

Prayer of the People – Sunday, January 29, 2023

Grounded in faith, strengthened by grace, let us pray to the Lord saying, Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Creator God, we praise you and give thanks that your son Jesus, became a person like us and shared our concerns, joys, anxieties, and happiness. Make us ready to change the direction of our lives so that we may follow him. Make us open to reconciliation within ourselves and with others. Grant us wisdom to lovingly care for all creation.

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of wisdom we pray for all nations. We hear of mass shootings in California, of suffering in Afghanistan, of continuing bloodshed in Ukraine. Lord, we are killing each other. God forgive us. We pray for change. May those who have power seek a good life for all people. Let us pray for the peacemakers in our lives and in our world...Let us pray for those we know and those we do not know who seek justice.

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Gracious God you remember the broken hearted. You know all our sorrows. We lift up those who struggle with addiction, mental illness, oppression and fear. We pray for those grieving the loss of a job, a relationship, and for all mourning the loss of a loved one. Bless and encourage all who bring hope and healing. Fill all hearts with compassion. Lord let us pray for all who are suffering and for all who seek to help them...

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Creator God, awaken us to the danger we inflict upon the earth. Implant in our hearts a reverence for all you have made that we may preserve the delicate balance of creation for future generations. Working together may we seek a just and equal sharing of all the good things your earth provides. Let us pray and give thanks for the earth and for all life...

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

United in Christ, we pray for the church. As we gather freely to worship, let us pray for those who do so at the risk of prison or death...Lord shield them from danger as they boldly proclaim our word. Lord in our diocese we pray and give thanks for Bishop Michael. We ask your blessing for St. John the Evangelist, Bancroft and for Holy Trinity, Maynooth for their priest, The Rev. Michael Bird. We pray and give thanks for Canon Nancy and for St. Andrew's and St. Philip's. Lord draw your people together. Let us show the world your love.

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, may we never misuse our privilege or ignore our many blessings. Let us give thanks and pray for those who love and support us...Lord strengthen our relationships, make us ready to encourage, to give support and comfort, to seek and to give forgiveness. Consoler of the afflicted we ask your healing touch to be upon Jean's friend Angela, Paula's nephew Brice, Eleanor and Ron. Now we name aloud or silently others we carry in our hearts who are in need of your care:

Lord we commend them to your gracious care, open their hearts to receive your healing love.

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

By the grace of God wherever we may be, in whatever circumstances we find ourselves O Lord may we dare to seek to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with you. In your name Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour we pray. **Amen**