

Prayers for peace

Dear Lord,

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of the victims of all wars and violence among individuals and nations.

Hear my voice, for it is the voice of all children who suffer and will suffer when people put their faith in weapons and war.

Hear my voice when I beg You to install into the hearts of all human beings the wisdom of peace, the strength of justice, and the joy of fellowship.

Hear my voice, for I speak for the multitudes in every country and in every period of history who do not want war and are ready to walk the road of peace.

Hear my voice and grant insight and strength so that we may always respond to hatred with love, to injustice with total dedication to justice, to need with the sharing of self, to war with peace.

O God, hear my voice and grant unto the world
Your everlasting peace.

Amen.

Dear Lord, look with kindness on our broken world in which there is so much conflict.

May God, our Merciful Father, give wisdom to those who are trying to sustain, protect and build peace through negotiation and diplomacy,

Amen.

Thought for the Week 3rd Sunday of Lent 12th March 2023

The story of the Samaritan woman at the well with Jesus has so many lessons for us. It gives us clues to several of Jesus' most profound truths- love they neighbour being the obvious one.

Historically, in Jesus time, the Samaritans were a race with whom the Jews did not associate. But Jesus ignored that fact— she was his neighbour, another human being created by God. Isn't this how we should look at migrants, outcasts and people who may hurt us? Jesus loves ALL people and he wants us to try to emulate Him.

The woman asked Jesus some pointed questions and she must have found His answers astonishing. He told her He was the Messiah and had come to offer Living Water as a salvation.

“If you knew... who it is that asks for a drink.. He would have given you living water.”

He has done just this for her. Jesus offers us salvation in the form of Living Waters from God.

At the end of the story, as the Apostles return, she runs off to spread the news she has to her people- something Jesus wants us to do throughout the world. Extraordinarily, her fellow Samaritans believed her, despite viewing Jews as enemies. Many fellow Jews of the time did not- or took much longer to convince.

The woman at the well gives us a tale of Love, Truth, Redemption and Acceptance. Let us try to copy these qualities and put Jesus example in the forefront of our daily lives – no matter how difficult.

Jesus wants us ALL in his holy kingdom, not just a few.



We ask you please, to pray for the following people who continue to ask for your prayers;

Please prayer for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who needs a bone marrow transplant - he has Aplastic Anaemia. Please pray a donor match is found.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who has had surgery for cancer and must now have lengthy chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for victims of all wars.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (age 2 with eye trouble).

Please prayer for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Haggar.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for Peter Halter's Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan has to have 3 months chemo so he continues to need our prayers.

Please pray for the residents and staff of Abbeycrest and St Luke's.

Please pray for the pupils, teachers and parents of St Martin's school.



Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;

Lucy Shunwell, Dorothy Flannex (nee Nevin), Mary Weir, Sister Mary Joseph (Murray), Molly Marnie Connors, Donna Armstrong, Doreen Felicidade Petricia D'Souza, Henry Kerr, Tess Lynch, Molly Luby, Jean Geoffreys.