

**Prayers of the People**  
**January 15, 2023**  
**Confession of St. Peter**

Upon the feast of Saint Peter, let us remember in prayer that Christ prayed that all might be one, and lift up to Almighty God our petitions for Christian unity, saying:

**Have mercy and hear us.**

O God, the Creator of the world, who established and sustains the Church of Jesus Christ, we pray for those who serve you remembering Samuel our Bishop, for the parishes of Bay d'Espoir and Bay de Verde, for the Diocese of Quebec, and for the church of Bangladesh:

**Have mercy and hear us.**

O God, in whom we share a variety of gifts and a variety of service, and yet in whom we confess with one voice, we remember all those participating in the Week of prayer for Christian Unity:

**Have mercy and hear us.**

O God, the Source of all truth and goodness, who is the same God working in us all:

**Have mercy and hear us.**

We, your servants, pray that you would help us to break down the walls that divide us and to keep us from discord, disunion and division; from the guilt of schism and the sin of separation:

**O Lord, save your Church**

Spare us from envy and strife, from pride and prejudice, from sectarianism and stubbornness, and from whatever may hinder godly union and concord:

**O Lord, save your Church**

We humbly pray that you would strengthen us with your uniting love so that in union with you we might purge the Church from all error and unbelief, that it may be the pillar and ground of the truth:

**Make us one in the likeness of Christ.**

That your Church may preach the Gospel to every creature, set forth the truth that frees all humanity, and so lift up your love that every nation and people may be drawn together into your glory:

**Make us one in the likeness of Christ.**

That your Church may remember the sheep that are not of the fold, seek out the wandering and the lost, proclaim the forgiveness of sins to the penitent, keep a heart of compassion for all people, defend the cause of the poor and the oppressed, pray for those who are sick particularly those on the Ascension Prayer Cycle and for those who have died, especially Sally Seaward, and the family and friends who mourn them:

**Make us one in the likeness of Christ.**

That your Church may remember to listen to your Word and to follow your will, so that we may teach what we learn; and that we may follow Christ and be an example of what we would commend to the world:

**Make us one in the likeness of Christ.**

**Gracious God, heavenly Father, accept this our litany for your Holy Church. You have built the Church upon a rock and promised that the gates of hell would not prevail against it. You have given to us the gifts of your Spirit and the keys of the kingdom of heaven. Grant, we pray, all that we ask, that your Church may grow and prosper in the good news of the Gospel. And bring us at the last to a perfect union with you in your heavenly kingdom. For we ask it in the name of him who is the Rock and the Cornerstone, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

**Ascension Prayer Cycle:** Andrea, Aubrey, Audrey, Barbara, Barry, Baxter, Beulah, Bill, Brenda, Brian, Carl, Christina, Clarence, Claude, Debra, Delilah, Dennis, Donna, Doris, Dot, Doug, Dulcie, Edgar, Edith, Elaine, Eleanor, Elizabeth, Erin, Frederick, Flo, Frank, George, Georgina, Gerry, Harry, Herb, Ina, Jack, Jason, Jennie, John, Josephine, Junior, Kevin, Laura, Leo, Leonie, Lori, Lloyd, Madeline, Marina, Marion, Maurice, Maxine, Maxwell, Melissa, Melvin, Mildred, Nancy, Pam, Phyllis, Randy, Randell, Rodney, Roland, Ruby, Ruth, Rita, Scott, Sean, Stan, Stephen, Tina, Todd, Valerie and Warwick, Wayne.