

Prayers for Sunday 7th March 2021

Living Lord, we see your tears in the daily news,
appealing to us in helpless, hungry, dehydrated children
and the bitter anguish of their parents.

In the Yemen, Syria, Afghanistan, Somalia,
challenging our complacency with the suffering in the pandemic that
surrounds us.

You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

You are Christ the refugee,
escaping violence and injustice, oppression and war,
earthquake and famine.

Seeking asylum, needing shelter, food and clothing
And challenging us to work for peace and justice.

You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

You are Christ, the homeless on our streets.

We pass you by, aware of our guilt and not knowing what to do.
You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

Christ, the prisoner, suffering the humiliation of a prison cell,
longing for release,
for letters and visitors, for words of encouragement and hope,
for acceptance and love.

You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

Christ, you come as the stranger, a newcomer to our town,
and maybe our church.

You come as a visitor from another part of our country
or another part of the world.

You challenge our insularity and our prejudice,
our indifference and our apathy,
hoping that we shall respond with love and respect,
welcoming you into our fellowship
and with the hospitality of our homes.

You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

Lord Jesus Christ, you are there in our community.

In the sick and housebound, the isolated because of Covid19,
the bereaved, lonely and depressed, and the mentally ill
the battered wife and the abused child,
the young person struggling with home learning.

You are unemployed.

You are here in our midst, longing for our time,
our understanding, our friendship and our love.

You made us one family – Lord show us how to care.

Maureen Edwards – based on Matthew 25.31-46