

PRAYERS 16 June 2021

We thank God for the gift of this PRIDE Month, for the healing grace that has been bestowed on so many LGBTQ persons in this country due to changes in legislation and attitudes, and for Juneteenth celebrating the Emancipation Proclamation and freedom from slavery finally announced in Texas on June 19, 1865 (256 years ago). We give thanks for the COVID-19 vaccines, and for those who celebrate birthdays this week including June Parriott-Kneffen, for all who listen to our weekly audio and on-line offerings, for this neighborhood of Getty Square, The Sharing Community and Westhab, The Salvation Army, the YWCA and the YMCA, the Yonkers Fire and Police Departments, all teachers, students and elected officials including our Mayor, for Saint John's Riverside Hospital, Saint Joseph's Medical Center, for all hospitals, nursing homes and group homes and for all who work to help others.

We pray for our country and for a change in policies and implementation in every city and state so that ALL people are protected and defended. We pray for our President and his relationships with world leaders, the new government in Israel, and for our Bishops and their ministry in this Episcopal Diocese of NY. We pray especially for an end to the gun violence plaguing our nation, for those in danger by virtue of their labor, for all who are struggling with COVID-19 especially in India and Brazil, and for all who are in need of God's healing grace. We pray today especially for Linda Brown, Karen Edmonson, The Rev. Canon Claudia Wilson, Ann Stabile, Wayne Kniffen, June Parriott-Kniffen, Clifford Goff, Phyllis Murray, Joan Simpson Marszat, Henry McNamee, Adrien Campbell, Khalil Robinson, Susan Spielmann, Kayla Detz, Tom O'Connor, Catherine Corry, Judith Shorrocks, Philip Godlewski, Judy Hinsch, Marie Baptiste, Margaret Arguinzi, Aida Carino, Shelly Henderson, Robert Tracey, Connie Tracey, Ruby Dixon, Joan Smith, Velma Crichton, Edith Williams, Carol Shoemaker, John Gore, Anna Walters, Thomas Neale, John Farrell, Chris Michel-Karsten, Deacon Luis Rivera, Justin Dehnert, Carla Jean DeBride, Naomi Henderson, Shaadira Smith, Roland Smith, Al DeFeo, Melvyn Davis, Wendy Maxwell and Floyd Davis. We pray for Anthony Johnson, a Postulant for ordination as a deacon, for all who have lost their jobs and all who are struggling to pay rent and other expenses, for the Scavenging Workers' Children in India, for an end to hate crimes involving Jewish Synagogues, for all who have been treated less than justly—including Asian Americans and members of the Sikh Community—and for changing hearts surrounding issues of racism in America.

We pray for all who have died, including Rosalind Ellis, Jan Thompson-Moses, as well as those who have been murdered in recent gun violence across the country, those who have died from illness, natural disasters and warfare, and for the more than 600,000 Americans who have died from COVID-19. We also lament those who have died over the centuries including indigenous people, and all who have died due to slavery, lynching, racism and the unequal and unjust treatment of peoples in this country.