

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.

Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216

Thought for the week

2nd Sunday of Easter (Year C)

New Resolutions, New Beginnings

“Alleluia, He is Risen, Alleluia!”

The five weeks of our personal Lenten preparation, in whatever way we each chose, is well and truly over. The happiness of Easter fills the air (helped by the gorgeous weather) and we have already had the first of seven full weeks to celebrate and revel in the joy of the Resurrection.

So what now?

In our first reading we get to have a peep at the post-Pentecost Church. That early Christian community met in public, not afraid of the witness they gave; people were “*loud in their praise*” and the number of believers increased steadily. Their faith and their confidence in the resurrection of Jesus allowed them to work signs and wonders among the people. What a contrast that is to the image we get in the pre-Pentecost Gospel where Jesus’ closest followers are hiding in a room for fear of the Jews.

Pentecost Day is the birthday of the Church; the weeks leading up to that can be a time of preparation and new beginnings for us as the community of St Michael’s. Lent is very much a time of personal preparation for Easter; Eastertide is a time for celebration and, as humans, we celebrate best as a community. How can we make that celebration more infectious? How can we renew ourselves as a Parish so that when we celebrate the Church’s birthday we are more like that early Christian community in Jerusalem? Can we be an amazing advertisement and an infectious reflection of the joy, hope and love that is Christ?

I don’t know the answers, but I do know that it is something we are called to do. This Eastertide, let us rejoice, let us pray and let us act in the name of our risen Lord:

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!!

A parishioner



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

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 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

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;**

Ilona Bakacs, Rima Dwyer, Sean Bannon,
Julia Welemars and family, Norah Bourne,
Edna Walsh, Peadar Farrell, Charles Halter,
Mary Burns, Gilbert Lousley, Anne Ouro,
Christopher Stone, Yvonne De La Harpe,
Norman Morey, Robert Downs, Patrick Keogh,
Richard Bertram George.