

Father we come to church for many reasons, but one reason is often that we want some space in a crowded week, space to put things in perspective, space to be still, to slow down. Space to be me, space to be you. Thank you for the gift of space. We've come to enjoy that space for a while together, and we do so now, in silence.....

We live in a society desperately chasing its tail, where life is full of more and more choices, more and more pressures – and more and more casualties. People can't keep up. But you, Lord, are a God of perfect timing and ample space. We'd love to walk at your pace. We ask, not only for space for ourselves but also for one or two other people who are in need of that gift. Silently we name those people, holding them in your love.....

St Chad's could be a gift to so many. This is sacred space. Show us, Lord, how to make this special place available to all, a place of hospitality and welcome, where people may come, hopeful and unafraid. Show us how to help people come through the door, and how to greet them as Christ for us. In the quiet, now, make us aware of the silent music of this place as we listen, and wait and pray.....

Lord, above, beyond and around us, universe extends into unimaginable space. And this can only expand our understanding of you, for you hold all things in being, sustaining the universe. Courageously, there are men and women who fly in space, and scientists who apply their minds to mysteries that teeter on the edge of comprehension. We pray for them as they push out the boundaries of knowledge, reading your script, pursuing the clues you've wrapped up in the wonders of the universe. Save us from arrogance, and equip us for wonder.....

Lord of the immensity of outer space and the detail of every space on earth, hold us moment by moment in the particular space of our own lives. Help us to celebrate every moment of life until our time and space is folded into the embrace of eternity, where you reign forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

These prayers, read by Duncan Jones are based on an original idea by The Rt Revd John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford and are from his book 'The Second Intercessions Handbook'.