

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 5th February, 2023 5th Sunday in ordinary time.

"You are the light of the world"

The next few Sundays continue to lay out for us Jesus' teaching from the Sermon on the mount.

Today we are called to be lights that "*shine in the sight of men*" so that others may come to the Father.

Isaiah, in the first reading, gives us guidance on how to do this.

He tells us to live in the way of love, that others may come to seek God through the example of our lives.

The suggestions that Isaiah gives us so that our "*light will rise in the darkness*" are: sharing bread with the hungry; sheltering the homeless; clothing the naked and giving relief to the oppressed.

When people witness our charity and our love they should see the light and the joy of faith in our hearts and want to share in that too.

IN this day and age we have so many opportunities to do any one of the things Isaiah suggest - there are foodbanks in every supermarket. You don't even have to travel further than our Church to help. There is a box at the back of Church for the local food bank and another box for your unwanted clothing which can be used by CIRDIC.

We might not all be in the situation to be able to shelter the homeless but you can always speak to a homeless person and use the St Mungo's helpline (information at the back of Church) to report a homeless person to make sure the charity is aware of their situation. Or perhaps ask your "neighbours" or local community who may be sheltering refugees from Ukraine, Afghanistan or Syria, what can be done to help.

The best way that most of us can carry out our vocation to spread the Good News is in the way we live our lives.

We are the "*salt of the earth*". Through a spirit of love, happiness and sharing that comes from knowing and following Christ, our *light may shine in the sight of men.*



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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of and the consolation of the family of Antoinette Rosario, mother of Deborah West.

Please prayer for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who needs a bone marrow transplant - he has Aplastic Anaemia. Please pray a donor match is found.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who has had surgery for cancer and must now have lengthy chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for victims of all wars.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (age 2 with eye trouble).

Please prayer for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

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 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 Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan has to have 3 months chemo so he 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 pray for the Teachers and Pupils of St Martin's school.



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

Barbara Pike, Jill Brown, Margaret Morey, Bill Hoban, Peter Smith Eileen (Nevin) Leech, Dennis Goodehied, Kathleen Warren, Joanna Sheehan, Patrick Sullivan.