

Prayers of the Faithful

“If you knew the gift of God and who was saying this, you would have asked him and he would give you living water.” All Jesus asks of us in today’s Gospel is a cup of faith. A faith that would lead us, as it did the woman of Samaria, from the margins of unbelief, to the fullness of life. Let us pray for the faith that trusts Him above all and that we will find in Him the real well that allows us face the truth of our brokenness and heals us with the springs of compassion and forgiveness.

1. That God’s life-giving Spirit may pour out renewal and refreshment on those areas of our Church that are dried up and parched. May there be an abundance of new growth and life, in all Christian communities and may all people be aware of their thirst for God. Lord hear us.

2. We pray for peace and healing in all countries of our world and for an end of greed, exploitation and violence. That all who serve in positions of authority in this country and throughout the world may take wise advice and act honestly and responsibly for the well being of all people. Lord hear us.

3. For all peoples who are marginalised and rejected; for those who are trying to rebuild their lives after the tsunami disaster, for all who are suffering from hunger and poverty and those who live with violence and abuse. May the wealthy nations respond to their need with generosity and love. Lord hear us.

We place at the well of God’s kindness and love all who are bowed down by grief, depression, pain or guilt and we ask that like the woman at the well they may find healing, transformation and peace. Lord hear us.

4. We give praise and thanks to God for those who are wells of love and compassion in our world; for all who fight for goodness, truth and justice, for those who support the vulnerable, encourage the timid and provide practical help for those in need. Lord hear us.

5. We pray that all in our parish community may be effective channels of love and forgiveness. May our homes, our places of work and leisure, our conversations and our actions overflow with God’s kindness, acceptance and love. Lord hear us.

Celebrant: Creator God, we find in you the deepest love that we can imagine. You are the well in whose grace we listen to ourselves, in whose protection we learn to trust, in whose living we learn to die, and in whose dying we learn to live. May we during this Lenten season find in you the springs of new life and may they well up and run over with love, acceptance and forgiveness. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.