

Prayers of the Faithful
4th Sunday of Easter; 21st April 2024

Celebrant

As the people of God, the sheep of His flock, we present our needs to Him knowing that in his merciful love he always hears our cry.

Intercessions

We pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis and all the shepherds of the Church; may the Lord continue to inspire them as true pastors, promoting justice and peace for all peoples.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for the good shepherding of our institutions and governments; may they be open to those in need, listen to those who suffer, and welcome those who are in need of refuge.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for peace, especially in the Holy Land and Ukraine; may the Good Shepherd be an inspiration for people to work together to bring about a stop to hostilities and an openness to dialogue.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pray for family life; may the Church continue to support and guide families so that faith may be truly nurtured by the joy of love.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

On this Vocations Sunday, we pray in a special way for vocations to the priesthood and religious life; may people listen attentively to the voice of the Good Shepherd and be open to recognising and responding to His call.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

Let us remember especially today the intentions for which our Masses are offered this weekend.

And also, all the faithful departed, especially Ann Swarbrick, Alice Fraser, Fr John Heaney, Fr Billy Molloy and Darren Towey who have died recently, may they be raised up on the last day.

Lord, hear us. **Lord graciously hear us.**

We pause to remember the intentions which we carry in our hearts during this Mass;

As we offer these prayers to our heavenly Father, we ask Mary to join with us in intercession: *Hail Mary ...*

Celebrant

Heavenly Father, we seek to follow the call of your Son, the Good Shepherd, in gentleness, service and love. Hear these prayers, which we place before you, through Christ our Lord. Amen.