



#### TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C SUNDAY 04 SEP 2022

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives a clear call and instruction on "discipleship."

Being a disciple is more than being a follower. We see instances in the Gospels of people who were followers of Jesus who turned away when they were challenged to become disciples. Discipleship involves accepting and integrating into our lives the teachings and values of the one whose disciple we become

What does it cost us to be followers of Jesus? Is there anything more God is asking of us? That's the question we might ask ourselves today. Each one of us will find different answers, but we are united in asking the same question. That, at least, deserves conscientious reflection.

The main point is that everyone should be prepared from the very beginning, with all the available resources at one's disposal, to carry through until the completion of the plan or project.

Can we hear the call and the challenge? As people of goodwill, let us build a better Australia and a better world with the values of the Gospel.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

#### PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Foundation Leader In Office

1. Identity and Community

2. Worship and Prayer. Uta France Mon

3. Formation and Education

4. Mission and Outreach.

5. Leadership and Structure. John France Sat & Sun

If you have any concerns or questions you can also talk to any member of the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) who are: Juliet Hutchins, Mal and Pam Melvey, Kerry Lendon, and Rod Hay.

PRIEST SUPERVISOR: Fr Geoff Mulhearn
SACRAMENTAL PRIEST: Fr John Purnell
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosanna Suckling

OFFICE: 60 Yambo Street, Morisset, PO Box 87, Ph: 02 4973.6859

Office Hours: 9.00 am to 2.00pm—Monday to Friday (except public holidays) (Due to COVID we ask that you make an appointment to come to the office)

Morisset Parish Office email: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au Morisset Parish Web site:: www.vianneymorisset.org

Morisset Parish Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/stjvparish

Morisset Parish Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/stjvparish\_morisset/

Morisset Parish Bulletin Items: morparish@mn.catholic.org.au

#### **UPCOMING WORSHIP TIMES:**

Saturday 3rd September 5pm

Family Mass— Morisset

Sunday 4th September 9.30am

Mass- Morisset

Tuesday 6th September 9.30am

Liturgy— Morisset

Saturday 10th September 5pm

Mass— Cooranbong

Sunday 11th September 9.30am

Mass- Morisset

Tuesday 13th September 9.30am

Liturgy— Morisset

## TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY SAFE WE ENCOURAGE

MASK WEARING PHYSICAL DISTANCING HAND SANITISING, STAY HOME IF SICK

There is NO NEED to BOOK if you would still like to book for Sunday Morning or Cooranbong you can. If you do book please arrive 15mins early and notify us of any cancellations. To book use the Book for Services button on the Parish Website, or the Eventbrite App or Eventbrite Website http://vianneymorisset.eventbrite.com.

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#### **REFLECTION FOR 23RD SUNDAY IN OT YEAR C**

Putting it very simply, in fact 3 words, probably sums up the central message of today's Gospel— PUT JESUS FIRST.

Our first reading is from the Book of Wisdom—the author of which is unknown, but, as there was a large Jewish Community living in the Egyptian City of Alexandria, it is widely regarded as the place of it's composition, possibly not long before the time of Jesus. It points out clearly how difficult it is for us to know the will of God but continues in a faith perspective—stating that we humans are saved from this blind ignorance of God's gift of wisdom—the Holy Spirit, dwelling within us!

The Psalm, compares our very temporary existence to God's timeless stability, while the beautiful response "In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge" expresses our confidence in God & renews our hope of succeeding in our work.

The Gospel story is set in the time that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem and still being accompanied by crowds of people, eager to hear his words. It seems that they didn't understand what his journey entailed, but felt that by following him they HAD become his disciples, even though he told them what they needed to do in order to achieve that role.

Now, in no uncertain terms, he makes it very clear to his listeners that "discipleship" takes priority over everything else, even family. To be disciples we have to literally 'count the cost' of what this will mean in our lives and he makes no apologies for the fact that this will be very demanding.

The earliest Christian communities were characterised by a RE-distribution of ALL wealth and possessions to ensure that the needs of every person were met—a basic communal way of living! This was the first interpretation of Jesus' teaching to give up possessions. Modern religious life, grounded in the monastic traditions of the Middle Ages, embraces a radical poverty in order to free the members from societal notions of status and power so that they might freely and openly serve others.

Consider our world today—-we live in an era of extraordinary WEALTH in some countries—contrasted by extraordinary POVERTY and NEEDS in other countries.

The accumulation of possessions has become a driving force in our society! We have become so accustomed to and often dependent on, devices of all kinds. Not all are for pleasure—some are now deemed "essential" for our day-to-day work and existence so the thought of surrendering some items may be impossible to consider!

But Jesus doesn't pull any punches! He actually uses the word HATE, which is very emotive and extremely harsh word in our society, but here in the Gospel context, it is not used as the opposite of LOVE but as an indication of one thiong deserving less significance than another thing.'

Indeed the words Jesus spoke here emphasise that being a disciple must be put above everything else— even family! The two stories that follow explain the need to count the cost of what the sacrifice will mean.'

We must remember that Christ refuses to belong to the past and he certainly wants to be more than a vague figure that we read about in 2,000 year old parables! He wants to live on in his Church and his good works to be repeated until the end of timeby all who bear his name.

——Some thoughts we may like to consider—
Under what circumstances do you think possessions cease to be important?

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop said in 1871 "Our God sees the heart"

SO——- Did I offer peace today? Did I bring a smile to someone's face? Did I say words of healing? Did I forgive? Did I Love?

Heather White

## THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE OF MAITLAND/NEWCASTLE.

Last weekend a report was given at Mass on a pending meeting, that members of the Leadership Team and Parish Finance Council had been summoned to attend, facilitated by Fr Greg Barker Diocesan Administrator and Fr Matthew Muller Diocesan Chancellor. This meeting had been called to discuss the collapse in income of parishes in the Diocese of Maitland Newcastle. During 2022 it became apparent that most parishes were facing financial pressure, caused by a loss of parishioners from Covid.

At the meeting held on Monday, those in attendance were informed that, if the income stream in the Diocese continued its present downward path, the Diocese would become insolvent within two years. This would cripple parishes and the Catholic School System, which is structured as a complex, notfor-profit entity, that attracts Government Assistance. (Sec 83c)

You may be aware that recently both Lismore and Parramatta Dioceses have been found in breach of section 83c. In Parramatta this has led to one school losing its government funding as it was deemed to be 'for profit'. If this occurred in our Diocese the school would need to be closed, as we have no other funds available to keep it open.

Forty-five fresh ideas and proposals, that had been teased out by an appointed working party were presented to the meeting for consideration. Ideas such as: (Priests move to the pension at retirement age, and then, volunteer their services back to assist the bishop) if adopted could help the Diocese 'stay afloat'. All the Proposals will be systematically presented at the other regional meetings held during the month of September

A further report will be given to the parish, at the conclusion of the regional meetings.

## **Father's Day Blessing**

May the Lord bless you and keep you in times of joy and in times of trial.

May the Lord make his face shine on you that you, in turn, may be the face of God to those you father.

May the Lord be gracious to you that you may be the instrument of grace in your families and communities.

And may the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace that you might bring peace to your homes, to your families, to your work and to your world.

Amen.

## Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse social Justice Statement 2022-23

### **Action**

#### How Church Communities Can Confront Violence and Abuse



• Listen to, support, and believe those who are experiencing violence and abuse.



 Speak out about the sinfulness of family and domestic violence and the responsibility of perpetrators to change.



 Publicise the support available in your area for victim-survivors and for perpetrators who want to change their behaviour.



 Reflect together on how we might be caught up in structural and cultural violence.



 Reject spiritual abuse by debunking the misuse of faith sources to justify violence, abusive behaviour or to coerce women to stay in unsafe situations.



 Connect with programs, ensuring our responses are evidence-based and trauma-informed.



 Promote resources on responding to family and domestic violence produced by dioceses e.g.
 Perth, Broken Bay and Parramatta.

#### STUDENTS HELP CATHOLICCARE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Hundreds of students from Catholic Schools across the Hunter and Forster regions have shown they have big hearts this month.

ELIZABETH SYMINGTON PUBLISHED AUGUST 30, 2022

Hundreds of students from Catholic Schools across the Hunter and Forster regions have shown they have big hearts this month.

After hearing CatholicCare's call for help through the launch of their Make a Difference Appeal, St Peter's Primary School, Stockton, St Paul's Primary School, Gateshead and Holy Name Primary School, Forster came up with a few ways to show their support.

St Peter's hosted an out of uniform day for a gold coin donation, St Paul's will donate funds from the sale of Zooper Doopers and Holy Name collected food items to restock the Forster Community Kitchen Pantry.

St Peter's Assistant Principal Mark Konik says his students were thrilled to support an incredible cause. They raised over \$200.

"It feels good to know that the money we raised will be going to help people in our community," Mr Konik said.

"It was nice to know that we could give something back and the students enjoyed being able to wear 'mufti' clothes. They liked the fact their money was going to a worthy cause."

St Paul's Assistant Principal Meg Smith says supporting CatholicCare Hunter-Manning helped them put their motto in action.

"Donating is not about how it makes us feel – it's all about reaching out to others as best we can, living our school motto: 'Love One Another'," she said.

Students Max and Harrison love having a "cold treat on a hot day" to support those in need.

"The most amazing thing about St Paul's is that we always help other people," Harrison said.

It's a similar story at Holy Name – the students love to give back to the Community Kitchens and have done so for the past two years.

"CatholicCare and Holy Name School have been strengthening the connections between our services from the beginning of their time here in Forster a few years ago," Principal Brooke Stephens said.

Since 2020 the school has found several ways to provide assistance. Recently they donated nine hampers of food.

"The month of August was highlighted by our Catholic Schools Office Director as a month where schools could support CatholicCare due to the growing needs within each community across the Diocese," Ms Stephens said.

"There was a suggestion of a gold coin donation day, however, we felt our community would respond positively to supporting the purchase of goods for the Community Kitchen pantry.

"Over a period of a week or so, the families and our staff, very generously donated around seven clothes baskets full of goodies."

She adds it's a great lesson about community and kindness for the students.

"It is always good to know that we are reaching out into the community to support those in need," Ms Stephens said.

"It opens our eyes to the diversity of situations that we might otherwise not be as aware of and provides an option for our school to make a difference."

If you'd like to also get involved and support CatholicCare, there is still time to donate to our Make a Difference Appeal. However, food and financial support is accepted year-round.

Your generosity will go a long way.

Donating is simple and only takes a few steps. Go to find out more: <a href="https://www.mycause.com.au/page/288431/make-a-difference">https://www.mycause.com.au/page/288431/make-a-difference</a>

Food donations can be dropped off at The Refugee Hub in Mayfield, the Taree Community Kitchen and the Forster Community Kitchen.

#### **EMBRACE THE CALL TO GLOBAL MISSION**

American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities. Embrace one of these Mission opportunities abroad and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961.

Enquire online at: <a href="https://palms.org.au/event/embrace-palms-return-to-global-mission/">https://palms.org.au/event/embrace-palms-return-to-global-mission/</a> or Ph: 0422 742 567 to register for a Webinar on Saturday 24 September at 11:30am where you can talk directly with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now. Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our 13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from 16 to 28 October.

#### SUPPORTING THE CLERGY / 1ST COLLECTION

We wish to thank those who have continued to support the Clergy and are asking for those who are not doing so to consider making contributions to support the Clergy / 1st Collection at Mass in the BLUE bucket or electronically using the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page, the Diocese App or set up a direct debit arrangement (contact the parish office for this option).

#### **SUPPORTING OUR PARISH / 2ND COLLECTION**

We wish to thank everyone who has continued their support of our Parish during these very different times. You can support our Parish at Mass via the RED bucket or deposit directly into the Parish Account our details are: Account Name: CDF 96014 Morisset Parish BSB:062815 Account Number: 00328161 Ref: 5004 2nd Collection or 5004 PG and Giver Number, or you can use the Online Payments button on the Parish Website Home page or the Diocese App.

WEEKEND ROSTERS			
		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
<u>Presiders</u>	5РМ	Mass	Mass
	9.30АМ	Mass	Mass
PROCLAIMERS:	5РМ	H White	J France
	9.30АМ	J France	M Melvey
PSALMIST:	5РМ	J Vipan	L McRae
	9.30АМ	J Shamley	P Melvey
<u>GIFTS</u>	5PM 9.30AM	K Lendon P Robertson H White P Herbert	H White P Herbert J Hutchins K Amon
<u>Servers</u>	5РМ	J France	M Melvey
	9.30АМ	V Paulo	J France
<u>Av</u>	5РМ	R McArdle	J France
	9.30АМ	M Foo	U France
SOUND / VIDEO	5РМ	J France	U France
	9.30АМ	U France	J France
WELCOMERS	5РМ	A Sillence	TBA
	9.30АМ	TBA	TBA
COVID TEAM	5РМ 9.30АМ	P Melvey B Hutcheson L McRae L McRae	K Lendon P Herbert T Alexander K Amon
COVID CLEAN- IING	5РМ 9.30АМ	All available Covid team members	All available Covid team members
CHURCH CLEANIING	Coor MOR	XXXX R Hay C Hay	M Shamley P Herbert T Alexander

The Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle has an abiding commitment to promote the safety, welfare and wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults. If you have any concerns for a child or vulnerable adult please contact the Office of Safeguarding (ph: 4979 1390 or email: childprotection@mn.catholic.org.au), or visit their website for further information (www.officeofsafeguarding.org.au).

#### **UPCOMING FEAST DAYS MEMORIALS AND SOLEMINITIES**

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT—3RD SEPTEMBER
THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY— 8TH SEPTEMBER
SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM— 13TH SEPTEMBER
THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS— 14TH SEPTEMBER
OUR LADY OF SORROWS— 15TH SEPTEMBER
SAINTS CORNELIUS AND CYPRIAN— 16TH SEPTEMBER
SAINTS ANDREW KIM TAEGON, PAUL CHONG HASANG AND
COMPANIONS— 20TH SEPTEMBER
SAINT MATTHEW— 21ST SEPTEMBER
SAINT PIUS OF PIETRELCINA— 23RD SEPTEMBER

## Please pray for those who are sick, in hospital or recovering at home:

Stephen McKay, June Purcell, Jeremy McMullen, Josie Scully, Harry Goldman, Yvonne Beecroft, Bernadette Martin, John Francisco, Joan Gillett, Bruce Gillett, Koby Smith, Patricia Jones.

Please pray for those who have been called to eternal life may they always be in our prayers.



#### PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE BULLETIN

If you would like the parish to pray for a family member who is sick, recently deceased or you would like remembered please call or email the parish office or complete a prayer card for each person and place in the mail box near the parish office door. Cards are available at the back of the church and at the Parish Office.

All prayer requests require permission from a family member or the person. Due to Australian privacy laws.

#### AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Live stream Mass every Sunday at 9.30am at https://www.mn.catholic.org.au/places/live-stream/







# SUNDAY PRAYER SERVICE Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C Sunday 04 Sep 2022

#### **The Introductory Rites**

#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Awabakal People, who, long before us lived, loved, educated and raised their children on this Country. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and we recognise the young people who are our future. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in our communities. We respect their deep physical and spiritual connections to Country through their stories, traditions and living cultures.

#### **Gathering**

The Lectionary/Roman Missal or a Bible may be placed on a table together with a candle and a cross.

#### Sign of the Cross

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Αl

Amen.

#### Greeting

Leader:

Blessed be Jesus who makes us one, and strengthens us by the power of his Spirit.

All:

Blessed be God forever.

#### **Introductory Remarks**

Leader (in these or similar words):

Friends in Christ,
although we cannot celebrate the Eucharist this day,
we gather in God's name
for when two or more come together
God is always with us.
We worship in union with the whole Church
keeping this day of the Lord holy.

#### **Opening Rite**

**Litany Of Praise** 

Leader:

Before listening to the Word of God let us praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

A brief period of silence follows.

Leader:

Lord Jesus, your Spirit teaches us wisdom: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you ask us to take up the cross and follow you: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you call us into radical discipleship: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All:

All: Amen.

#### **Opening Prayer**

Leader:

Let us pray.

All pause for silent prayer.

God our help

you call us together as one

united in Jesus, our saviour and brother.

Help us to care for each other

and work together in Jesus' name

so that we may build a kingdom of peace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ,

with the Holy Spirit,

for ever and ever.

All:

Amen.

## The Liturgy of the Word First Reading

Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom

#### Who can comprehend the will of God?

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable;

for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Ps 89:3-6. 12-14. 17. R. v.1

(R.) In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

- You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'
   To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night. (R.)
- You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning. In the morning it springs up and flowers: by evening it withers and fades. (R.)
- Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.
   Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever?
   Show pity to your servants. (R.)
- In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice all our days. Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands. (R.)

**Second Reading** 

Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

Phlm 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you,

to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

To indicate the end of the reading, the reader acclaims:

The word of the Lord.

All reply:

Thanks be to God.

#### Gospel

Reader:

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All:

Glory to you, O Lord.

Lk 14:25-33

#### All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, "Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish." Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

Reader:

The Gospel of the Lord.

All:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

All are seated.

#### Reflection on the Word

- Q. What might Jesus have meant by 'Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me'?
- Q. What is the connection between the examples of counting the cost and the call to give up possessions?
- Q. What possession would you find hardest to give up? Why?
- Q. Under what circumstances do you think possessions cease to be important?

Q. How can we reconcile the wealth of affluent societies with the poverty and need in other countries?

#### **Profession of Faith**

Leader:

In union with the whole Church let us profess our faith.

All:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

At the words that follow, up to and including the Virgin Mary, all bow.

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died and was buried;

he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;

from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen.

#### **Prayers of the Faithful**

Leader: Dear friends, as followers of Christ, let us bring our intentions before the

Lord.

Reader: That our Holy Father, Pope Francis, and all bishops and clergy continue to

live the example of Christ's discipleship to the flock.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

#### All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That fathers will be granted strength and courage to guide their families

towards a deeper love for Christ.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That wealthy countries will share their resources for the benefit of all

nations.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who are suffering anguish or affliction will find strength in the

Lord.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That fathers who grieve and mourn, especially those who have lost a child,

will find consolation in God's promise of eternal life.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That our parish community may put aside our possessions and walk in the

way of Christ.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That all who long to be parents, especially couples struggling with

infertility, will be granted peace as they hope for the gift of a child.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That the sick will find refuge in Christ's healing, especially those in our

community and families.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: That those who have died will live forever in the light of Christ, especially

those in our community and families.

(pause)

In faith we pray:

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: Loving God, you teach us to give up all we have and follow you. Hear our prayers

today, and help us carry our cross in strength as disciples of Jesus. We ask this

through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. © Creative Ministry Resources Pty Ltd

#### The Lord's Prayer

Leader:

At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

ΔII

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

#### The Concluding Rite

#### **Blessing**

Leader:

May the Lord be with us and protect us now and for ever.

All make the sign of the cross during the blessing.

ΔII

Amen.

#### **Dismissal**

Leader:

Let us go in the peace to love and serve the Lord.

All:

Thanks be to God.

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# SEASON OF CREATION PRAYER



Creator of All,

From your communion of love your Word went forth to create a symphony of life that sings your praise.

By your Holy Wisdom you made the Earth to bring forth a diversity of creatures who praise you in their being. You called human beings to till and keep your garden. But we turn in on ourselves and away from our co-creatures.

We fail to listen to the cries of the poor and the needs of the most vulnerable. We silence the voices of those who hold the traditions that teach us to care for the Earth. We close our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that calls to us through the Scriptures.

Creation cries out as forests crackle, and animals alike flee the fires of injustice that we have lit by our unwillingness to listen.

In this Season of Creation, we pray that you would call to us, as from the burning bush, with the sustaining fire of your Spirit. Turn us from our inward gaze. Teach us to contemplate your creation, and listen for the voice of each creature declaring your glory.

Give us hearts to listen, enlighten us with your grace, and fill us with the hope to quench the fires of injustice with the light of your healing love that sustains our common home.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. Amen.





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