

PRESIDER

Dear friends, in company with Simeon and Anna, we bless God today for the dawning of the light of Christ. Let us pray, with Mary and Joseph, for the world to find hope in God's saving power.

READER

We pray for all faithful believers, that on this Word of God Sunday their hearts will burn within them when they hear the scriptures proclaimed and preached. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray today for the members of all institutes of consecrated life, especially those inspired by today's feast, that their dedication to lives of prayer, service and mission will bring them peace and enfold the world with love. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for world leaders, that they respect the international bodies and treaties whose mandate is to keep the world safe and serve the common good of humanity. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Australia's political leaders, that everything they do or say will promote peace, harmony, truth and justice across the nation. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for parents, that like Mary and Joseph they will see their children grow to maturity with grace and wisdom. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our parish community, that our lives of joy and generosity will shine forth in the world and draw many to find life in Christ. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the recently deceased . . . and for those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will see the glory of God and live in peace forever. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

Saving God, by taking our flesh and blood to himself your Son became our true high priest and set us free from sin and death. Help us live always in the light of Christ. We ask this through the same Christ, our Lord.