

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

31st July 2022

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

It is only right that we feel the responsibility to work hard and provide for our families and our future, so one might agree to some extent with the rich man in this weekend's Gospel. It is human wisdom to build bigger barns for a bumper harvest; however, this wealthy landowner seems to be ignoring the blessing God has given him in the abundance of crops. At a time when people lived under hardship - famine or land appropriation were a constant threat for subsistence farmers - this man stored his surplus stock instead of helping to feed and support those more in need.

Nowadays some people feel driven to to acquire more - more possessions, more wealth, more status. Such a false focus in our lives can leave us feeling unfulfilled and there is the old saying, "You can't take it with you!". What sort of influence is this need to own things having on our lives?

Today it is also worth thinking about the impact our acquisitiveness is having on the planet. What are we leaving behind for our children and grandchildren? Do we really need to buy more? Can we make do with what we have for a bit longer or repair it? Can we purchase pre-loved items from the local charity shop, perhaps? Are we storing up material riches to the detriment of those most in need in the world?

In the Gospel reading, Jesus is reminding us that we will leave all our possessions behind and we will be asked what spiritual riches we have accumulated. We could ask ourselves, what, in fact, are we living for? The demands on our lives can make it difficult to prioritise, but let us not close our eyes, ears and hearts to the most disadvantaged in our society.



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 and the consolation of the family of June Payne who has died .

Please pray for Eve Osz who is in hospital with pneumonia

Please prayer for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

Please pray for Barbara Van Bree who has cancer

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) that she may be able to have an 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 Grand-son 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 9 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;

Euralia Antao, Edward (Teddy) Jenkins, Carol Tegg, Rachelle De Souza, Margaret Green, Martin Lousley Frank Ryan, Joyce Price, Andreas Van Well, "Bobby" Deighton, Margaret Green, Nicola Juniper, Bernard Morgan, Sean Smyth.