

UNIVERSAL PRAYER – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

CELEBRANT: With hearts renewed by His grace, let us ask the Father to listen to our prayers and to fill us with the joy of His help.

1. Let us pray for Christians everywhere; may we all commit ourselves to the new covenant between God and His people, sealed by the shedding of Christ's blood, bringing us forgiveness, new life and the promise of heaven. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
2. Let us pray for world governments; may they recognize that we are all one family, the Family of God, and may they be generous in sharing their knowledge and resources in the manufacture and distribution of the vital vaccines. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
3. Let us pray for the thousands of victims of the coronavirus, especially in those countries lacking adequate medical services; may the dead be safe in the arms of the Lord and may the survivors be helped to make a full recovery. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
4. Let us pray for the countless families who have lost a member in the pandemic; may their pain be softened by the loving support of those around them and by the assurance of the welcome their loved ones will have received from their Father in heaven. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
5. Let us pray for our young people and their teachers as they grapple with the uncertainties of the new examination system; through mighty effort by all who are involved, may the outcome be just and fair. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
6. Let us pray for all the members of our parish community; despite the present restrictions on our personal liberty and our worship, may we all make every effort to give of our best time to prayer and praise in this Passiontide so that we may then be filled with Easter Joy. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

May Mary, Mother of Christ and Mother of us all, be our companion on our Lenten journey to Calvary: Hail Mary . . .

In silence, let us make our own intentions known to the Father of all Mercies.

CELEBRANT: Father of love and mercy, You have promised to plant Your Law deep in our hearts. Grant us the grace to be obedient to that Law and so come to receive the gift of everlasting life. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.