

Intercessions for a Transgender Day of Remembrance

Susan Gilchrist

SuH1108e

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For Loss

Let us pray for all those who have been killed or died because they have not conformed to the gender roles that society expects.

List of names..... to be read out (see endnote)ⁱ.

Grant them peace and bring to those they leave behind them your comfort in the knowledge that all people, irrespective of gender identity or sexual orientation are enfolded and are precious in the Love of Christ.

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

For Understanding

As we reflect on this list of names and the deaths of so many people, help us Lord to think afresh about what it means to belong to our own gender and to be transgender; for we are all as one in your love. As far as we are able to, help us to listen, and to learn to understand what it means to be transgender, so that we and all transgender people always and in harmony together, live to the full, the Gospel of Christian Love in our everyday lives

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

For Self-Acceptance

We acknowledge the harm that our prejudice and ignorance has sometimes unknowingly created. We recognise the feelings of guilt and self-loathing that transgender people themselves feel when they apply these negative messages about transgender people in general to themselves. It is your love that transcends all genders. Grant us wisdom care and concern that all of us, whatever our genders and backgrounds are fellow companions on our journeys, and that we all are equally accepted for who we are in the Love of Christ

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

For the support of other people.

For transgender people the journey across genders crosses many divides. Help not only transgender people, but their friends, spouses and supporters make that journey together to find a true meeting place beyond these divides. For transgender people who are rejected by their families or lack social support we ask you to give all people involved strength and understanding to overcome these obstacles and to bring new opportunities for relationships to be restored

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

For an end to discrimination and Abuse

Despite gender equality legislation, discrimination still occurs. Transsexuals find it difficult to gain employment. Unemployment rates are high. The attitudes of others may make it impossible to continue in any employment that is held. Transsexual people are vulnerable to attacks on their homes and on the streets. Verbal abuse is common. Lord we ask you to grant wisdom, care and compassion to all people who engage in these activities, so that we may all live together in peace.

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

To work for a more understanding society

Lord, we have all failed in our understanding by embracing the historic presumptions and traditional teaching that transsexuals are following a lifestyle choice in pursuit of sexual rewards; and not of identity instead. We have failed in the treatment and management methods that have been prescribed because of the medical misdiagnoses that have been made. We recognise the harm that this has brought. Help all of us Lord to create a greater understanding in society and to promote a future which is not bound to the attitudes of the past but, one which can move forward to promote the fullness of life in all in the world

Lord in your wisdom

Hear our Prayer

For forgiveness and Love

Lord God, Creator of the Universe, you know our inner hearts. Too often we have failed to follow your ways. Forgive us for our past failures. Grant us fresh hearts and new minds so that we can celebrate the full richness and diversity of human experience in the Love of Christ.

BLESSING

**May the blessings of God's Love
And the joy of God's Peace
Be found in us all
Now and Always**

Amen

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ⁱ For a list of names of people who have died, go to: <http://www.tgdr.co.uk/documents/SuH1108w-TransgenderDeaths2017.pdf> .

See also the Transgender Day of Remembrance Website <https://www.glaad.org/tdor>