

**PRESIDER**

Dear friends, united in the faith handed on to us by the great apostles Peter and Paul, let us pray devoutly for our needy sisters and brothers around the world.

**READER**

We pray for world leaders, that they will use the power at their disposal to bring deadly wars to an end and work together for the safety and wellbeing of the whole human family. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Pope Leo and all bishops and missionaries, that in the spirit of Saints Peter and Paul they will firmly proclaim Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Christians holding fast to their faith in places of opposition, threat and violence, that they will draw strength from the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in them. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for prisoners of conscience, that they will maintain the courage of their convictions and not waver in their hope of release and vindication. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for young people in this Jubilee Year of Hope, that in solidarity they will encourage each other to live justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for ourselves as beneficiaries of Australia's blessings, that we will have the freedom to change to ensure those blessings are fairly shared across the whole community. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently . . . , and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will receive the crown of righteousness in the courts of heaven. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

**PRESIDER**

Saving God, you raised up the apostles Peter and Paul to proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth. Set our hearts ablaze with the fire of your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.