

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
23rd October, 2022
30th Sunday in Ordinary time

The Gospel for this Sunday describes two attitudes of prayer. On the one hand the Pharisee lists how he obeys the Law and avoids sinning. On the other we have a tax collector, regarded in those days as a traitor and a crook, who can barely raise his eyes to heaven. What is Jesus telling us about the ways in which these two men pray?

This parable is aimed at those who think they are righteous and superior to others - the Pharisee thought he was praying, when in fact he was praising himself. Yes, he had good qualities and does many things that are good, but unfortunately he regarded himself as better than others. However, none of us can say before God that we are superior to anyone, as we hear in the first reading from Ecclesiasticus.

It is the tax collector who leaves the temple at peace with God - the despised member of society, who acknowledges his own failings and throws himself wholly on God's mercy. Pope Francis continually reminds us that God never tires of forgiving us, but we tire of asking Him for forgiveness.

We can probably find a bit of both the Pharisee and the tax collector within ourselves at different times. We may sometimes find it difficult to avoid feeling morally superior to another person, but we all know that we are loved, not because we are good, but because God is good. That we get it wrong sometimes and fall short of how God wants us to be, is not a reason to doubt His love for us, but is a reason to be in awe of His loving mercy.

Let us remember the tax collector's prayer:

God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Mary



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 been diagnosed with cancer.

Please pray for Beth Selwood

Please pray for victims of all wars remembering those in Ukraine

Please pray for Savanna Clark (age 2 with heart 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 very poorly

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;

Michael and Francis Coffey, Raymond Enright, Leonard Godfrey, Peter Gerard Smyth, Marnie Cotter, Pam Kizer, Janet (Jane) Jones, Angela May, Dolly Coffey, John Conlon, James Enright, Ursula Margaret Jean Van Well, Brian Dougan, George Hajdu (senior), Danny Jenkins, Kevin Geherty, Oliver Keogh.