

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 EASTER SUNDAY 9TH APRIL, 2023

He is risen!

The fundamental core of our profession of faith is that Christ has truly risen from the dead.

When the two Marys arrived at the tomb, they were completely unprepared for what they found. The American pastor, Eugene Peterson writes,

“The Christian life begins here: a community gathered at the place of impossibility, the tomb.”

This community of Jesus’s friends and followers went on a rollercoaster of a ride from the triumphal entry into Jerusalem, through His betrayal by Judas and to His death on the cross. Then we have the glory of the resurrection! I sometimes wonder what it would have been like to go through all that with the apostles. How did Peter feel - from promising to die for Christ to denying Him outside the high priest’s palace, to entering the tomb and finding the linen cloths lying on the ground? The wonder of his finally understanding, “the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.”

As our Lenten journey has now finished, with perhaps varying degrees of success, we too can wonder at the glory of the resurrection. For all the times we may have come up short, this miracle means we can never be deprived of the love of Christ who conquered death for all of us. Have we been like the two Marys looking for Jesus in the wrong places? Have we felt some things in life seem too difficult or even impossible? On this Easter Sunday Jesus has started something new for us: a new beginning that had been promised long ago. Truly, we can yield to the impossibility of the resurrection life that God offers and has prepared for us.

He is risen indeed!

Alleluia!



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

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 (age 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 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 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 victims of all wars.

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;

Katinka Werfhorst, Harry Fry, Joyce Ashby, Mary Lousley, Catherine Nevin, John Rixon, Ron Ryan, Geza Toth, Fr. Xavier O.F.M., Fr Robert O'Neill, Jenny Pereira, Jack Leach, Mary Ann Oattes, Camilio Santana Rodrigues.