

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 7th Sunday in ordinary time 19th February 2023

Are you aware that this Monday is “Collop Monday”? This day used to be just as important and popular as “Shrove Tuesday”, now known more commonly as Pancake Day; it was a day when luxury foods such as meat, eggs and butter were used in special pre-Lenten dishes, it was quite simply the last opportunity for eating meat before Lent. Shrove Tuesday followed when eggs, milk and fat – ingredients for pancake batter – were also used up. The word Shrove comes from “Shrive” meaning “Forgive” and traditionally the Church bells tolled to remind people to come for confession.

In 1445 a housewife from Olney Buckinghamshire, was so busy making pancakes that she forgot the time until she heard the church bells ringing for the service. She raced out of the house to church while still carrying her frying pan and pancake, tossing it to prevent it from burning. This is commemorated in Pancake Races up and down the country. (There is one at Stoke Row on the Green at 2 pm.)

“Ash Wednesday” is the true start of Lent, a season of prayer and seeking forgiveness lasting 40 days – plus Sundays – leading up to Easter Sunday. During Lent, Catholics and other Christian participants claim a reprieve on Sundays with the convenient excuse that otherwise, it would be more than 40 days. The key requirements for Lent are: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charity).

What are we giving up for Lent? Traditionally meats, eggs and butter and in recent times, sweets and alcohol, but what about turning off social media? For many of us, time is our most precious commodity. Our Lenten resolve might well be to give more quality time for God: extra prayer, meditation, a week day Mass or Holy Hour on Monday evenings.



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 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;

Barbara Pike, Douglas Lochhead, Eileen Arkell, Bridie Bonner, Peter Davies, Eileen Enright, Jimmy Thompson, Mary Ann Kennedy, Una Cottrell, Edward Lonsdale, Kevin Watters, Lazard Custodio Joanes, Mrs Mee, Mrs Maria Motyka, Nancy Iwasyk, Nancy Evach and Bazie, Elizabeth Doran, Father Robert O.F.M.