

## Post-communion prayer

Gracious God, lover of all,  
in this sacrament  
your church throughout the world is one family in Christ your Son,  
one in the sharing of his body and blood  
and one in the communion of his Spirit:  
help us to grow in love for one another  
and come to the full maturity of the Body of Christ.  
We make our prayer through your Son our Saviour.



# Companionship Links Sunday

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2007

## Christ the King

The following prayers may be used during the service to help us remember and pray for our brothers and sisters in our Companion Links. For further information about the work being done with our companions, please visit the Companion Links website at [www.companionshiplinks.co.uk](http://www.companionshiplinks.co.uk).

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### Suggested hymns/songs

- Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
- Brother, sister, let me serve you
- Bind us together
- Jesus put this song into our hearts

### Opening Prayer

As the sun rises and the light gives way to morning  
We lift up our lives in praise and adoration  
to the God who has fashioned all peoples for freedom and joy.  
This day we join our hearts with our sisters and brothers  
in the Diocese of Kaduna in Nigeria and the Syrian Orthodox  
Church.  
in the one bond of charity, peace and hope  
we pray continually to the God who not destined us for slavery  
but for liberty  
May our prayers strengthen us to be a bright light to a world  
too enamoured of the shadows of hatred and fear.  
Amen.

*(Taken and adapted from 'From Many, One' by Edward Francis Gabriel.  
Published by Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, Indiana, 1995)*

## Collect

Almighty God  
Whose Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour and King,  
called us to be salt and light throughout the world  
We give you thanks for our companions in Nigeria  
and the Middle East  
Give us the grace to support one another  
in our continued proclamation of the love of Christ  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## Intercessions

Christ our King  
We pray for your church throughout the world  
Where there is division, help us to strive for unity  
Where there is persecution, help us to make a stand for justice  
Where there is hardship, help us to share what we have  
We give you thanks for the companionship agreement between the  
Diocese of Coventry, the Diocese of Kaduna in Nigeria and The  
Syrian Orthodox Diocese of Jerusalem, Jordan and the Holy Lands.  
We pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ in these places.  
Sustain and uphold them as they seek to witness to your love, even  
in the midst of hardship and violence.

Lord of all the church  
**Hear our prayer**

Christ our King  
We pray for the leaders of your church throughout the world  
We pray for our Bishops, Colin and John  
and for all church leaders in our diocese of Coventry  
We pray for Archbishop Josiah  
and all the clergy of Kaduna Diocese  
We pray for Metropolitan Mar Sewerios  
and all the priests of the Syrian Orthodox church  
Give them wisdom and discernment  
through the power of your Spirit  
to lead your church in the ways of truth

Lord of all the church  
**Hear our prayer**

Christ our King  
We pray for the building of your Kingdom in the world.  
We remember projects being undertaken

in our companionship links,  
which seek to bring unity, justice and wellbeing  
We pray for the Mar Ephram Christian School in Bethlehem  
We pray for education, health and medical projects in Kaduna,  
including the provision of water wells  
We pray for the Jacaranda Farm project in Kaduna,  
bringing young people of different faiths together

Lord of all the church  
**Hear our prayer**

Christ our King  
We pray for all who live without adequate food or shelter  
and all who are suffering in body, mind or spirit  
(We bring before you by name.....)  
May your provision, comfort and healing be upon them

Lord of all the church  
**Hear our prayer**

Christ our King  
We remember those who have died  
(We bring before you by name...)  
May your promise of eternal life bring hope and comfort to all those  
who mourn

Lord of all the church  
**Hear our prayer**

Christ our King  
We pray for your continued blessing on ourselves  
and all those in our companionship links  
May our links be strengthened  
and may we be a blessing to one another

Merciful Father  
**Accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Offering prayer

*If gifts are given for either of the Diocesan links*

Lord you have blessed us richly with many gifts  
This offering is made as a token of our thanks.  
May it be a blessing to our brothers and sisters  
in our companion links,  
as we share our resources for the building of your Kingdom. Amen.