

## 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

2nd July 2023

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time Cycle A

The readings this week are tough! They are challenging! How can Jesus say that;

*‘anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me’?*

He stresses the point even further by referring to son or daughter in the same vein. Clearly, he isn't asking us to turn away from loved ones nor is he saying that it's bad to enjoy life. So, what is he saying?

Perhaps Jesus is talking about those times in our lives when our relationships with others, the things we say and the things we do in our lives come into conflict with His principles.

Finding our way to God and following Jesus isn't easy. We know the love of the Father, the devotion of the Son and the peace of the Spirit: but here Jesus is challenging us to put our faith before all else. When confronted by Pilate, Jesus himself chose and accepted death on the cross. Jesus stresses in the Gospel,

*Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me.*

We are encouraged to submit to the transformative power of dying to self and encouraged to actively live out God's principles in our own lives.

Through actions such as serving others, prioritizing relationships over personal desires, and practicing acts of kindness and mercy, we may follow in Jesus' footsteps.



**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 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;**

Doris Campbell, John Russell, Patrick Cottrell, Marie van Bree-Anschutz, Bernard Fornara, Richard Frankton, Bob Gaffney, Lou Levy, Mark San, Jean Coleman, Susanna Free, Francis Joanes, Margaret Mather, Audrey Monument, W. Smyth, Maggie Carroll, Chris Tynan, Michael Werkalec, Victims of the London Terrorist Bombings 2005, Bernard Brown, Helen Coyle, Jerry Ferris.