

## Thanksgivings for National Life

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### **For the Nation**

Almighty God, giver of all good things:

We thank you for the natural majesty and beauty of this land. They restore us, though we often destroy them.

**Heal us.**

We thank you for the great resources of this nation. They make us rich, though we often exploit them.

**Forgive us.**

We thank you for the men and women who have made this country strong. They are models for us, though we often fall short of them.

**Inspire us.**

We thank you for the torch of liberty which has been lit in this land. It has drawn people from every nation, though we have often hidden from its light.

**Enlighten us.**

We thank you for the faith we have inherited in all its rich variety. It sustains our life, though we have been faithless again and again.

**Renew us.**

Help us, O Lord, to finish the good work here begun. Strengthen our efforts to blot out ignorance and prejudice, and to abolish poverty and crime. And hasten the day when all our people, with many voices in one united chorus, will glorify your holy Name. **Amen.**

### **For Heroic Service**

O Judge of the nations, we remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our country who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy. Grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines. This we ask in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **PRAYING TOGETHER**

Let us pray for all who suffer as a result of conflict, and ask that God may give us peace: for all members of the armed forces who are in danger this day, remembering family, friends and all who pray for their safe return; May God give peace,

**God give peace.**

For civilian women, children and men whose lives are disfigured by war or terror, calling to mind in penitence the anger and hatreds of humanity;

May God give peace,

**God give peace.**

For peace-makers and peace-keepers, who seek to keep this world secure and free; May God give peace,

**God give peace.**

For all who bear the burden and privilege of leadership, political, military and religious; asking for gifts of wisdom and resolve in the search for reconciliation and peace. May God give peace,

**God give peace.**

O God of truth and justice, we hold before you those whose memory we cherish, and those whose names we will never know. Help us to lift our eyes above the torment of this broken world, and grant us the grace to pray for those who wish us harm. As we honour the past, may we put our faith in your future; for you are the source of life and hope, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

God grant to the living grace,

to the departed rest,

to the Church, our nation and all people,

unity, peace and concord. **Amen.**