

PRESIDER

Dear friends, Jesus calls his listeners to consider the choices they make, either to promote life or stifle it. Let us pray for the world to find and take the path of life.

READER

We pray for Pope Francis and all teachers of wisdom, that they will inspire many to find their hearts' true desires and make choices that are life-giving. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for the staff and volunteers of humanitarian agencies working in places of danger and desperation, that they will provide relief, comfort and safety for those in need. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for the whole human family, that this week's International Day of Social Justice (20 February) will unite everyone in the work of reducing inequality, exclusion and disadvantage. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for political leaders, media personnel and social influencers, that they will use their platforms to encourage respectful public debate, not divisive argument. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for an end to all forms of racial, religious or cultural prejudice, that the Australian community will provide a safe space for all to live peacefully together. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for all who have lost loved ones, homes or livelihoods in this summer's floods and fires, that emergency aid and the support of their local community will give them the strength they need to go on. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for those who have died recently . . . , and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will be raised with Christ, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

PRESIDER

God of all goodness, through your Son Jesus you promise life and joy to those who put their trust in you. Help us to hear and heed his word. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.