

Prayers of the People

Oh God who makes us whole in our brokenness, who calls us to deeper faith and trust, who delivers us from all things that hinder our devotion to you, hear our prayer.

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, break open your Church in all its forms. Help us be the servants of your Open Door. Help us to see our roles as fellow laborers in your ripe fields and give us the passion of your Good Shepherd to look with tenderness on this world in love. Break open our diocese, its bishops, priests, and deacons, to be the vulnerable, servant leaders so needed in this hurting world. Bless our common work and give us a common commitment to where your Holy Spirit is already moving and leading us.

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, our nation is broken open, exposing raw nerves, revealing open wounds, laying bare long-term sins. Break open your grace, expose your mercy through our words and deeds, revealing your healing path to a hurting world, and lay bare the working of your Holy Spirit that we may join in your holy work. We pray for all those that lead us, across the nation, help them be a salve to our woundedness and guide us to solutions that serve all your children. Give them a vision that we can share to make us a land united and caring.

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, the fault lines of inequity and privilege have broken wide open during the pandemic around the world. Break open our hearts, show us where we sink into the easy habits that have been ingrained in us, show us what to do and give us strength and courage to love as you love.

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, our community needs more of you. Break open our vision so we can see without the blinders of stratified divisions to view what it could be like on earth as it is in heaven. We pray for our community, its needs, [and especially for...] Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, our hurts are so apparent now. From COVID, from divisiveness, from so many things. You have been and always will be with us. You know our needs before we can say them. We trust you in these times. Call us to deeper faith to see your hand at work especially in these days. For those in trouble, comfort and deliver them.

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.

God, we remember those who we have lost, in particular those taken due to the pandemic. [Today we remember especially...]

Lord, break open all we hold back from you.