

PRIEST: At a time of global upheaval, Lord, we pause to bring before you the needs of the world along with our own hopes and fears.

READER: Let us pray for Pope Leo, that he may be granted strength and wisdom to lead the Church in a time of turbulence. We ask that he may be guided in his ministry by the Holy Spirit and supported by the prayers of Christians around the world. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray urgently for peace in the Middle East, holding before God those who are caught up in the attacks. We pray, too, that those who make the decisions affecting so many lives may be directed towards peace. As the reverberations of the attacks are felt around the trembling world, we pray for anyone who is fearful at this time. May we find comfort and be assured of God's presence in the world and convey this assurance to others. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for the Confirmands and their families and Teachers. We pray that the newly confirmed may have the courage to defend their faith and be witnesses of God's love in the world. We give thanks to those who have prepared the Confirmands for the Sacrament of Confirmation. (Pause). **Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

READER: As we see the first shoots of spring, we recognise it as a sign of God's steadfast love for us and the world, and we commit to live in faith rather than fear. We pray for our communities, that Lent may be a time of meaningful growth. (Pause)

Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.

READER: We pray for those who have died recently: **Father Joseph, Brenda Carney, Patricia Butler, Clare Klein, Geoffrey Doyle, Paulina Samathar, Cornelius Callanan, Laurence Marie Knight, Stephen Jenkins, Bernadette Cawley, Kate Nelson, Chris Johnson, Mary Munko, Mary Louisa Law, Veronica Pickering, Frank Byrne, Geraldine McHugh, Francis Mazone, Margaret Stanley and Margaret McCabe.** We also remember all those with anniversaries at this time. (Pause) **Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

READER: We remember all who are sick, those in hospital and those who are housebound. We remember especially **Angela Keating, Benjamin Wort, Lilian, Tony Duffy, Philomena Gallagher, Ken Shirley, Savio Baretto, Eddie Martin, Helen Brookes, Briege Williams, Jonathan Williams, Anthony O'Neill, Michael, Patrick, Aiden & Anne O'Donnell, Margaret Hughes, Father Michael White, Breda Fleming, Juliana Benjamin, Wilson Cotton, Angela Hyland, Noreen O'Connor, Larry Perkins, Tom Duffy, Aggie O'Reilly, Teresa Toher** and our families wherever they may be. (Pause). **Lord hear us. Response: Lord graciously hear us.**

Let us ask Mary the Mother of the Lord to pray with us: Hail Mary...Now let us pray for a few moments in silence for our own needs and intentions and for those intentions placed in the prayer box.

PRIEST: God of grace, bring peace to the world, comfort to our hearts, and guide us as we continue our journey towards Easter. Amen.