

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

16th July 2023

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle A

Over the past few weeks, the youth of our parish has celebrated the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. These are both signs of welcome growth within our community. Like young plants, the church of the future requires protection and nurturing in order to blossom. The lessons learnt in our early years support us when we need help in difficult times, sometimes in unexpected ways.

The passage from Isaiah reminded the Jews in exile in Babylon of the everlasting faithfulness of God and the need to prepare to receive the Word that would be fruitful. As in their case, sometimes our preparations do not produce the expected outcomes at the time of our choosing. Gardeners will have had the experience of preparing the ground, sowing good seed at the correct time, watering and protecting from frost, birds and slugs but no seedlings appear. After a while we give up, rake over and start again, but the preparation has not been wasted. The next attempt or sometimes the one after that.... brings forth a good crop.

The young people who are in the early stages of their faith journey this year, will inherit the church that we leave them. They will take it forward in ways we cannot imagine. We can prepare them to take on the task in the future and also work to leave a vibrant, welcoming and diverse parish which draws on the skills and talents of all the varied elements of our community.

A Parishioner



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

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan had a bone marrow transplant, so he continues to need our prayers.

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has had his stem cell transplant to treat the Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers please for a successful outcome.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who continues to recover after chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

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

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 Hagger.

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 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;

Catherine Cottrell, Nigel Drever, Ian Reid,
Peggy and Arthur Evans, Dudley George James,
Gladys Tomlinson, Cyril Thomas Smith,
Susan O'Sullivan, George Gallagher,
Michael McDonnell, Anne Marie Ouro.