

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 in Lent 20th March 2022

“Unless you repent, you will perish” Luke 13:1-9

Ukraine dominates much of our thoughts and by the time you read this, the war will have moved on. Last Sunday Pope Francis in his mid-day message talking to thousands in St Peter’s Square warned that Ukrainian cities risked *“being reduced to cemeteries”* and that the killing of children and unarmed civilians was *“barbaric”* and had *“no valid strategic reason”*. *“In the name of God, I ask you: stop this massacre.”*

Disasters and Wars have a way of focusing our mind. In the ancient world tragedies and disasters were construed as a sign of God’s displeasure and anger, but in today’s Gospel, Jesus strongly refutes the idea of those that fall victim to tragic events were especially sinful. The truth is that evil and terrible things happen to both good and bad people.

It is easy from our armchairs to encourage the brave Ukrainians to fight, but would we be prepared to do the same? Are we ready to invite the dispossessed Ukrainians into our homes? Did we give a welcome to the dispossessed Syrians and Afghans? Are we in danger of treating the Ukrainians differently because they are more like us? Have we become too obsessed with our own selfish needs?

The prophets of old called the people to return to God with all our hearts. We need to have a deep understanding of our need for repentance as we pray for an end to this war.

Judy and Stephen



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

Maddy Sharman has asked for our prayers.

Please pray for Colin, Stephen and Judy Fox's nephew who had to have a stem cell transfusion the treatment started on Feb 22nd

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

Please pray for Cecilia Fung, the mother of Fr Jojo. She has had a stroke.

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

Please pray for Caroline Mikhail (daughter - in - law of Jane and Ramsay Mikhail) who suffered a stroke.

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 children and teachers of the Parish

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

Please pray for all victims of the Coronavirus.



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

Mary Fallon, Henry Ernest Gibbons, Mary Ann Kerr

Iva Andrews, Ted Cotter, Nancy Keogh,

Hermien Noothout, Peter Warren, Tony Dover,

Audrey Gallagher.