

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
16th October, 2022
29th Sunday in Ordinary time

In this week's Gospel, we are reminded of the need to pray continually. One way to pray is with your feet. This is something I did a few weeks ago by joining others in walking a section of the Camino de Santiago in Northern Spain. A steady increase over the years means that now over four hundred thousand walk the Camino each year - over 40% for religious reasons.

For me, it was a spiritually fulfilling experience ending with the Mass for Pilgrims in the beautiful cathedral of Santiago De Compostela.

I met pilgrims of all ages- not just walking the Camino, but doing it by bike, wheelchair, horseback and even a big old-style push-along scooter! Some have become friends and we have exchanged phone messages, sharing photos and memories and even our reasons for walking the Camino.

The start point in England for walking the Camino is from Reading Abbey, where the hand of St James and other relics were thought to be held. But to pray with your feet you don't need to walk the Camino, there are such walks closer to home, including The Pilgrims' way from Winchester to Canterbury cathedral. In 2017, a large section of the Thames Path was designated a pilgrim's way - the 104 mile section from Radcot to Runnymede near Windsor.

This autumn, with home-heating turned down to save energy, many of us may find it warmer outside and find more time for walking. Whether we follow formal pilgrims' routes or not it could be a valuable opportunity to be on our own, reflect and take stock of where our life is going.

On other occasions we can nurture our spirit by quietly observing nature and marvelling at God's creation. And there are times of course when what we need is the company of a friend or family member to share news and offer one another a listening ear and support.

My pilgrimage reflections were aided by the words on a card at the centre where I shared coffee with fellow pilgrims after the Mass in English. It read:

“Blessed are you pilgrim if you search for the truth and make of the Camino a life, and of your life a way in search of the One who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.”



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 prayer for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has been diagnosed with Aplastic Anaemia and needs 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) she has now had her 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 10 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 pray for the teachers and children of the parish



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

Teresa Carter, Jessie McGinn, Jill Frildo, Alan Waller, Marnie Cotter, Bill Rodgers, Raymond Enright, Michael and Francis Coffey, Leonard Godfrey, Peter Gerard Smyth, Winifred Dougan, Jimmy Enright, Eric Gillett, Pat Hurst Harris