

Bells intercessions for 30th April 2023

God our Father, the church gives thanks for the recast bells: the hard work, persistence, goodwill, enthusiasm and generosity of the local community that has made this achievement possible, for all who have been involved in commissioning the work, in raising and donating funds, in designing and casting, installation and ringing. We pray that our bells will frequently ring out harmoniously in celebration across this village, this parish and benefice, and across the fields, moors and levels; the heavens telling the glory of God and the wonder of his work.

We give thanks also for the parish church engaging with the community – the bells appeal now completed, the village choir concert last night, the Coronation celebrations, the stall at May Fair jointly with the Methodists for Christian Aid, the Music Festival in June, and the monthly concert series restarting in the autumn.

We give thanks for all our music here, as we sing with joy in our hearts to the Lord.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

We continue to celebrate the glory of Easter and the resurrection as we pray for those who lead, and those who are led; for our ministers in North Curry and Athelney including the Revd Martin who can't be here today, and all those who maintain church services here; for the Area Dean as she prepares to take up a new appointment in Oxford Diocese, and for those who will select her replacement; for the Archdeacon and Taunton Minster, encouraging and supporting parishes in western Somerset; for Bishop Michael as he leads and represents the Diocese, and those charged with appointing the Cathedral Dean.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

We pray for HM The King and Royal Family as they prepare for the Coronation, and give thanks for the example of grace and public service given by his mother HLM Queen Elizabeth, and grandfather HLM King George.

Give wisdom, resolve and integrity to all in authority as they stand up to injustice, deceit and violence nationally and between nations, and for our local representatives at county and parish.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

We thank you for family, and friends. We pray for our community:

the school and health centre, the Community Stable, Village Hall and pavilions; those who work in the parish pubs and shops, in the fields and farm sheds, on the road and at home.

Bless all who live in our village and hamlets, on farms, and in isolated houses.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

We pray for Michael Semken – design director at Taylors – who played a crucial part in the design of bells and frame despite serious illness, David Akerman's cousin Alan Aveyard, and for others suffering illness or distress, those mentioned in the weekly pew sheet and on the prayer board, others we know, others known only to you our God. We pray for them all, and their families and carers; may light shine into their world and may they find hope in their hearts.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

We pray for those recently departed this life: among them Joyce Stagg, 102 years in North Curry; those who died in April in previous years; others still on our hearts. Compassionate Lord, open the gates of your kingdom to all who trusted in your mercy while on earth; put your loving arms round their families and round all mourning the loss of a loved one.

Lord, in your mercy, ...

Rejoicing in the fellowship of your holy apostles Peter and Paul, and trusting in Jesus who stands at the gate, we commend ourselves and all creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers ...