

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 4th December, 2022 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1 – 10

I've always loved the image of the tree of Jesse – in medieval manuscripts, in paintings and in stained glass windows. All those different people that make the root and stock of the Christian family are seen, often arguing among themselves! They are joined together in Advent waiting, their link to Christ illustrated and emphasised by their common root.

We are sprung from the root of Jesse. And this Sunday's first reading emphasises how in our waiting for Christ and in our belonging to His family, we are united in our differences: the wolf lies down with the kid; the calf and the lion (arch-enemies usually) feed together; and the cow and the bear make friends. Not to mention the child playing with the cobra (who was in charge of that risk assessment?!).

A friend shared a beautiful quote with me from Pierre Clavérie who was the Bishop of Oran in Algeria until his murder in 1988.

'The most difficult thing: to meet the other and to welcome them in their difference and not in the way they are like us. It is where they elude my grasp that others are themselves and can enrich me in their originality; otherwise I only meet myself and imprison myself before my own reflection.'

This recognition that it is in only by welcoming diversity that we can find real celebration and richness is echoed in the images from Isaiah. And how wonderful that we are given this reading to consider every Advent as we prepare for Jesus's birth – and his welcome to kings, shepherds and the motley crew that is humanity itself.

Katie



**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;**

Florrie Clifford, Mrs Mary Dowd, Peter John Fay,
Zemica Priscilla Fernandes, David Bourne,
Roger Carroll, Mr and Mrs Myers, Joan Woodward,
Lesley Farquhar, Gwen Payne.