

## Intercession Prayer for Sunday 11th September 2016 The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

God of hope and goodness, father of our saviour Jesus Christ, hear our prayer offered in His name.

As children and young people return to school or higher education we pray that their studies prepare them for adulthood. Guide those returning to school and comfort and support children going to school for the first time. Bless the teachers and all who give time and energy to care for children, to give them a bright future in which they can thrive.

We pray for places where education is sketchy, non-existent, or is not free. Give everyone and especially children access to education to get literacy skills they need for their own futures and for the futures of their communities and countries.

Jesus told the parable of the lost sheep and, like the shepherd searching for his sheep, Jesus searches for us. Father in heaven, send Your Holy Spirit to be our guide, so that Your son need not seek us but we search for him.

Heavenly father we remember the attack on the World Trade Centre, 15 years ago today in which nearly 3000 people died. We pray for injured and dead victims of terrorism and for bereaved families and friends. Give us eyes and ears to be vigilant, to help prevent more acts of terrorism. We ask not for revenge upon terrorists but for justice and the safety and security of all people.

We pray that the initiative agreed between America and Russia will bear fruit, helping bring peace to Syria, at war with itself and Islamic State for more than 5 years.

God of the one and the many, who gives everyone the same love, support those from broken homes, those who cannot find their place in society, the alone, isolated and lonely. Give hope to those who fear for their children's future.

God of true healing, we pray for the unwell, in hospital or ill at home; for people struggling with despair or depression and for all their carers. We think of people we know who suffering or recovering and offer these prayers for them,

Glorious and gracious Father, let our ears hear You, let our eyes see You and our hearts perceive your presence. May we dream Your dreams, reflect Your love, do Your work, empowered by Your Holy Spirit and may we taste Your peace.

Merciful Father, accept this prayer for the sake of Your son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

