
"My Father has worked till now, and I work":  
we pray for those who through no fault of their own have  
been deprived of the work that supports them financially  
and leads towards the fulfilment of their lives.  
Raise their spirits and help them to find employment  
or to fill their time to their benefit and those around them.

Inspire and guide those who bear the responsibility  
of finding the answer to our employment problems.  
Open their minds to the truth,  
that they may discern in the events of our time the direction of your will;  
and give them the courage to declare what they believe to be right,  
and the power to carry it through for the benefit of the unemployed and redundant.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

## **Medical & research workers**

Lord God, from whose creative power all health and healing flows,  
we thank you for medical knowledge and skill  
and for every advance in the care of those who are ill or injured or in pain.  
Give wisdom and guidance

to those involved in research into the treatment of disease and injury  
that they may find medications, vaccines and treatments  
to overcome ill health in all its forms.

Lord in your mercy

**Hear our prayer**

### **For the sick**

Lord God, whose Son, Jesus Christ,  
understood people's fear and pain before they spoke of them,  
we pray for those who are sick at home or in hospital;  
surround the frightened with your tenderness;  
give strength to those in pain;  
hold the weak in your arms of love,  
and give hope and patience to those who are recovering;  
we ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Lord in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

### **The mentally ill**

God of all grace, we bring to you in our prayers  
those who are passing through the darkness of mental illness,  
or suffering from deep depression of spirit.

Give sympathy, patience and gentleness

to those who minister to their needs

and to those dear to them who share the strain of their illness;

and make known your healing love and power.