

Prayers for Sunday 14th February (St Valentine's Day)

On St Valentine's Day love is our theme, but we are careful to keep in mind the many and varied experiences of love and lack of it in people's lives as we pray for them now.

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On this feast day of St Valentine
we pray for the family of the Church,
for all loving relationships,
for the life of families around us,
and for those with no family nearby.
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, born in poverty and soon a
refugee,
be with families today who are poor
and live in hunger and want ...
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you grew in wisdom and in
favour with God and the people
in the family of Joseph the carpenter,
bring wisdom and the presence of God
into the life and work of families today
...
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, you knew tension in your family,
misunderstanding and rejection,
but also reconciliation and renewal:
be with those who find the road rocky
today and lead them into your good
future.
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you blessed marriage in the
wedding at Cana,
be with those preparing for marriage
and with those who come to the end of
their resources ...
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, as you healed Peter's mother-in-
law,
bring healing to those in our families
who are ill today ...
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, when you were dying you called
Mary and John to care for one another.
We hold before you today those who
have lost their families: the bereaved
and childless, orphans and widows ...
Jesus, Lord of love,
in your mercy, hear us.

Jesus, after your resurrection you
shared food and company with your
disciples:
bring the whole Church into your risen
presence to eat at the eternal
banquet.
Jesus, Lord of love,
**in your mercy, hear us,
accept our prayers and be with us
always. Amen.**

God of wonder and of joy:
grace comes from you,
and you alone are the source of life
and love.
Without you, we cannot please you;
without your love,
our deeds are worth nothing.
Send your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts
that most excellent gift of love,
that we may worship you now
with thankful hearts
and serve you always with willing
minds;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.