Intercessions 23rd October 2011

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Father we pray for the people of Libya, and celebrate with them their new found liberty. We pray for their nation as they work to rebuild it. Give them a desire for peace and justice in their land. May they protect the vulnerable, give dignity to all people. Might their new nation be a place of hope for others who know oppression and exploitation.

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Lord we come before you fearful for our economy. We have known little but growth and prosperity, and now we face financial insecurity and an uncertain future. Grant that those in power may ensure that corporate greed is regulated and we are protected from corruption and folly.

But perhaps more importantly we pray that you would grant us your perspective on money, that all things come from you and of your own do we give you.

May you be our hope, our security, our confidence and our future. May money be a tool we use to do good rather than an end in itself.

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

And finally Father we pray for the church in our land, and across our world. It would be easy to despair at the division, intolerance, lovelessness and selfish ambition which marks so much of the Church. Give us faith that you have plans for church, that your kingdom is to come through it, and that you will make it spotless and without blemish. And may we set our own sights on that hope. May your will be done in the church as is in heaven.

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

And as our Saviour taught us, so we pray,
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name;
your kingdom come;
your will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.