

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A- Sunday of Word of God

PRESIDER

My sisters and brothers, appropriately, this Sunday of the Word of God, lays before us the Beatitudes, the blessings of Jesus. Taking his teaching to heart, let us pray for God's blessing on our world.

READER

We pray for the church, that, in this Special Year of St Francis declared by Pope Leo to mark 800 years since his death, we shall be inspired more than ever by Francis' joyful living of the beatitudes. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the members of all Christian communities, that on this Word of God Sunday our desire to hear God's Word and put it into practice will be rekindled. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for the whole human family, that in the face of worsening world disorder people in every land will hold fast to the practice of hope, compassion and kindness. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who suffer extreme hardship under cruel and oppressive regimes, especially the women of Iran and Afghanistan, that they will refuse to abandon hope for the freedom that is their right. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for communities devastated by natural disasters in recent years, that in the slow process of recovery they will not be forgotten and left unsupported. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for all who have consecrated their lives to the service of God and people, that the feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Monday) will confirm them in their calling and inspire others to follow their example. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

We pray for those who have died recently, especially, Greg Thornton, and those whose anniversary of death occurs around this time, that they will see the face of God and live. (Pause for silent prayer) Lord, hear us.

PRESIDER

God of all blessedness, Jesus your Son walked among us in humility and peace. Give us the wisdom to abandon our pride and find strength in our weakness. We ask this through Christ our Lord.