PRAYER IN THE HOME **EASTER SEASON**

GATHERING

Christ is risen. **He is risen indeed. Alleluia.**

Christ has ascended on high. He reigns for ever. Alleluia.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord. Alleluia.

Let us light a candle to remember that God's light shines in the darkness and the darkness can never put it out.

May the light of the risen Christ banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

PSALM

BIBLE READING

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

-Which words or phrases in this reading stand out for me?
-What does the reading remind me of?
-How does the reading influence or inform my faith?

SERMON You can find this week's sermon at: <u>https://stbcc.co.uk/sermons</u>

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

INTERCESSIONS & CLOSING PRAYER

Firstly, let us take some time to notice how many good things surround us, how much our lives have been blessed over the last week.

Silence

God of love: hear our prayer.

We pray for the Church, national and local, for issues large and small. We ask for God's guidance and grace, that he will circle us with the light of the gospel.

Silence

God of love: hear our prayer.

We know many people are struggling today with illness, big decisions or major crises in life. We pray for them and name before God any known to us personally, asking him to surround them with his healing touch and the peace of his presence.

Silence

God of love: hear our prayer.

Each of us has things on our mind, perhaps things we hesitate to mention to anyone else, but we can be confident that our heavenly Father understands, so let us bring these personal prayers to him now.

Silence

God of love: hear our prayer.

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God. Merciful Father: accept these prayers for the sake of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rejoicing in God's new creation, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, y our will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

May the risen Christ grant us the joys of eternal life. Amen.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.