

UNIVERSAL PRAYER – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MOTHERING SUNDAY

CELEBRANT: Let us make our petitions to the Father with grateful hearts, for He loves us so much that he gave us His Son to be our Saviour, Redeemer and Brother.

1. Let us pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis who celebrated the eighth anniversary of his election yesterday; strengthened by God's Spirit, may he continue, by word and deed, to proclaim powerfully the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus, his Son. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

2. Let us pray for our government; may they be fearless in their condemnation of the oppression of the citizens of Myanmar and Hong Kong and do all they can to help restore their human rights. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

3. On this Mothering Sunday, let us pray for mothers everywhere; may God strengthen them and guide them in the nurturing of their children and reward them for their selfless devotion to their families and communities. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

4. Let us pray, too, for families where the bonds of love have been strained or broken through misunderstandings and natural differences; may God's Spirit of Love empower them to offer the hand of friendship to each other once more and to work to heal the wounds of the past. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

5. Let us pray for the victims of violence in their homes and on our streets; may the dead be at peace and may those who live in fear be given all the help they need to make a fresh start. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

6. Let us pray for our parish community; as we enter the second half of Lent, may we renew our efforts to be children of light, so that it might plainly be seen that what we do is done in God. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

Let us ask the help of Mary, Mother of us all: Hail Mary . . .

In silence, let us make our own petitions for those who have asked for our prayers.

CELEBRANT: God our Father, You sent Your Son into the world, not to condemn us, but to give us life. Listen to our prayers and help us to live the good life as you have meant us to live it. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.