

# Prayers of the People for Sunday April 14

## Third Sunday of Easter

**Bidding:** Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, teach us to walk in your way:  
where there is love and wisdom  
there is neither fear nor ignorance;  
where there is patience and humility,  
there is neither anger nor annoyance.

Make us all instruments of your peace,  
Enlighten the darkness of our hearts,  
And give us all, as individuals, and as your body, the Church,  
a true faith, a certain hope, a perfect love, and a deep humility.

*St Francis of Assisi, Prayer before the crucifix, adapted.*

As your Son Jesus Christ revealed himself among his disciples  
empower us to do likewise to each other through our words and actions;  
both here and outside our red doors.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, teach us that where there is simplicity and joy,  
there is neither greed nor avarice.  
Where there is hatred, may we all sow love.

We pray for the millions of people at the mercy of an elite few who control your creation:

- those displaced by the inevitable wars over land and resources, and corporate greed,
- all vulnerable people and children exploited or trapped in modern slavery, and
- those who have lost jobs, businesses and living in abject poverty.

Grant us a desire to live simply, to avoid excessive luxury and waste, and to just want to have enough.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, help us to learn that where there is forgiveness and discernment,  
there is neither excess nor hardness of heart  
where there is peace and contemplation,  
there is neither care nor restlessness.

Open our eyes and show us where we have walked away from you by our:

- unresolved grudges and grievances,
- attachment to material possessions
- lack of compassion and prejudice against those different to ourselves.

May we remember that you alone are enough, that only in you will we possess anything or have life  
and if we seek anything less, we will be never have peace and be always wanting,

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord, remind us that where there is the fear of God to guard the dwelling,  
there no enemy can enter.

Be a refuge to all who are who:

- are without a safe place to live,
- suffer in body, mind, and spirit,
- are numbed and desolate because of the loss of a loved one,
- are vulnerable in ways known only to you.

We thank you for your saints in every age.

+May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

Lord, in your mercy

**Hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you,  
for all the benefits you have won for us by your resurrection,  
for all the pains and insults you have born for us.

Most merciful redeemer

friend and brother,

may we know you more clearly,

love you more dearly,

and by walking in your ways,

follow you more nearly,

day by day.

Amen.

*St Richard of Chichester*