



ZOOM SERVICE FOR THE WEEK OF PRAYER CHRISTIAN UNITY
MONDAY 18th JANUARY 2021 at 7.30pm
Led By Bishop Paul McAleenan

All Opening Verse:

Our soul is waiting on the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield.
In him do our hearts find joy. We trust in his holy name.
May your love be upon us O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Opening Prayer

God our Father,
you reveal to us your love through Christ
and through our brothers and sisters.
Open our hearts so that we can welcome each other
with our differences and live in forgiveness.
Grant us to live united in one body,
so that the gift that is each person comes to light.
May all of us together be a reflection of the living Christ.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3: 14-21

This, then, is what I pray, kneeling before the Father, from whom every family, whether spiritual or natural, takes its name. Out of his infinite glory, may he give you his power through the Spirit for your hidden strength to grow strong, so that Christ may live in your hearts through faith, and then, planted in love and built on love you will with all the saints have the strength to grasp the breadth and the length, the height and the depth; until knowing the love of Christ, which is beyond all knowledge, you are filled with the utter fullness of God. Glory be to him whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine; glory be to him from generation to generation in the Church and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. Amen.

Intercessions

Reader 1 Holy Spirit, you create and re-create the Church in all places. Come and whisper in our hearts the prayer which Jesus addressed to his Father on the eve of his passion: "that they may all be one... so that the world may believe".

All Lord have mercy

Reader 2 Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, light the fire of your love in us so that suspicions, contempt and misunderstanding cease in the Church. May the walls that separate us fall.

All Lord have mercy

Reader 3 Holy Spirit, Consoler of all, open our hearts to forgiveness and reconciliation and bring

All Lord have mercy

Reader 4 Lord Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, give us poverty of spirit so that we may welcome the unexpectedness of your grace.

All Lord have mercy

Reader 5 Holy Spirit, you never abandon the men, women and children who are persecuted for their fidelity to the gospel. Give them strength and courage, and support those who help them.

All Lord have mercy

Our Father who art in heaven.....

As Christians called to be the salt of the earth and light of the world we pray

PRAYER DURING PANDEMIC

All

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours. Amen