

## PRESIDER

Dear Sisters and brothers, the compassion and mercy of Jesus as seen in today's gospel, will be a source of unbounded hope for us sinners.

## READER

We pray for Pope Francis, that his profound sharing in the suffering of Christ will strengthen his faith and be a sign of hope for the whole human family. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the international community, that World Health Day will call leaders and nations to work together for a new world order of peace and justice. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the world's poor and sick and homeless and hungry, that they will not be deprived by heartless autocrats of the humanitarian aid they need to survive. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for Caritas Australia's partners around the globe, that our support for Project Compassion will help them build better futures for their local communities. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all Australians who have the right and duty to vote in the upcoming federal election, that they will consider carefully what is best for the common good and the care of the earth. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the parents of children with special needs, that they will be surrounded by a loving community and have ready access to supportive services. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the children celebrating their first reconciliation, may this healing sacrament help them to grow in forgiveness and love. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the Jewish community preparing to celebrate Passover this coming week (12-20 April), that their faith in God's saving power will be renewed and deepened. (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 know Christ and the power of his resurrection for ever. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

## PRESIDER

God of boundless mercy, you never cease to heal us and make us new. Bless us with faith in your loving-kindness and send us forth to show it to the world. We ask this through Christ, our Lord.