Evening Prayer Shrove Tuesday  
16th February 2021

The God of peace and love remain with us always

PSALM 50
FIRST LESSON Genesis 37.12-end
SECOND LESSON Galatians 2.1-10

The Psalm and readings can be found online at www.biblegateway.com, where alternative translations are available: I suggest NRSV, RSV, or KJV.

1 THE COLLECT FOR QUINQUAGESIMA

O LORD, who hast taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth; Send thy Holy Ghost and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee; Grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

2 THE SECOND COLLECT AT EVENING PRAYER.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

3 THE THIRD COLLECT for aid against all perils.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

PRAYERS

Lord hear us  
Lord graciously hear us.

This evening should have been corporate communion before Lent begins tomorrow. Instead we are fasting from company, contact, closeness – the very things that define us as human.

We pray for those who provide care, even at risk to themselves  
Lord, we thank you for the blessings of medicine and the healing professions. Hear the cries of those who find it hard to access medical help, especially the homeless:

We pray for agencies and charities  
Lord, prosper the work of social services, shelters for abuse survivors, hostels for the homeless, and food banks… Where we cannot help in person, stir our consciences to do what we can, and give what we can:

We pray for leaders and decision makers  
Lord, direct and rule our rulers. As we ask you to make us patient when we are anxious for help, we also ask you to make them, and all who work with them, alert to our needs as individuals:

We pray for churches and religious communities  
Lord, inspire us all as Christians; inspire our leaders, our clergy and all our ministers, the church wardens and PCCs doing their best to keep churches open, and make worshipping together possible. And let faith of every kind bring solace and hope to those who share it:

We pray for our University and for our College  
Lord, our College was founded to foster true religion; strengthen the ties that bind us, so that distance becomes no distance, and we can be comforted by one another. Thank you for all that the internet makes possible; and tend the flame of hope in us, that all shall yet be well:

THE grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.