

Prayers of the People for October 2, 2021

O God, help us to grow in wisdom and faith, that we may be inspired to live with the purity of heart and compassion Jesus showed and taught us. Through our prayers, may we draw near to you, to grow in faith, love and in knowledge of ourselves, of others, and of you.

God of Compassion. Hear our prayer.

Knowing that with you, all things will be resolved in your infinite compassion, we join with all others in the world who pray for an end to strife and conflict. We ask that you give to all nations an awareness of the interconnectedness and unity of the human family. We ask that you sustain all those who give their energy, abilities and time toward the global humanitarian work of peace and justice.

Help us to discern how to live wisely during this persisting pandemic. As we struggle with the unpredictability and uncertainty of the COVID crisis, grant us renewed patience and greater empathy toward ourselves and toward one another. Help us with renewed intention to hold in our prayers our nation's health care community as they patiently and with skilful ability continue to provide care. We give thanks for our island home which has been a sanctuary throughout the pandemic.

God of Compassion. Hear our prayer.

God, be close to those in our little community who are mourning and in grief, and also to those who are worried, anxious, unwell – may they feel your loving presence. In the sacral moments of our prayers, we ask that you hold in your loving embrace those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. **PAUSE**

God, we thank you for our many blessings. As we go through the week, help us not to give way to our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear, and despair, but to know and live in your unconditional love for us, and to trust in your guiding presence which is always and eternally with us.

God of Compassion and Wisdom. Hear our prayer. Please join me in the Lord's Prayer.