

## *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 18th December, 2022 4th Sunday of Advent**

*“Drop Thy still dews of quietness,  
‘Till all our strivings cease.  
Take from our souls the strain and stress  
And let our ordered lives confess  
The Beauty of Thy peace.”*

This is a verse from a hymn we sang last week - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind and actually it fits well with the entrance antiphon of today:

*“Drop down dew from above, you heavens”*

This phrase foretold the birth of Christ, Our Saviour, as the earth opened and He was born.

God sent us a saviour in the form of His only Son so He could die for our sins and be with us forever to help us along our path to heaven. The angel announced they will call Him Emmanuel which means “God- is -with-us”

In these challenging, turbulent and often upsetting times of uncertainty in our world, we need help to journey through in hope and wonder and not despair. The world is beautiful and people are beautiful, but we mess up.

OUR BEST HELP is God Himself, through Jesus Christ and strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Not an easy task, is it? But let’s hold on to hope and let Jesus show us the way, and, above all, let’s try to love each other.

Remember the reading from St Paul today:

*“To you all then who are God’s beloved (in Rome), called to be SAINTS...”*

Apparently, we are saints in the making!!!

**Happy Christmas to us all**



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

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

Albert Eeckelaers, Lesley Farquhar, Margaret Hall, Reg Adams, Margaret Allison, Wojciech Motyka, Simon Barrow, Bill Condon, Alfred May, Peter Ellison, George Raynard, Sheila Wright, Abigail Gonzalez, Eamonn and Nancey Keogh, Nan and Laurance Maxwell, Paul Fay, Bride McGarry, Tessie McNamara, Bridget Mullaniff, Fr. Robert O'Neill O.F.M, Gwen Payne, Fr. Xavier O.F.MQ, Benjamin Roman Zambrano, Phyllis Baning –Gould, Robert Nicholson, Ann Wewlin