PRESIDER

Dear friends, delighting in the mystery of our one and threefold God, let us pray for all humankind to find invincible hope in the love of the Holy Trinity.

READER

We pray for those who are commissioned to preach and teach the great mysteries of the Christian faith. May they kindle the fire of love in their hearers' hearts. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who call Canberra home. May we enjoy the many natural and created blessings of our city, affording welcome to all as we foster true community (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for expectant mothers. May this week's feast of Mary's Visitation to her cousin Elizabeth (31 May) celebrate the gift of motherhood and women's friendship. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for children on this first <u>World Children's Day</u> (25-26 May) declared by Pope Francis. May they be blessed with parents who are their first and best teachers of the good news of Jesus. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole Australian community. May all sectors of society work together to secure a working balance between freedom of speech and the right not to be vilified or discriminated against. (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 dwell forever in the love of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, we give you thanks for revealing to us the unfathomable mystery of your being. Keep us ever mindful of your loving presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord.