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 7th Sunday of Easter (Year C) 29th May 2022

Today we celebrate Jesus' return to His Father and we celebrate His continued presence in our lives. Today's Gospel from John, isn't a sermon, instead it is part of an on-going prayer that begins at the start of chapter 17.

It is Jesus' prayer to his Father, a prayer that was not just for the disciples, but for all peoples down through the ages. '*I pray not only for these, but for those also who through their words WILL believe in me.* 'That's you and me!

During Jesus prayer one theme stands out. It was extremely important to him. It was his constant prayer to the Father on our behalf: the prayer for unity in the body of Christ. Just as Jesus and his Father are one, so he wants us to be one with each other.

It is so easy to look at all the disunity in our world. Disunity caused by war, politics, religion, hunger, the list could go on. To achieve Jesus' wish we have to look at what unites us. I often call it 'the art of the possible'.

Looking at the impossible gets us nowhere. Acknowledging that humans are all different and have different views – that we are not 'uniform', allows us to look at what we have in common and use that to draw us together. We show our unity in our love and care for others and they for us. Key to this is dialogue at all levels from families to institutions, remembering that before humanity was a gleam in the Father's eyes there existed the relationship of love between God the Father, Son and Spirit. Through our intimate union with God it becomes easier to love our fellow humans in faith. The Spirit of Christ is with us on our journey towards that unity.



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

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;

Peggy Dodd, Patrick Keogh, Eugene Lavalette, Claudina Rodrigues, Andy Tait, Mary "Jo" Clay, Maurice de Silva, Basil Iwasyki, Brenda Pearce, Arthur Burns, Ruth Coyne, Olive Ryan, Lucy Shurvell, Margaret Hamilton Jones, Sharon Ruddle, Sheila Smith, Eric Brent, James Curran, Vernon Richard Smith, Joan Selway, Brenda Pearce.