

Lord Father, allow me, a human with many flaws, to complain for a moment!

You can see how mankind is struggling to get through this year.

It is frustrating how something so tiny in size like a virus is forcing us all to make monumental changes to our lives.

And though I may not have suffered as much as others, Permit me to say this:

I have hit the wall; I am fed up and I don't know what to do.

Loving Father - you must have heard these complaints many times in 2020 as we, your children, have difficulties adapting to a 'New Normal' that we could never have imagined in 2019.

Forgive us for our mistakes, as we are unable to understand what's going on around us.

We are sorry for lashing out at everyone – even you Father, who loves us unconditionally.

Help us to see both sides of a story

Help us love those we find hardest to like

Help us find the way back to the Peace you give us

As we say sorry in silence, please let your forgiveness wash over us and inspire us to seek common ground rather than conflict.

Lord in Your mercy – hear our Prayer.

Lord Father, we have learned of the closure of the Whitehouse care-home this week and the sadness felt in the community is overwhelming.

Few of us can even imagine how stressful this time is for the staff, the residents and their families

So, we turn to you Father, and ask you to support them and to give them hope for the future

Let us - as their church family - hold them in our hearts as we pray

Lord in Your mercy – hear our Prayer.

God of Grace – our tempers are getting frayed; patience is wearing thin and it is easy to fall out with even our closest friends over trivial matters.

May we have the wisdom to turn to you for guidance

Open our hearts to your advice

Help us repent for the harsh words we may have uttered

And help us remember what Grace means

Lord in Your mercy – hear our Prayer.

Healing Father – You know those who are mourning the loss of loved ones in isolation

We ask for your endless love to envelop them as they work through the heartbreak without being able to seek solace from their usual support network.

Send them your guiding light, so they can work towards remembering fondly rather than break down at the memories

Help them feel the warmth that faith in you gives us as we sit silently, remembering our loved ones and pray:

Lord in Your mercy – hear our Prayer.

And now, as we journey closer to December and look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ

May we open our hearts even wider so we can feel the love you have for us and share it with others

May we consciously work everyday to show Grace instead of insolence

And may we continue to find inspiration in your word and the actions of Jesus, the Prince of Peace

Lord

accept these prayers

for the sake of your Son,

our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.