

Intercessory Prayers

National Reconciliation Week 2017

Written by The Revd Bruce Boase

God of all grace we thank you that we can come to you in prayer, help us now to pray.

We give you thanks God for those who have walked this land since the depths of time itself. We give you thanks that their story can now be told. Help us Lord to do that. We give you thanks for the stewardship of the Ancient peoples of this land and its islands. We give you thanks Lord for their being a part of the land. We acknowledge the many and varied groups who are the original custodians of this land and we thank them for allowing and helping us to pray. Help us to take their example of stewardship and custodianship and of being of the land and live into that example for the good of the land and the glory of the creator.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God we thank you for this nation Australia. We thank you that it is made up of so many different peoples. We thank you for the gifts they all bring. Help us Lord to live in peace and harmony with one another. Help us Lord to be always informed and reassured by the ancient spirits of this land. Help us to learn from those spirits and from each other. Help us to know the stories of the past so that we can live into a future guided by you Lord God.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**

When we hear those stories Lord. Help us to heal any wounds that may be there. Help us to acknowledge the old scars and to see and feel the new hurts. Help all of our people to be recognised for who they are and what they give to this world. Help our people to live in the land that they belong to and know. Bring to the hearts and minds of all people in this land that spirit of recognition and respect. Lord of all peace guide our prayers so that we may forever seek what only you can bring.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**

Many times great creator we have harmed this land and treated it badly. We are sorry Lord. Help us to make recompense. Help us Lord to free up this land to bear the natural fruits that only it can bring. Help us Lord to see the land and the oceans for what they are, essential parts of the lives of all of us. Help us to preserve these parts so that our children can enjoy a future in your intended beauty of creation.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**

Great healer of all things we give you thanks Lord for all of the things that you have restored to us and for all of the people whom you have healed. We pray now for those who are still living in pain, anguish and distress. Please Lord ease the pain of those who carry it. Help them to cope with what it is that brings the pain. Help them to sort out those things that stir up the anguish. We pray especially Lord for those who may feel threatened at this time by the loss of their homes. Ease the minds of those who feel this way and put into the hearts and minds of those who make these decisions to close communities to change their minds and give the people their homes and lands.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**

Great God who was, is and always will be, help us to know the spirit of all who have gone before us in your name. Help us to see what it is they have handed on to us and help us to accept the responsibility. We give you thanks Lord for the lives and loves of all the saints who have joined you in glory. Help us with them to look always to the hope of the Resurrection to come.

Through Jesus the Christ.....**hear our prayer.**