

PRESIDER

Dear friends, Jesus challenges us to love even those who wish us harm. Let us pray for God's help to love as Jesus loved.

READER

We pray for the people of Turkey and Syria so tragically devastated by earthquake. May their terrible suffering be eased by prompt and large-scale humanitarian aid. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Pope Francis and all promoters of peace. May they be resolute in their mission to bring war and bloodshed to an end. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for industries that produce environmentally harmful plastics. May they commit themselves to rapidly develop safe alternatives. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for youth workers serving in disadvantaged communities. May they be well supported in their efforts to engage with troubled young people. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our parish community. May we commence our Lenten journey this Wednesday with a deep desire for newness of life. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased, . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time. May they be blessed with everlasting peace and joy. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

Holy God, heavenly Father, you enfold all things in your loving embrace. Open our hearts to love one another as you love us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.