

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 9th October, 2022 28th Sunday in Ordinary time

Who are the Lepers today?

Leprosy features in two of this Sunday's readings. For us, today, we are most likely to come across leprosy in the Bible, but for people across the world from ancient times until the second half of the last century it was a real and horrible threat.

At the time of the New Testament, leprosy was thought to be a consequence of sin; yet enough was known about its infectiousness that lepers were excluded from the community lest they infected others with the disease. Mind you, sin can be pretty infectious too!

If we look past the leprosy in the two readings that we hear, there is another message. Naaman, cured by Elisha, and the nameless leper cured by Jesus are not Jews. Naaman was an Aramaean who fought against the Israelites and Jesus cured a Samaritan, a people hated by the Jews (and vice-versa). Yet the Lord cures them both. The message, underlined in all of Luke's writing, is clear: salvation is not just for the Jewish people but for all mankind. It is not just for the rich and famous but, and perhaps more so, for the downtrodden and the outcasts.

So, if Jesus cured and cared about the lepers of his generation and even those seen as outside of the Chosen People. Who are we called to care about, to care for and reach out to? As Luke reminded us only a few weeks ago:

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them."

A thought for this week: who are the lepers that you will meet this week and how can you show that you love them?



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

Please prayer for Delia Hoban who is in Abbeycrest.

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) she has now had her 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;

Renee George, Joe Ashby, Helen Cunningham, George Hajdu, Deacon Patrick Selwood, Annie Fallows, Enid Wilton, Vera Martin, Mrs F Rodrigues, Andrew Selwood, Eileen Milne, Mary Andrews, Sylvia Adams, Stephen Boyle, Thomas Butler, Nigel Hester, Peter Holding, Molly (Mary Francis) Morgan, James Enright, Jane Raynard, Gregorio D'Silva, Rosy Maria Lucia D'Silva.