

## THY KINGDOM COME – ASCENSION TO PENTECOST - 2021

A Global Call to Prayer: 13 – 23 May 2021

This year we are having to change the way we celebrate the Novena. A Novena is nine days of prayer that usually encourages us to pray with a particular intention. Praying for other people is known as a prayer of intercession.

Our nine days of prayer open and close with reflections for Ascension Day and Pentecost Sunday to help you prepare and give thanks to God. This year we will distribute the Novena booklet and a Prayer Diary via email as well as having a small number of hard copies available. I hope you will be able to take part this year, and if you have any queries please contact Arthur on 564413 or Hilary on 615551.

### *Before you start*

Prayerfully choose five people to pray for and pray during these 11 days that they would know the transforming love of Christ.

- Set a time each day when you will take a moment of prayer. You only need about 10 minutes.
- Set a reminder on your phone, a note on your fridge or somewhere visible to prompt you to pray each day.

In the days between Ascension and Pentecost, we are committing ourselves to pray for friends and family to come to know the love, hope and peace found in Christ. This year, we will be using some of the psalms as a structure and guide for our prayer and reflection, holding on to the thought that ‘God has willed to make himself known in the mystery of the psalms.’ [Thomas Merton, *Praying the Psalms*].

Each day, there will be a psalm, some text and a picture. The opening and closing days of Ascension and Pentecost are like bookends to the nine days of prayer in between, setting the theme and drawing it to a close. The picture does not illustrate the psalm, but may help enrich your prayer. Enjoy it, use it, or ignore it. But whatever you do, enjoy praying!