

Prayers of the People. January 7th. 2018 Baptism of Jesus.

Ruth Oliver

The response this morning is” hear our prayer,” to the preface, “God of all.”

In this season of Epiphany we pray that it maybe for us a moving forward beyond what we consider reasonable. Moving beyond grasping tight to what we have, to unclenching our hands and letting go. Following the light where it leads. As the magi brought gifts to the infant Jesus may we bring our gifts to the forwarding of your kingdom.

God of all: hear our prayer.

Christ, king of the nations, may we who call ourselves the children of Abraham call to mind the people of the Middle East who honour him as Father. We pray for the peace of Jerusalem that Muslims, Jews and Christians may live together in peace focusing on what we have in common and not what divides us.

God of all: hear our prayer.

Loving God, it is easy to remember all the negative things that are happening in the world . The natural disasters, especially at this time those in Atlantic Canada and the Eastern seaboard; ongoing wars, political conflicts and terrorist attacks. We pray for all victims and for people who in trying to help, sacrifice their comfort and safety for the needs of others, remembering today those who are homeless in this cold weather and those who are trying to look after them. May 2018 bring a renewed willingness to work for peace and harmony in the world and for the respect of all people.

God of all: hear our prayer.

We thank you for all the blessings of the past year. For all that has given us enjoyment and for all that has made us wiser and stronger. For all the possibilities ahead in this new year we thank you O Lord. Help us to see how in our circumstances we can contribute towards peace, faith and love, and give us the will to translate our desires into actions.

God of all|: hear our prayer

We pray for our community here at St George's and for all who work here in whatever capacity. We thank you for the achievements of the past year and pray that in the midst of the challenges of 2018 we keep our hearts and minds fixed on the vision of your kingdom on earth. We pray especially today for the families of Betty Higlett, Geoffrey Hinch and Brian Hinchey.

In our community we pray for the congregations of Sydenham United church and Chalmers United church as they go through the difficult process of amalgamation and of choosing a minister to lead them in this.

God of all: Hear our prayer

We pray for those who are sick and those who are living in anxiety concerning their health. We hold before you those in the parish who have asked for prayer in our bulletin, our prayer basket and our prayer chain. Be present to them in the support of friends and in the care of doctors, nurses and personal support workers and fill them with the warmth of your love.

God of all, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have suffered a bereavement this past year or the breakdown of a relationship. Grant them peace and in your loving wisdom and almighty power work in them the good purpose of your perfect will.

God of all: hear our prayer.

As we remember today the Baptism of Jesus we pray for new birth. Renew our worship, rededicate us in the spirit of our baptism and mould us to our true nature, in the image of God. For your love's sake. Amen