

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
25th June 2023
Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Earlier this month on World Environment Day, Pope Francis asked people to move away from the throwaway culture towards ways of living marked by a culture of respect and care; care of creation and care of our neighbours, whether they be near or far from us.

Last August, the Holy Father installed the first Cardinal of Brazil's Amazon region showing his concern for the rainforest and its indigenous people.

We were fortunate to be able to visit the Amazon rainforest some 30 years ago. Among our fondest memories was canoeing through the igapo - areas of rainforest flooded for many months of the year- where we enjoyed spotting freshwater dolphin and Jacare (Brazilian alligator). It is hard to believe since our visit that some 450,000 square Km of it have been destroyed – an area almost twice the size of the UK! The beauty of all we saw on our trips round the Amazon Basin and our visit to the spectacular Iguassu Falls were spiritually inspiring.

The igapo are very special habitats with rich diversity in plant and animal life which are dependent on the natural seasonal flooding that brings in fresh nutrients. The many huge hydroelectric dams being built in the Amazon disrupt this by permanently flooding large areas. These dams also disrupt the river route navigation of indigenous people.

Of course we don't need to travel abroad to appreciate the beauty of God's creation. Our own island home abounds with rich plant and animal life. And we can play our part by supporting our local wildlife trusts efforts to help endangered birds, insects, animal and plant life.

The Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins celebrated nature and its resilience in his poem 'God's Grandeur.' And he made an eloquent plea for the natural world in the last stanza of his poem 'Inversnaid'.

*“What would the world be, once bereft
Of wet and wildness? Let them be left,
O let them be left, wildness and wet;
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.”*



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 on June 1st 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;

Babs Monaghan, Noel Moore, Marcus Fernandes, Rita Lavalette, Peter Perie, Joan Griffin, Patrick Joseph Treacy, Ray Samuels, Norman Lousley, Audrey Monument, Bob Ryan, Pam Ryan, Bella Sellwood.