

PRESIDER

Dear friends, our Good Shepherd Jesus has laid open the way to a life of grace and glory. Following his example, let us embrace the world with love as we pray.

READER

We pray for Pope Francis, all bishops and ministers of the gospel, that they will gladly care for the flock entrusted to them and enjoy their love and respect. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who are prayerfully discerning a possible call to priestly ministry, that they will be well guided by wise mentors and God's Spirit of counsel. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the people of Australia and New Zealand, that this week's Anzac Day services will draw everyone together in remembrance, reconciliation and hope. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for aid workers and peace negotiators in every place of brutal bloodshed, that their combined efforts will bring relief to those who are overwhelmed with pain and misery. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Jewish believers preparing to celebrate Passover, that they will be a leaven of peace, freedom and justice for all people on earth. (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 God face to face and rejoice with the saints forever. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

Holy God and Father of Jesus, your Son laid down his life out of love for you and for us. Set us free to put our lives at the service of all. We ask this through Christ, our risen Lord.