

# Worthing Deanery Prayer

The theme of this week 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017.

## Kingdom of God

### Reflection

The theme of the gospel on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January is about Jesus calling the first four disciples but this Friday 27<sup>th</sup> is also Holocaust Memorial Day when we remember all those who have been killed in genocide throughout the history of the world and in recent genocides over the last 100 years. The prayer poem at the bottom of this week's bulletin was written during the Second World War by a Protestant Minister called Pastor Martin Niemoller; he was speaking out against the Nazi persecution of those who were different or who disagreed with them, please read the prayer poem and reflect on the meaning it has for all of us today. Let us all try and work on 'building bridges' with people even those who we may not get on with in our schools. The theme this year is "How can life go on." May all of us throughout life be free to love and live a happy and fulfilling life in order to continue to build God's Kingdom on earth in all that we think, do and say. **How will you do that this week?**

### Prayer

#### Holocaust Memorial Day Prayer

God, you created us all in your own likeness.

We thank you for the wonderful diversity of races and cultures in your world.

Enrich our lives by ever-widening our human feelings and understanding of others.

Show us your presence in those most different from us, so that in all our relationships

on our journey through life we may come to know you more fully in all of your

Creation. For you are Father, Son and Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

### From the bible – “Repent for the kingdom of God is near.”

“First they came for the Communists and I did not speak out because I was not a Communist.

Then they came for the Socialists and I did not speak out because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the trade unionists and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Jews and I did not speak out because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me and there was no one left to speak out for me.”