**PRESIDER**Dear friends, Jesus summons us to follow him with undivided hearts. In answer to his call, let us pray for a whole new world of freedom, love and peace.

**READER**We pray for the world-wide community of Jesus’ disciples, that their joyful fellowship will attract many to the blessings of companionship with him. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Catholic bishops of Australia, especially Shane Mackinlay who is being installed as the Archbishop of Brisbane this week, that they will be faithful teachers of divine wisdom for the local church entrusted to them. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for leaders of the world’s nations, that they will forsake war and empire-building and dedicate themselves to nurturing the wellbeing of the human family. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the many millions of people still enslaved in our time, that like Onesimus of old they will be granted the freedom and dignity that is their right. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the young and old who have not been taught to read and write, that this week’s United Nations Literacy Day (8 September) will help create opportunities for them to acquire these basic life-skills. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray on this Father’s Day for fathers, grandfathers, step-fathers and father-figures, that the love they give and receive will be ever fruitful, joyful and thankful. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for our parish community, that we will gladly bear one another’s burdens and help carry each other’s cross. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Ron McLeod and John Hedley, and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that eternal light will shine upon them and bring them everlasting peace. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

**PRESIDER**God of infinite mystery, your Son Jesus taught us the wisdom of the cross. Open our eyes to the glory it promises. We ask this through Christ our Lord.