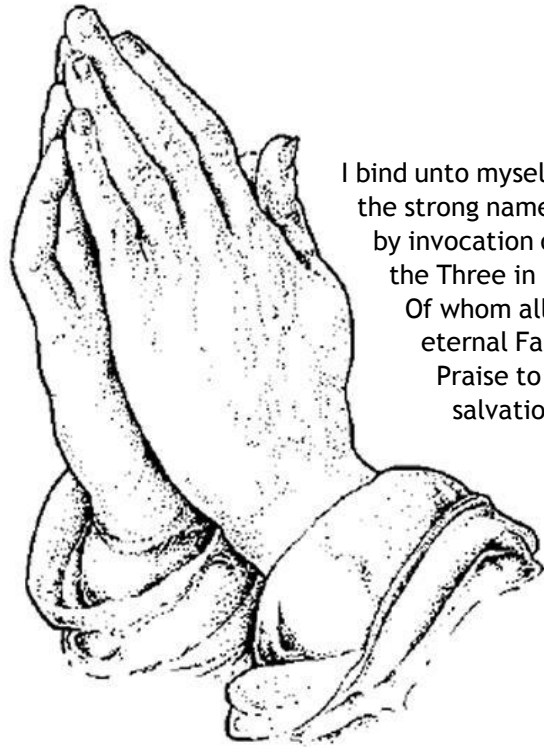


## Prayer Leaflet

June 2007



I bind unto myself today  
 the strong name of the Trinity,  
 by invocation of the same,  
 the Three in One, and One in Three.  
 Of whom all nature hath creation;  
 eternal Father, Spirit, Word:  
 Praise to the Lord of my salvation,  
 salvation is of Christ the Lord.

*from St Patrick's Breastplate*

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin

Godmanchester

## Continuing to Trust

**2 Chronicles 32:1-8**

*After these things and these acts of faithfulness, King Sennacherib of Assyria came and invaded Judah and encamped against the fortified cities, thinking to win them for himself. When Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib had come and intended to fight against Jerusalem, he planned with his officers and his warriors to stop the flow of the springs that were outside the city; and they helped him. A great many people were gathered, and they stopped all the springs and the wadi that flowed through the land, saying, 'Why should the Assyrian kings come and find water in abundance?' Hezekiah set to work resolutely and built up the entire wall that was broken down, and raised towers on it, and outside it he built another wall; he also strengthened the Millo in the city of David, and made weapons and shields in abundance. He appointed combat commanders over the people, and gathered them together to him in the square at the gate of the city and spoke encouragingly to them, saying, 'Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid or dismayed before the king of Assyria and all the horde that is with him; for there is one greater with us than with him. With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles.' The people were encouraged by the words of King Hezekiah of Judah.*

Under King Hezekiah's dynamic leadership, the land of Judah experienced spiritual revival. Idols were smashed, the temple was restored, and people once again worshiped the Lord (2 Chronicles 29-31). Hezekiah "did what was good and right and faithful before the Lord his God" (31:20). But then, on the heels of his obedience, he was suddenly besieged by Sennacherib, the vicious warrior-king of Assyria (32:1).



Hezekiah could have been angered by this discouraging turn of events. Instead, he continued to trust God. He rallied the people, saying, "With us is the Lord our God, to help us and to fight our battles" (32:8). What a remarkable demonstration of faith!

I could use a healthy portion of Hezekiah's spirit. There is something within me that wishes God would always reward my faithfulness with prosperity and protection. But God is working far beyond what I can see and is accomplishing his purposes. My present difficulties are never the final measure of his blessing and love.

Hezekiah modelled true faithfulness. He determined to obey the Lord without demanding guarantees of a trouble-free life. Like him, we can be confident of God's presence and power, and trust him even in the darkest hours.

## Our Prayers in June are especially requested for:

### In the Church

Events – Summer Fete (16<sup>th</sup>); Carers UK service (17<sup>th</sup>); – please pray for these events, and those who will attend them.

The church – that enough people will offer to be there so that the church can be opened at weekends during the summer months.

For all who are to be married this month that they may experience joy and commitment.

Flower Guild – for all "carers" whose love and support often goes un-noticed.

Choir – that they may continue leading our worship with joy and enthusiasm.

### In the Community

The schools in the area – for teachers and pupils at school that they may maintain their energy during the rest of term and not lose focus after the exams.

### In the World

Christian Solidarity Worldwide – On the 100th anniversary of the Pyongyang Revival, South Korean church leaders issued a proclamation declaring 2007 to be a Year of Prayer for North Korea.

Furthermore, the South Korean Church lays before God the pain caused by the division of Korea and proclaims the week of 25 June, the anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, as the 'Global Week of Prayer for North Korea.'

Please pray for North Korea.

The charity the Church supports through the collection plate in June: **Committee for Social Welfare**, an independent social work service for anyone in the diocese, especially supporting distressed families.

This month, in our Street Prayer Mission, we'll be praying for:

Week commencing Sunday 3 June:

**Danes Croft; McCartney House; Woodley Court.**

Week commencing Sunday 10 June:

**Prayers for those living outside the Parish.**

Week commencing Sunday 17 June:

**Bayliss; Bluegate; Hudpool; Pinder Close; Malcoff.**

Week commencing Sunday 24 June:

**Pettit Road; Windsor Road; Stuart Close; Ravenshoe.**

Please remember the residents of these streets, those known to us, and especially those, as yet, unknown to us.

## Some Prayers for June:

Holy God,  
faithful and unchanging:  
enlarge our minds with the knowledge of your truth,  
and draw us more deeply into the mystery of your love,  
that we may truly worship you,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

All praise to you, our God and Father,  
for you have fed us with the bread of heaven  
and quenched our thirst from the true vine:  
hear our prayer that, being grafted into Christ,  
we may grow together in unity  
and feast with him in his kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of truth,  
help us to keep your law of love  
and to walk in ways of wisdom,  
that we may find true life  
in Jesus Christ your Son.

Faithful Creator,  
whose mercy never fails:  
deepen our faithfulness to you  
and to your living Word,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

God our Saviour,  
look on this wounded world  
in pity and in power;  
hold fast to your promise of peace  
won for us by your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

