

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

12th February, 2023

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Over the past few weeks the Sunday readings have traced Jesus' ministry, starting with his baptism by John, the recruitment of the first disciples and the beginning of his ministry, preaching and teaching to all those who flocked to hear him. We heard about Jesus telling the crowds that the keys to the kingdom of heaven could be found in the Beatitudes. In last Sunday's gospel, we heard Jesus begin to challenge those who came to hear him, telling them not to hide away but, rather to demonstrate the power of God through their actions: '*Your light must shine in the sight of men*'.

That challenge continues this week as Jesus tells his disciples to go beyond following the ten commandments per se but, rather to follow them in a manner that upholds the dignity of all; in a manner that goes beyond what the law required. Where the law condemned murder Jesus condemned anger or even falling out with another and most significantly, he advocated making amends at the earliest opportunity.

Of course it wasn't that Jesus was turning down the commandments that had been given to Moses, but rather he was explaining that he, the Messiah, had come to fulfil the revelation of the will of God and to do that meant surpassing the old interpretation of the law. It meant going beyond '*Thou shall not*' to '*Happy the gentle*', '*Happy the peacemakers*'.

So what does this mean for me? To live out the Gospel I need to begin each day with the intention of doing my very best to live in faith with God and faith with others. Faith in the light that Jesus brings, allows us to live every day in love, in compassion and in forgiveness.

Now that's a better way than just blindly following a commandment!



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

Please pray for the repose of the souls and the consolation of the family of John Noronha (brother-in-law of Emmi Antao) who has died.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of and the consolation of the family of Antoinette Rosario, mother of Deborah West, whose funeral is on 16th February at English Martyrs Church.

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

Marie King, Hugh Jerome Morland, Elizabeth Doran, Diane Fox, Rex Raven, Willem Anschutz, Delia Davies, Joan Leach, Harold Price, Bep Anschutz, Stephen James Aldworth, John Dowd, Richard Savage, Avito Benedict Da Silva.