

Prayers of the People Sunday January 7, 2023- The Baptism of the Lord

REAL GOD. God of grace and glory, you call us to be your people, faithful and courageous. As your beloved Son embraced His mission in the waters of baptism, inspire us with the fire of your Spirit to join in His Transforming work.

REAL CHURCH. We pray for those who are in leadership in our Anglican church here in Canada including in particular our Primate Linda Nichols and our Bishop Geoff Woodcroft. And in the worldwide Anglican community we pray specifically for the Scottish Episcopal Church and all Parishes of our companion Diocese of Central Buganda in Uganda. Within our own Diocese we lift up all congregations, missions, and ministries.

St. Aidan's. Here at St Aidan's we give thanks to Pastor Dave and his faithful leadership this past decade. We are mindful of the health issues he is still facing and pray that you will heal him and restore him to full health. We pray for Pastor Merv as he takes over as our Shepherd on an Interim basis. Strengthen, sustain and protect him as he leads our Parish. We pray for our church at this time of transition to a new Rector. We give thanks for all in leadership who are sustaining our church at this time of transition. We pray for our leadership team that is involved in the discernment process involved in finding the Person that You want to lead us in the coming years. Free us from our own Agendas in our path forward and let us remember the words of Psalm 127:1... Unless the Lord builds the house those who build it labour in vain. Let us truly seek to build what you would have us build at St. Aidan's. To that end we affirm the words from our Lord's Prayer **Not my will, but your will be done..**

REAL LIVES. We lift up the people of Israel and Gaza who are engaged in such a deadly struggle, and the people of Ukraine as they continue to battle against oppression and injustice. We pray for those who are refugees, who are homeless, who need food and shelter. For those who are hostages,

that they would be set free. We ask that you bring peace and healing to these troubled lands.

And Lord we pray for our City, for the many social problems we face that seem unsolvable. We ask that you restore all neighborhoods within our City, to places of peace and safety free from crime, violence and any form of addiction. In the words of Jeremiah, we seek and earnestly pray for the welfare of the City in which we live. We again pray that deep and lasting solutions can be found so that we may all live in peace and safety.

Missions: We pray for Naomi House, thanking You for the privilege of helping in this refugee ministry. Bless the staff and all residents. We pray for Aiman in his recent move out of our sponsored room, and for his family, that specifically his family will soon be reunited with him here. And we bring before you the new refugee family of four that have recently arrived at Naomi House. Give them the grace and energy to accustom themselves to all they will have to deal with as they settle in.

We pray for those who can no longer worship in person with us because they are in hospital, personal care homes, or because they are homebound: We remember Barbara, Bill, Carol, Deb, Elizabeth, Harold, Joy, Kathy, Kathy and David, Laird, Margaret, Pam, Pearl and Sue.

[Possibly pause here to offer other names.]

We remember and give thanks for those recently departed in Christ, and those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time.

We offer these prayers in the name of Your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayers. AMEN