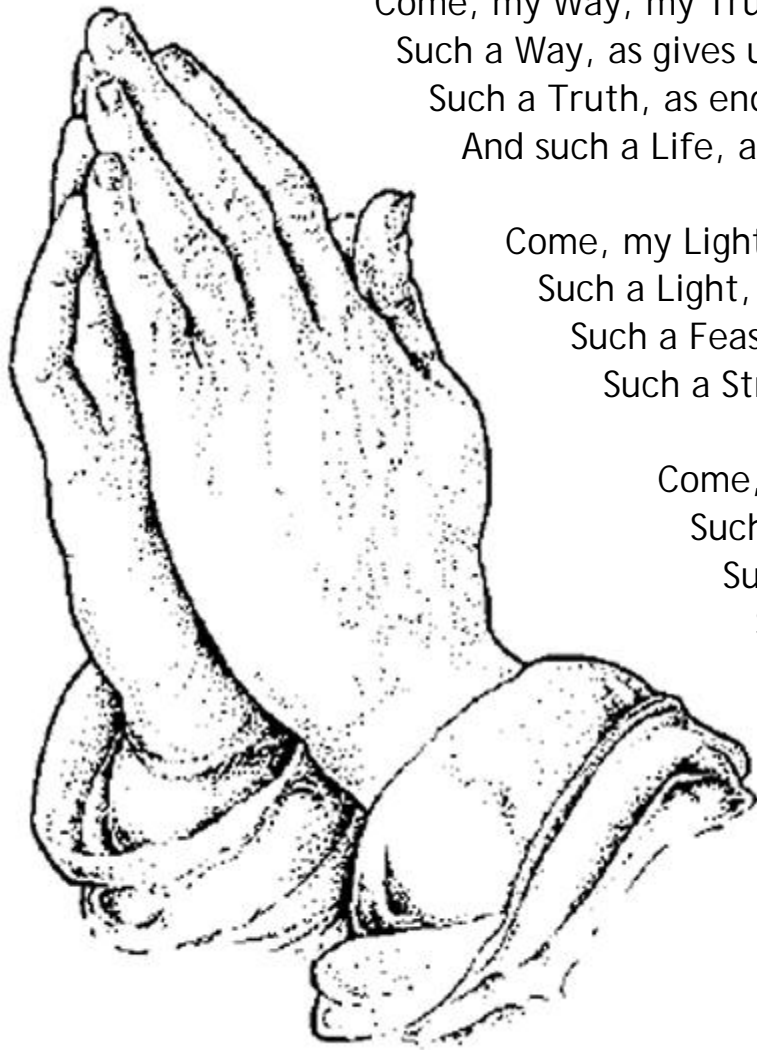




## Prayer Leaflet

November 2008



Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
And such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
Such a Light, as shows a Feast:  
Such a Feast, as mends in length:  
Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:  
Such a Joy, as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joys in Love.  
*George Herbert (1633)*

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin  
Godmanchester

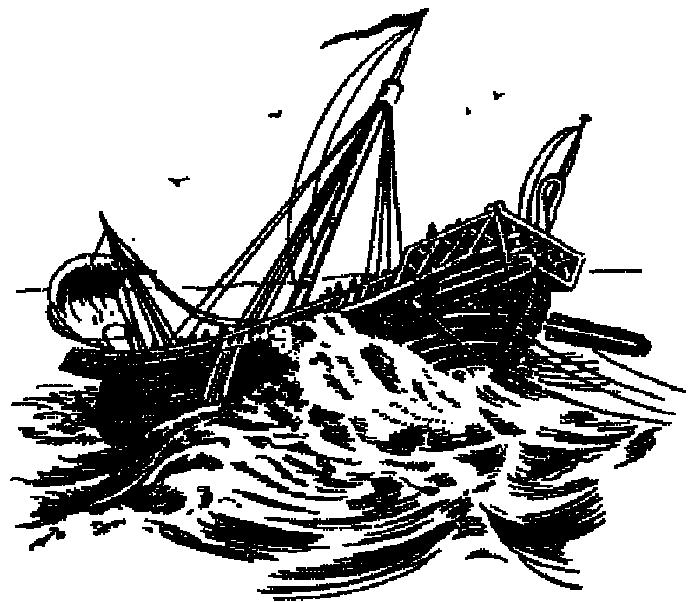
## Life's Storm-Tossed Sea

**Mark 4:35-41**

*On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'*

Emilie, wife of 19<sup>th</sup>-century German pastor Christoph Blumhardt, envied his ability to pray for his parishioners and then effortlessly fall asleep. So one night she pleaded, "Tell me your secret".

He answered, "Is God so powerless that my worrying would help the well-being of our parish?" Then he added, "There comes a moment each day when we must simply drop what weighs on us and hand it over to God".



One evening Jesus and his disciples were crossing the Sea of Galilee. Weary after a long day of ministry, he fell asleep in the stern of the boat. A fierce squall suddenly arose — so fierce that even the Lord's fishermen-turned-disciples were terrified. But Jesus continued to sleep serenely until his frightened followers woke him, crying out, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (Mark 4:38). You see, Jesus was in the habit of entrusting himself to his heavenly Father. Having made that commitment, he could sleep through the turbulent squall.

When worries begin to gnaw at our mind, let's surrender them to the Lord and not take them back again (1 Peter 5:7). That's the secret of soul-serenity when we're on life's storm-tossed sea.

Our Prayers in November are especially requested for:

### In the Church

Events — PCC Away Day (1<sup>st</sup>); All Souls Service (2<sup>nd</sup>); Remembrance Day Services (9<sup>th</sup>); Curry Club (13<sup>th</sup>); Churchyard Clear-up (15<sup>th</sup>); Boyan Choir Concert (19<sup>th</sup>); Churches Together AGM (20<sup>th</sup>); Parish Praise (23<sup>rd</sup>); Advent Carol Service (30<sup>th</sup>); please pray for these events and all those who will attend them.

Stepping Stones — for all those currently involved with Stepping Stones, and for more people, from all local Churches, to join them.

Charities Committee — for their meeting this month, and guidance in all their deliberations as they consider the numerous charitable needs.

### In the Community

The Community School — for all our school governors, for their commitment and support. And especially for those recent appointments to this new post.

### ***Prayer for the current financial situation***

Lord God, we live in disturbing days:

across the world,  
prices rise,  
debts increase,  
banks collapse,  
jobs are taken away,  
and fragile security is under threat.

Loving God, meet us in our fear and hear our prayer:

be a tower of strength amidst the shifting sands,  
and a light in the darkness;  
help us receive your gift of peace,  
and fix our hearts where true joys are to be found,  
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The charity the Church supports through the collection plate in November:

This month the Church supports several of the **Service Charities**.

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

Week commencing Sunday, 2 November

**St Anne's Lane; The Stiles; New Street; St Anne's Court**

Week commencing Sunday, 9 November

**Bascraft Way; Mowlands; Lions Cross; Dovehouse Close.**

Week commencing Sunday, 16 November

**Croftfield Road; Peate Close.**

Week commencing Sunday, 23 November

**White Hart Lane; Hilsden Drive; Anderson Crescent; Kisby Avenue.**

Week commencing Sunday, 30 November

**Saxon Close; Pipers Lane; Laroc close; Lavender Grove; Cow Lane**

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

## Some Prayers for November:

God of holiness,  
your glory is proclaimed in every age:  
as we rejoice in the faith of your saints,  
inspire us to follow their example  
with boldness and joy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God, our refuge and strength,  
bring near the day when wars shall cease  
and poverty and pain shall end,  
that earth may know the peace of heaven  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Heavenly Lord,  
you long for the world's salvation:  
stir us from apathy,  
restrain us from excess  
and revive in us new hope  
that all creation will one day be healed  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

God the Father,  
help us to hear the call of Christ the King  
and to follow in his service,  
whose kingdom has no end;  
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory.

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the  
light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

