

The Prayers of the People - Beckwith Sunday 2020

We give you thanks for the beauty of earth and sky and sea; for the richness of forests, and bayous, for the songs of birds and the loveliness of flowers. Increase our reverence for the beauty and the mystery of life; give us new insight into your purposes for us as stewards of your creation, and give us wisdom and determination in making provision for its future in accordance with your will.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For all the leaders of the people of the world, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move their hearts and guide their actions, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For our diocesan family, that we may grow in love for one another and for all people. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For our teenagers who are claiming their lives, for our children who are beginning their lives. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

O God, in the course of this busy life, thank you for times of refreshment and peace; grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

For all people who have no time for leisure, for the poor and neglected persons whom it would be easy for us to forget: the homeless and the destitute, the sick and suffering, and all who have none to care for them. We pray especially for refugees and those who are for them.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

This hour we turn to you, O Lord, in full knowledge of our frailty, our vulnerability, and our great need as your mortal creatures. We cry to you, as one human family, unsure of the path ahead, unequal to the unseen forces around us, frightened by the sickness and death that seem all too real to us now. Stir up your strength and visit us, O Lord; be our shield and rock and hiding place! Guide our leaders, our scientists, our nurses and doctors. Give them wisdom and fill their hearts with courage and determination. Make even this hour, O Lord, a season of blessing for us, that in fear we find you mighty to save, and in illness or death, we find the cross to be none other than the way of life. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer