



Parish of Fleet

Welcoming all in our community into the love of Christ



**Day of prayer in commemoration of
the Fire that destroyed All Saints
church - 22nd June 2017**

Prayer of Penitence (Based on Nehemiah 1:4)

O Lord God of Heaven,

The great and awesome God who keeps his promises

Forgive us that we have not always remained faithful to you

And have sometimes doubted your purposes and your goodness to us

Hear our prayer today Lord

And help us to trust and obey

As we seek to do your will here in this place,

Today and always. Amen.

Read this passage from Nehemiah chapter 2

¹¹ So I came to Jerusalem and was there for three days. ¹² Then I got up during the night, I and a few men with me; I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. The only animal I took was the animal I rode. ¹³ I went out by night by the Valley Gate past the Dragon's Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that had been broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴ Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool; but there was no place for the animal I was riding to continue. ¹⁵ So I went up by way of the valley by night and inspected the wall. Then I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. ¹⁶ The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing; I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest that were to do the work.

¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us rebuild the

wall of Jerusalem, so that we may no longer suffer disgrace.”¹⁸ I told them that the hand of my God had been gracious upon me, and also the words that the king had spoken to me. Then they said, “Let us start building!” So they committed themselves to the common good.¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they mocked and ridiculed us, saying, “What is this that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?”²⁰ Then I replied to them, “The God of heaven is the one who will give us success, and we his servants are going to start building; but you have no share or claim or historic right in Jerusalem.”

Ponder this passage for a moment and think about...

- 1) How did you feel when fire happened?
- 2) How has the fire affected our parish/ community?
- 3) What blessings have we received because of the fire?
- 4) What are your hopes for the life our church once all Saints is rebuilt?

Talk to God about these things in the silence of your heart

PRAY

- For the person who started the fire and for his family
- For all who have lost their life, loved ones, home, possessions, church to fire in recent times.
- For all who have been affected by the loss of All Saints.
- For all who have supported us or given to the All Saints fund.
- For the rebuilding group and our PCC

- For our architects, insurers and all who are helping us in our rebuilding project.
- For those whose task it is to grant permission for our rebuilding plans.
- For the life and mission of our parish as we wait for all Saints to be rebuilt.
- That God may be glorified by the rebuilding of All Saints.

A prayer for Firefighters

Merciful Father in heaven, look down in Your love upon all those who protect us and ours from the ravages of fire and flame. Grant them the courage and skills to carry out their duties well and safely. When they must go into the face of danger, be by their side in the smoke and flames. Watch over their families, ever reminding them that those who fight fire are also in Your loving care. This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

Our Rebuilding prayer

**Father God,
You met with Moses in a burning bush,
And walked with Daniel's companions in the fiery furnace,
Meet us in our grief over the loss of our church,
Speak to us of your vision for our future,
And build us up as your holy people,
A spiritual temple to your glory
In this town of Fleet.
This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen**

**'Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain. Unless the Lord guards the city, the guard keeps watch in vain.
' (Psalm 127)**