

Prayer for Sunday 14th April 2024

Easter Sunday

Heavenly Father, Source of strength and creator, lead us and guide us as we continue our journey through this Easter season. As we travel the path you have laid out for us, we offer this prayer in the name of Your Son who died for us at Calvary and rose again.

As we look around the world you created, we are saddened by the conflict we see. We pray for Ukraine and Russia, Israel, Palestine and Gaza and for all the places where violence is no longer considered newsworthy as the wider conflicts rage. Give our politicians and leaders the courage and wisdom to find ways to end these conflicts and so to save lives.

We think also of domestic conflicts and abuse, sometimes violent, sometimes mentally controlling, often hidden inside the closed doors of a home. Usually committed by a man against a woman, sometimes children.

Heavenly Father, help victims to find a way out of their situation and to find a safe place to live. Make the perpetrators aware of the damage their behaviour causes, not just to the victims but to themselves. Help and support those campaigning against such behaviour, like the Mothers' Union RISE UP, and organisations offering safe spaces to help victims rebuild lives.

Healer God, we pray for the unwell and the injured in body, mind or spirit. Give strength to sustain them through illness and recovery. Give medical personnel Your wisdom to treat their patients. Give compassion and support to those caring for someone at home, especially if they do so alone, and we offer You the cares and concerns of our own hearts.

We place into your gentle hands those that have passed from this earthly world and have now risen to rest in peace with You, our God. Comfort those who in their grief mourn the loss of a friend or partner, brother or sister, or someone from their family.

Whilst we see the conflict around us, reported or hidden, yet amongst the fear and worry we look for signs of hope. We see new life as plants and flowers bloom in the new spring season. As the flowers turn their heads towards the sun, let us each look toward the future with hope, reaching into the light, almighty Father.

Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your son our saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen.

