

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Remembrance Sunday – November 7, 2021

Intercessor: *Karen Haslam*

We acknowledge that we are on the ancestral land of the Anishinaabe, Attawandorn and Haudenosaunee people, the Dish With One Spoon Covenant and Huron Tract Treaty. Creator God, teach us to live in peace and harmony with all who inhabit this land.

Creator God, on this Remembrance Sunday, we gather to remember and honour all who sacrificed their lives so that we may have life abundant with freedom and peace.

Eighty-one years ago, this November 14th, Coventry city center and the ancient cathedral were destroyed and over five hundred lives lost in Operation Moonlight Sonata. Only the walls and the stone altar of the cathedral survived the blitz. Two charred roof beams that had fallen in the shape of a cross were bound and placed on the altar; three medieval roof nails were formed into what we now know as the Coventry Cross of Nails.

The words, “**Father Forgive**” were inscribed on the red sandstone wall behind the altar. The provost made a commitment, not to seek revenge but to strive for forgiveness and reconciliation with those responsible. In 1958, Canon Joseph Poole wrote the Coventry Litany of Reconciliation, which we will pray today.

As we pray each petition you might reflect on how your prayer concerns, the concerns of the congregation, our Stratford community, and the wider world, are found in The Litany.

The response to each petition is: **Father Forgive**

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God,

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,

Father Forgive

The covetous desires of peoples and nations to possess what is not their own,

Father Forgive

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,

Father Forgive

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,

Father Forgive

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,

Father Forgive

The lust which dishonors the bodies of men, women, and children,

Father Forgive

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,

Father Forgive

We pray for those in our St. James family who are celebrating birthdays this week, *Georgina Cameron, Bruce Childs, Jason Francis, Grace Langford, Louise McColl, Mark Monteith, Indra Binns, Terrienne Miller, and Reid Pardy.*

We pray for those whose time in this world has ended, and for those who mourn for them. Today we remember in our prayers, *Lillian Kingham, Catherine Kingham & Emily Hill* in whose loving memory Altar Flowers have been given to the Glory of God. We also pray for the souls of the children who never returned.

Father Forgive

Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ forgave you.

Amen.