

## 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 September, 2022

23rd Sunday in Ordinary time

**Luke 14:25-33**

We spent much of the 80's and 90's living in Africa and Asia and found all faiths very much more alive than here at home. We were reminded of this in a recent newsletter from the charity "Embrace the Middle East". One of their Lay Trustees had recently visited Egypt and she describes the impact of encountering people of inspiring strength of faith and of witnessing the transformative power of their commitment to lift up the marginalised.

"Yet as church-going Christians have dwindled significantly in Britain during the last 30 years and faith has become more private, young Egyptian Christians are burgeoning, and their churches remain vibrant.

In most of the conversations we had with people of different denominations, I was struck that they do not seem to have a problem with identity. Their Christian status and calling remains wonderfully clear, perhaps by dint of living in a religiously-conscious society. As they spoke with passion and faith about their vision for the people they served – those with the least rights in Egyptian society, the least social status, those struggling with drug abuse, with mental health issues, with food scarcity and illness, I couldn't help reflect on why I felt it was easier somehow to be a Christian in Egypt than at home!"

Here in the UK, has our cultural formation and wellbeing paralysed our faith?

Listen to today's Gospel. It is disturbingly frank. It asks us to put God first and surrender more and more to his will.



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

Please pray for Eve Osz who is in hospital

Please pray for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

Please pray for Barbara Van Bree who has cancer

Please pray 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 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 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 pray for the teachers and children of the parish



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

Margaret Aldworth, Claude Buike, Sean Smyth, Michelle Dobson, Deacon Francis Andrews, Marcus Luis Xavier Perreira, Ella Crabb, Michael Parsons, Victor Rahal, Margaret Lawless, Rita Walker, Josefa Cano, Margaret Walter, Pay Walton, Thomas Nevin, Peter Baylis, Freda Miller, Michael Rehberger, Ron Van Bree.