

**PRESIDER**

Dear friends, Jesus assures us his words will never pass away. Heartened by his promise, let us place the world and its destiny in God's saving hands.

**READER**

We pray for Pope Francis, that his call in his latest encyclical to rediscover the importance of the heart, our inmost self will be heeded. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for the prophets who read the signs of the times through the lens of faith, that they will persuade us to work together for a new heaven and a new earth. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for the world's poor, that today's United Nations observance (International Day for the Eradication of Poverty) will galvanise the international community to share its wealth fairly with those in need. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for all citizens, that our responsible engagement with mainstream and social media will enhance rather than undermine our shared dignity (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for the members of rural fire brigades across the land, that their community service will keep people and properties safe through the summer fire season. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord

We pray for those who have died recently . . . , those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, and all the faithful departed, that they will be awakened from the sleep of death and rise to everlasting life. (Pause) Let us pray to the Lord.

**PRESIDER**

God ever faithful and true, your Son's self-sacrifice of love has freed us from sin and death. Help us bear the gift of life to all we meet. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.