



## **Churches Together Prayer Vigil**

Friday, 3 September 2021, 6PM (Pentecost 14, Year B Weekdays I)

### **INTRODUCTION**

This Prayer Vigil is a way of response to God's call upon us that Churches Together (previously known as Inter-Church Council of Hunters Hill and Gladesville) prays together for healing and wellbeing of our community.

Boronia Park Uniting Church (93A Pittwater Road, Boronia Park), as a member church, provides this prayer resource to all members and audience as gift. We, who have many languages in use in our worship and fellowship and many families and friends in other cities and towns, in this prayer vigil offer prayers and read the Bible in English-Australian, Korean, Mandarin and Tagalog.

Please join in the Spirit to hold each other and community in prayers and thoughts. Remember that God be with us always whenever and wherever we gather in the mighty name.

## OPENING PRAYER

*Be strong, and let your heart take courage,  
all you who wait for the Lord. (Psalm 31:24)*

Lord Jesus,  
we remember your courage in standing up  
for the right in the face of opposition.  
We remember your care for all  
who were unjustly treated.  
We remember your welcome for all  
who have the image of God in them.

Forgive our many fears.  
Forgive us that we are so often blind  
to injustice in the world  
because we do not sufficiently care.  
Forgive us that we miss so many opportunities  
of making the lives of others easier.  
Forgive us that we are so slow to welcome strangers  
while so anxious to feel at ease ourselves.

Give us greater courage.  
Convince us that if we will only stand for the right,  
you will give us the strength we need.  
Widen our love that we may be able  
to help strangers be at home in your family.

## BIBLE READING MATTHEW 8:23-27

### Jesus Stills the Storm

<sup>23</sup> And when he got into the boat, his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup> A windstorm arose on the sea, so great that the boat was being swamped by the waves; but he was asleep. <sup>25</sup> And they went and woke him up, saying, “Lord, save us! We are perishing!” <sup>26</sup> And he said to them, “Why are you afraid, you of little faith?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a dead calm. <sup>27</sup> They were amazed, saying, “What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?”

The Word of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **PRAYER ONE          ALAN KEAST**

Dear loving Heavenly Father,

We read in the bible of many occasions where your people were confronted by the storms of this world. This story from the gospels reminds us of a time the disciples were alone in the boat in a raging storm. One commentary says the lesson was when they took their eyes off Jesus and focused on their own difficult circumstances they began to sink under the weight of their own problems.

Tonight dear Lord, we come to you amid the storms of life and in particular the storm of the COVID virus. Help us to keep our eyes upon you as our Lord and Saviour.

We pray tonight especially for families whose lives are severely disrupted by the lockdown as a result of the rapid spreading virus. Lord, we pray for families broken by distances, both within our Sydney area, our state, and our country and overseas. We uphold families who cannot in person share birthdays, Father’s Day or other special occasions. We especially pray for our elderly in homes away from family members.

Lord, for these families we pray for assurance, for hope and for the confident belief that you are in control and that through modern technology they can share a little of the personal contact with their absent family members. We pray for those living alone, that they will be comforted and supported by friends and be able to rest in your arms in the knowledge, hope and peace that only you can bring.

Paul, the apostle, in his letter to the Romans (chapter 15, verse 13) wrote, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

These things we ask of you. AMEN.

### **SONG    GOD WILL MAKE A WAY (Don Moen)**

God will make a way  
Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see  
He will make a way for me

He will be my guide  
Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength  
for each new day  
He will make a way,  
He will make a way

By a roadway in the wilderness,  
He'll lead me  
And rivers in the desert will I see  
Heaven and Earth will fade  
but His Word will still remain  
And He will do something new today

## PRAYER TWO

SUSAN SPENCER

亲爱的耶稣,我们感谢你!今天我要为这个世界来祷告,为这个疫情的世界来祷告,耶稣,你爱我们,我们也爱你,当我们这个世界发生疫情的时候,我心里感觉到世人都犯了罪,请求你的原谅。

你知道当我们在这个世界活着的时候,相信我们主,让我们的爱心来显示对主的真诚。

主啊,我们是罪人,我们知道在这个世界爆发的疫情,让很多人没有工作,都没有经济的能力去生存,主阿,今天给每个人有力量,有信心,在你面前的祈求和祷告,坚定在你的爱里面,有信心来保证我们每个人的希望。主阿,我们相信。

尤其是澳洲发生了疫情的时候,每个人没有机会去教会,主阿,让我们每个人在家也能够来思想你的话语,不要给我们落在撒旦的诡计,要我们有坚强的信心来抵抗魔鬼,主啊,你爱我们,来帮助这个澳洲国家早日复兴起来,人们有力量,回到我们的教会。

Dear Jesus, we thank you!

Today I pray for the Pandemic world. Jesus, you love us, and we love you, I feel in my heart that the world has sinned and asked for your forgiveness.

You know that when we live in this world, believe in our Lord, and let our love show our sincerity to the Lord.

Lord, we are sinners, and we know that the Pandemic has left many people without jobs and financial difficulty to survive.

Lord, give everyone strength, confidence, that we can pray before you, firmness in your love.

Grant us hope for each one of us.

Lord, we know that specially during the lockdown in Australia, everyone can't go to church.

Lord, let each one of us at home can also come to think of your divine words, do not lead us into temptations, but deliver us from evil.

Lord, you love us, please help this nation to recover as soon as possible, people have the strength to return to our Church very soon. Amen.

### **HYMN    AMAZING GRACE (INSTRUMENTAL)**

You are now invited to pray in silence, reflecting the tune called Amazing Grace, performed by Grace Yeonsil Song. You may pray for immediate family or who are overseas, friends, colleagues, child's education and school community, community group that you belong, local businesses, essential workers who looks after your family or you, local government, and Australia, our home.

**PRAYER THREE**

**WARREN BOYLE**

Come on, come with me, let's have a little talk with Jesus!

Lord, I'm back again and I've brought some friends with me, they as you know live in many different areas, some in Boronia Park, some in Gladesville or Lane cove and elsewhere but we are together a family and, in these times, help us to understand that location or where we are is of no consequence knowing that your presence is with us.

Lord, where should I look for you? My day is all filled with much to do-with love, with some encounters that go nowhere. My emotions are touched by a picture of a starving child, the laughing of my Aunty, the cries of a lonely world, the clumsiness of big government, the potential of big government.

My hope is stirred by the promise of youth, reading the Gospels, the acts of love I see, the acts of justice I see, your acts of mercy I know. I question my future when I see outbursts of anger between people and among nations. My life is refreshed by notes of celebrating songs and by the sun shining through the clouds of fear.

But Lord the question still hunts me. "Where should I look for you? Where are you trying to reveal yourself to me?" Am I seeing it wrong? Should I be asking, "Where am I trying to reveal you – your love, justice, and mercy?"

Help me to be your spokesperson.

Many folk are struggling with these difficult times and I know that there are front line workers such as the Police officers, Ambulance Paramedics, Teachers and all those who have careers in so many areas such as the people who prepare food for others and provide all the services that are essential to our needs. Lord give these people the confidence only found in you to carry

on. Help them Lord to trust in you as sometimes we need to be freed from self to allow you to guide us on in faith.

Lord I recall the many occasions you made your presence known and gave me the strength and guidance I needed when times were difficult! I pray that all those who are struggling for answers and in need of help in providing all these services that they will come to you Lord.

Farther, we remember now all who are known to this family who are unwell or in need of care for whatever reason and ask your presence and love to reveal your will for them.

Thank you, Lord, for the beauty that surrounds us and for the magnificence of the country in which we live! I acknowledge that with your love and trust in your guidance that all things will eventuate to a good and peaceful end.

Thank you for the ways in which you do show your presence to me especially in music and your word and I pray that we all will seek to be open to your revelation to us. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOUR**

## **CLEMENTE VALDEZ**

Panginoon naming makapangyarihan sa lahat, kami ay nagpapasalamat sa pagkakataong ito na ibinigay mo sa amin upang magkaisang lalapit sa iyo at ipanalangin namin ang aming mga kabataan sa komunidad na ito.

Mahal naming Diyos, kami ay nananalangin na patibayin mo nawa ang pananampalataya ng mga kabataang ito habang patuloy ka nilang kikilalanin sa kanilang mga buhay. Patnubayan mo po sila Panginoon Diyos sa kanilang pagbabahagi ng kanilang pananampalataya sa mga kaibigan nila at iba pang mga taong kanilang makikilala upang sa ganoon ay lumaganap ang iyong Evangelio. Paligiran mo po sila O Diyos ng iyong pagmamahal at proteksyon lalong lalo na ngayon at laganap ang COVID sa komunidad. Tulungan mo



silang mga kaibigan ngayong panahon ng "lockdown". At kung panahon na sila ay babalik sa kanilang mga paaralan, ilayo mo sila O Diyos sa panganib sa kanilang paglalakbay.

Mahal naming Diyos, ipinapanalangin namin ang mga kabataan namin na nasa Year 12. Sa ngayon at sa mga darating na araw, haharapin nila ang mga pagsusulit ng HSC. Bigyan mo po sila ng kakayahan na maalaala nila ang lahat ng mga aralin na kanilang napag-aralan noong mga nakaraang panahon, at bigyan mo rin po sila ng kumpiyansa na sagutin ang mga katanungan na nasa harapan nila. Idinadalangin namin Panginoon na bigyan mo sila ng kapayapaan ng pag-iisip upang mapagtanto nila na ikaw nga ay nasa tabi nila at magtiwala sila saiyong sa lahat ng panahon. Idinadalangin namin ang kanilang mga magulang at mga taga-pangalaga. Patnubayan mo sila, O Diyos, at ibuhos mo sa kanilang mga puso ang Espiritu Santo ng sa ganoon ay hindi sila magsasawang mahalina, suportahan, at gabayan ang kanilang mga anak o kaya mga inaalagaan.

Mapagmahal na Diyos, ipinapanalangin din namin ang aming mga kabataan na nasa Unibersidad, sa TAFE at yaong mga kumukuha ng apprenticeships. Nawa Panginoon ay patuloy mo silang gabayan sa kanilang pagpupursigi sa kanilang pagaaral upang sa ganoon ay makamitan nila ang kanilang mga pangarap sa buhay. Patnubayan mo sila O Diyos upang mapagtanto nila na kasama ka nila sa kanilang paglalakbay sa yugtong ito ng kanilang buhay. Gabayan mo sila upang hindi sila lumihis sa matuwid na landas na siya mong inihanda para sa kanila. Itanim mo sa kanilang mga puso at isipan ang pananampalataya sa iyo O Diyos.

Mahal naming Diyos ipinapanalangin din po namin ang mga iba pang mga kabataan sa aming mga Iglesia. Tulungan mo po sila Panginoon na indahin ang mga pagsubok ng pag-aaral sa kanilang mga tahanan ngayon at hindi sa kanilang eskwelahan. Tulungan mo rin po sila na indahin ang kalungkutan dahil hindi nila nakikita at nakakahalobilo ang kanilang mga kaibigan.

Patnubayan mo po sila Panginoon nang sa ganoon ay hindi sila mahiwalay sa kanilang pananampalataya sa iyo at matanto nila ang iyong kalooban para sa kanila.

Ito ang aming samo at dalangin sa pangalan ng aming Panginoon at Tapagligtas na si Jesu Cristo. AMEN.

Almighty God our Heavenly Father, we thank you for gathering us together at this time to pray for the Young People of our community.

Eternal God, we pray that you will strengthen the faith of our Young People as they continue to learn more about you.

We pray for your guidance upon them as they share their faith to their friends and to those who they come in contact with.

Surround them O God, with your love and protection especially at this time when the spread of the COVID is uncontrolled. Help them through the feeling of isolation from their friends during this time. Keep them safe when the time comes for them to travel to and from their school or wherever they may be going.

Loving God, we pray for our Young People who are in Year 12. They are, at this time, and in the days to come, facing the challenges of taking the HSC examinations.

We pray O God, that you will give them the ability to recollect all the lessons that they have learned in the past and the confidence to answer questions that are before them.

We pray, Heavenly Father, that you will give them the peace of mind that they will realise that you are with them every step of the way. We pray for their parents and carers.

Bless them O Lord, and pour the Holy Spirit upon them that they will continue to give their love, support and encouragement to their children, or children in their care, not only during this time but for always.

Gracious God, we pray also for our Young People who are in the University, TAFE and those who are doing their apprenticeships. We pray that you will continue to guide them in their pursuit and realisation of their dreams to finish their studies.

Bless them O Lord, that they will always remember that you are there with them during this part of their journey in life.

Keep them O God, in the right path and instil in their hearts the faith in you.

Loving God, we also pray for the younger students in our church. Help them through the challenges of learning from home and being away from their friends at school.

Bless them O God, that they will not go astray from their faith and enable them to discern your will for them.

This we pray in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
AMEN.

## **PRAYERS FIVE      ROBYN HARVEY**

Loving God,

You know the joys and fears of people in hospital. Bless all the patients suffering from Covid – if they are in pain give them strength to bear it with your help. If they are suffering from another illness give them strength to bear it with your help.

Bless all the nurses, doctors, cleaners, kitchen staff and administrative staff in our hospitals and testing sites. Bless the ambulance drivers, the police and the defence personnel. If they are feeling overwhelmed, frustrated or just downright exhausted give them strength to bear it with your help.

Gentle Lord help the doctors and nurses to be gentle, sensitive and reassuring. When painful treatment must be administered give your people confidence and trust in those who give it.

We especially bless any children in hospital – not just with Covid but with any illness. Put a sweet soothing prayer in the souls of the youngsters who are too weak or too young to pray for themselves. When family leave kiss them goodnight and put your loving arms around them.

Above all else, help all these young and old people know they are never alone. When the lights are turned low and quietness descends let them know for sure that you are at their side, cradling them in strong arms, soothing their fears and filling them with love and peace.

Bless the people working in the pathology labs. If they are feeling overwhelmed, frustrated or just downright exhausted give them strength to bear it with your help.

Bless the relatives of all these front line workers – give them courage to share with their families their fears for their loved ones on the front line of this pandemic. Give them strength to carry any extra burdens as a result of their loved ones working on the frontline.

Loving God help all these people understand they have not been deserted by you, you are sharing their pain and exhaustion. Lift them up with your Holy Spirit and renew their strength, so they will know you have not forgotten them.

We pray this in your ever loving name and with the strong faith that you are listening to our prayers. Amen.

## **PRAYER FOR CHURCHES TOGETHER      JOSHUA YEON**

Lord, We pray for the churches around us;

- Catholic parish of Villa Maria Holy Name of Mary and St. Peter Chanel,
- Anglican Parish Hunters Hill All Saints and St. Mark's,
- Congregational Church in Hunters Hill,
- Glades Hill Presbyterian Church,
- Kalos Korean Church,
- Boronia Park Uniting Church,
- Reformed Evangelical Church of Indonesia, Gladesville,
- Christ Church Anglican, AND
- churches and faith communities I missed.

We pray for all their ministry and their strength in faith during such troubling times. Father, we pray that they stay strong in their belief and have hope for the months to come.

We pray for their leaders both lay and ordained, and all their members and families. We pray that they will lead by example and guide them in the right path leading to you. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,

我們在天上的父，  
願人都尊祢的名為聖，  
하늘에 계신 우리 아버지，  
아버지의 이름을 거룩하게 하시며，

your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

願祢的國降臨，  
願祢的旨意行在地上，  
如同行在天上。

아버지의 나라가 오게 하시며,  
아버지의 뜻이 하늘에서와 같이  
땅에서도 이루어지게 하소서.

Give us today our daily bread.

我們日用的飲食 今日賜給我們，  
오늘 우리에게 일용할 양식을 주시고，

Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.

免我們的債 如同我們免了人的債  
우리가 우리에게 잘못한 사람을  
용서하여 준 것같이  
우리 죄를 용서하여 주시고，

Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.

不叫我們遇見試探，  
救我們脫離兇惡，  
우리를 시험에 빠지지 않게 하시고  
악에서 구하소서.

For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

因為國度，權柄，榮耀，全是祢的，直到永遠。阿門。  
나라와 권능과 영광이  
영원히 아버지의 것입니다. 아멘.

## SONG    SHALOM TO YOU NOW

Shalom to you now,  
shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies  
bless you, my friends.  
In all your living  
and through your loving,  
Christ be your shalom,  
Christ be your shalom.

*Words and music from the United Methodist Hymnal*

## BLESSING

Go now: you are all God's people.  
Find your strength in your faith and  
what you truly believe.  
Tell the world this good news:  
God loves you,  
and calls you to walk in love.  
Use wisely all that you have owned  
and you are given  
for others to go through  
the changes and challenges.  
Don't forget that we love each other.  
And the blessing of God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
go with you all.

Amen.

The Boronia Park Uniting Church communications team who recorded and edited the videos, ensured all the videos ran as they should and designed the invitation and order of service.

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