

Prayers of the People
The Baptism of Jesus, January 8, 2023
Intercessor: Pam Ayres

Creating God, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral land of the Anishinaabe, Attawandron and Haudenosaunee people, the Dish With One Spoon Covenant and Huron Tract Treaty. As with the water of baptism teach us to care for the seas, the dry lands, the air we breath, and all that live therein.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, we pray for Todd our Bishop, Anne our Metropolitan; Linda our Primate; Chris Harper, National Indigenous Archbishop and Marinez Bishop of Amazonia and Primate of Brazil, all Bishops, Priests, Deacons and all who minister in your church. We pray that the Spirit may fill the Church with such joy in believing that all Christians overflow with love, compassion, geneorisisity and humility.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, we pray that God's power and justice fill the arenas of leadership amd conflict with sharpened consciences and with courage, so that wise decisisions are made, needs met, and wrongs righted. We pray for peace and stability for the people of the Occupied Territories, Ukraine, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Yemen, Libya, Peru, Brazil and all corners of the world where there is unrest.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God we pray for this city of Stratford and all communities represented here today. We pray that God's gentleness and truth fill every home with new insight and greater understanding. We pray that all are alive to the call of their baptism. Break down the divisive barriers and build up our capacity to love our neighbour as ourselves. We offer our thanks for the Connection Centre at St. Paul's, St. James Food Bank and St. Stephen's 'Our House' initiative. May all they serve know that they are our neighbours.

Creator Hear and Have Mercy

Creating God, may God's attentive caring fill us with practical compassion; may all who suffer be heard, comforted and cared for, may there be healing for whatever ails them. Knowing that you know their needs we pray for those who have asked us to pray for them: *Marilyn, Angela, Niki, Rob, Judy, Richard, Mary, Robert, Bob, Heather, David, Stephen, Doug, Jim, Maribel, Nancy, Diane, Eric, Terry, Susan, Anne, Mary Lou, Ann, Bob, Paul, Diane, Bo, Susan, Frank, Norah, Laurie, Bill S. and Bill C. and Bruce.* We give thanks that the Alta'eh family will finally travel to Canada on the 27th of January. We ask God to journey with them and bring them safely to their new home.

Creator Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God, we pray for those in our St. James family who are celebrating birthdays this week: *Ben Fortin, Christine Pitts, Paige Parkinson, Nolan Miller, Cathy DeBrabandere, Joan Parson and Ian Boyce*. May we always be mindful that there are many who feel that they have nothing to celebrate and no one to celebrate with.

Creator Hear and Have Mercy.

Creating God as we are raised to new life through baptism we pray that your unending being fill death with life and the dying with hope. May we all be prepared for life which lasts forever. The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in Loving Memeory of Jeff Wilbee by his wife Dianne. We pray that all who mourn the loss of a loved one be comforted.

Creator, Hear and Have Mercy

“Almighty God , you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit, and revelaed him as your beloved Son; grant that we who are baptized into his name may give up our lives to your service, and be found worthy of our calling through Jesus Christ our Lord.”*

Amen

*A New Zealand Prayer Book, Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa Collect for Baptism of the Lord