

## *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 19th June 2022 Feast of Corpus Christi**

It's been three years since we have gathered without restriction around our young people as they make their First Holy Communion. Today feels like an important affirmation of what it means to be a Catholic community. We have so missed celebrating this crucial rite of passage in the lives of our children and grandchildren. Let's pray for those receiving communion for the first time this Sunday, Corpus Christi, that they will continue to journey into a relationship with Jesus and feel nourished by the sacrament of his Body and Blood along the way.

The Mass, the Eucharist, Holy Communion are very much at the heart of what it means to be Catholic. This contrasts with many Protestant and non-conformist churches who gather as much, and more, around the Word, as they do around the communion table. Wars were fought in the sixteenth century over the Mass, and whether or not Jesus is truly present in the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Thankfully, differences of approach between different Christian communities are less fraught now. What hasn't changed is how much we Catholics value the Mass as a central part of our parish life; something we cherish both as a coming together, and as food for our journeys. We need the Eucharist, and we need to be part of a community of faith and friendship. The Mass provides both.

I once read the foreword to a book about L'Arche written by Archbishop Robert Runcie who was close to the L'Arche community in Canterbury. In it he recalls a time when he was distributing communion in Canterbury Cathedral. A member of the community, a young man with learning difficulties, came to the altar rail to receive Communion. The Archbishop placed the Eucharist in his cupped hands. The young man looked puzzled, as though he wasn't sure what to do next. There was a moment of tension. Then he smiled, broke the host in two, gave half back to the Archbishop, eating the other half. I think he understood what Jesus was doing.



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

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Thank you for your prayers for Barbara Stitt (Krissie's Mum) who is recovering from an operation, we are very grateful.

Please prayer for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

Please pray for Barbara Van Bree who has cancer

Please prayer for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has been diagnosed with Aplastic Anaemia and needs our prayers.

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Please pray for victims of all wars remembering those in Ukraine

Please pray for Savanna Clark (age 2 with heart trouble)

Please pray for Shirley Trollop

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) that she may be able to have an operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is very poorly

Please pray for Beth Selwood

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 sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for Jean's great grandson Rogan who is 9 and has leukemia. Rogan continues to need our prayers.

Please pray for the residents and staff at the two nursing homes in our parish, Abbeycrest and St Luke's.



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

Sue Conners, Kieran Cotter, Marlene Fernandes,  
Joan Law, Jimmy Curran, Sue Conners, Anne Ouro,  
Peter Spencer, Rosena Faultner, Elizabeth Tonner,  
Petra Zambano de Roman, Joseph Cunningham,  
Norman Hutchinson, Frances Talkington,  
Babs Monaghan.