UNIVERSAL PRAYER FOR PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY

<u>CELEBRANT:</u> Following the example of Jesus, who prayed to His Father in His time of suffering, let us ask God to help all His children in this time of need.

1. For Pope Francis, that the Lord will give him the strength, the health and the wisdom to lead the Church this Holy Week in repentance for the sins of the past and in renewed commitment to God in the future: we pray to the Lord. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

- 2. For world governments, that, in this time of fear and uncertainty, they will acknowledge the desperate need to work together so that all peoples will have access to a vaccine in the near future: we pray to the Lord. (Pause) Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
- 3. For the dead, that they might be at peace, for those who mourn, that they may be comforted and for those who are suffering, that, through the skill and compassionate concern of their carers, they may recover: we pray to the Lord. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

4. For the innocent victims of violence – in their homes, on our streets, in our schools, in refugee camps and in other places of confinement, that Christ, who suffered for our sake, may heal their wounds and bring them peace: we pray to the Lord. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

5. For our parish community, especially those who are unable to come to church to commemorate Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection, that, united in our prayer and praise, the Father will deepen our faith, renew our hope and increase our love for Him and for each other: we pray to the Lord. (Pause) Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

Let us ask the help of Mary, who knew the pain of watching the suffering and death of the One she loved: Hail Mary . . .

Let us make our own petitions to the Father, who always listens and answers our prayers in the way that is best. (Long pause)

<u>CELEBRANT:</u> Almighty Father, You gave us Christ to be our Saviour and Redeemer; having learnt from His suffering, may we then come to share in the joy of His Resurrection, for He is our Crucified and Risen Lord, who reigns for ever and ever. Amen.