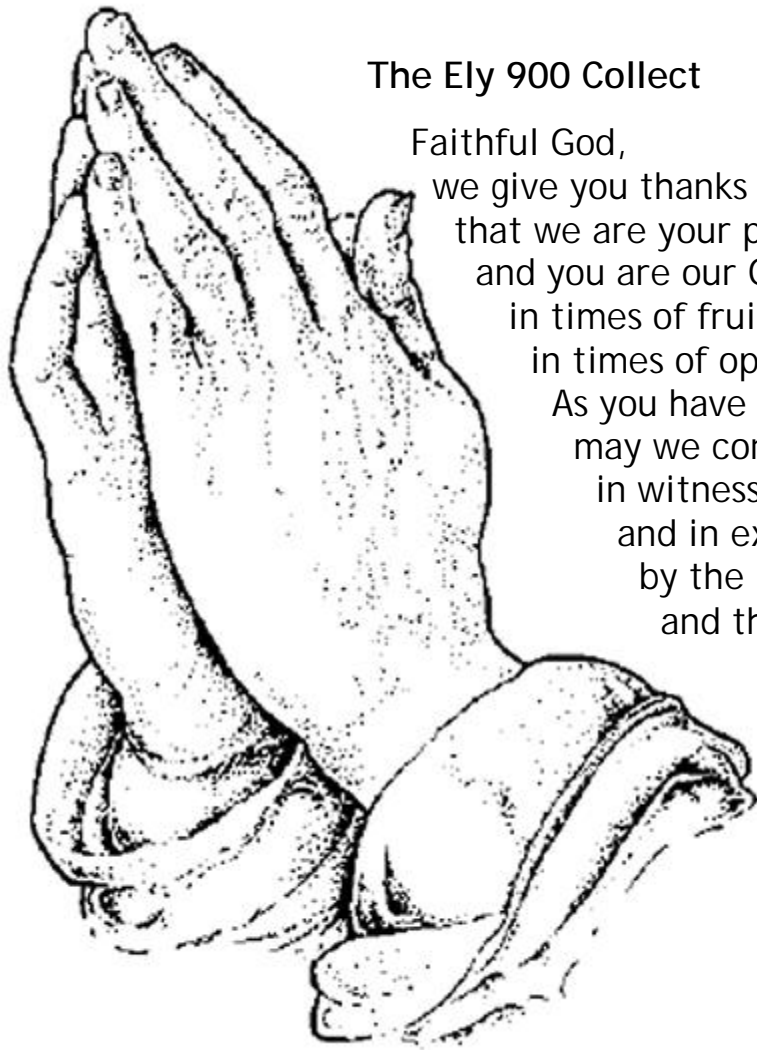




Prayer Leaflet

October 2009



The Ely 900 Collect

Faithful God,
we give you thanks
that we are your people
and you are our God,
in times of fruitfulness and times of need;
in times of opportunity and times of challenge.
As you have been faithful to us,
may we continue in faithfulness to you,
in witness to your love
and in expectation of your promises,
by the power of your Spirit
and through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin
Godmanchester

A Real Relationship

Psalm 116:1-7

*I love the Lord, because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.
Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
Then I called on the name of the Lord:
'O Lord, I pray, save my life!'*

*Gracious is the Lord, and righteous;
our God is merciful.
The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.*

Phillips Brooks, former minister of Boston's Trinity Episcopal Church in the USA, is perhaps best known as the author of, "O Little Town of Bethlehem". He was a very busy Priest, yet he always seemed relaxed and unburdened, willing to take time for anyone in need.



A short while before Brooks' consecration to the bishopric, a young friend wrote to him and asked the secret of his strength and serenity. In a heartfelt response, Brooks credited his still-growing relationship with Christ.

He wrote, "These last years have a peace and fullness which there did not use to be. I do not think it is the mere quietness of advancing age. I am sure it is not indifference to anything, which I used to care for. I am sure that it is a deeper knowledge and truer love of Christ. I cannot tell you how personal this grows to me. He is here. He knows me and I know him. It is no figure of speech. It is the realest thing in the world. And every day makes it realer. And one wonders with delight what it will grow to as the years go on."

What a testimony to the strength and serenity our Saviour can provide! What a motivator for all of us who know him as Saviour to cultivate daily a closer, deeper fellowship with Jesus! Only that relationship can bring abiding peace and delight.

Our Prayers in October are especially requested for:

In the Church

Events – Gift Day (3rd); Harvest Festival (4th); Schools Concert in Church (4th); Autumn BBQ (11th); St Anne's Headteacher interviews (19th & 20th); Godmanchester 800 meeting (22nd); Deanery Evensong (25th); Monastic Supper and Compline (28th); – please pray for these events, and for those who will attend them.

Choir – for the success of the Deanery evensong on October 25th as a community activity.

Mothers' Union – for its work in India to support the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS) in its fight against human trafficking.

Flower Guild – for everyone who works so hard to make the Harvest weekend special.

In the Community

St Mary's 0s-5s Group – give thanks all the farmers, for the work they do in providing us with much of our food – for the yellow corn, the vegetables and the fruit that we enjoy throughout the year.

St Anne's School – give thanks for the first ten years, and pray for guidance for governors and candidates in the appointment of the new Headteacher.

Community School – for health and well being for all the children and staff in school as we approach our autumn season of coughs and colds.

In the World

Pray for all carers, guardians, social workers, doctors, nurses and scientists who have to make decisions on behalf of others. Pray that they may be given wisdom and compassion in their thinking and actions.

Christian Solidarity Worldwide – Father, we thank you that we are part of your body – the Church. You teach us that if one part of that body is honoured, we all rejoice, and if one part suffers, then every part suffers. We pray for that part of your Church that is suffering, in whatever form that may take. We ask that you draw near to them, and give us the courage to do all we can to relieve their suffering, in your name and for your glory.

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

Week commencing Sunday, 4 October

The Chestnuts; Oak Tree Court; Berry Lane; Offord Hill & Road.

Week commencing Sunday, 11 October

Tudor Road; York Close; Fairey Avenue; The Close.

Week commencing Sunday, 18 October

Post Street; Church Place; Chadley Lane; The Causeway.

Week commencing Sunday, 25 October

Lancaster Way; Fox Grove; Rectory Gardens; Grove Court.

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

Some Prayers for October:

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with the confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Merciful God,
teach us to be faithful in change and uncertainty,
that trusting in your word
and obeying your will
we may enter the unfailing joy of Jesus Christ our Lord.



The charity the Church supports through the collection plate in October:
Mission Aviation Fellowship — a Christian agency whose mission is to fly
light aircraft in developing countries so that people in remote areas can
receive the help they need.