**UNIVERSAL PRAYER – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE**

**CELEBRANT:** As sons and daughters of the Father, let us turn to Him with loving confidence and seek His help for all His children.

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| 1. | Let us pray for all Christians, empowered by God’s Spirit of Truth, may we be true witnesses to the power of the name of Jesus, our Risen Lord. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
| 2. | Let us pray for our Government ministers; may the decisions they make reflect their honest desire to serve the needs of all citizens, especially those who have suffered much during the pandemic. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
| 3. | Let us pray for all God’s children; may there be a renewed effort all over the world to recognize the equality of all peoples and to treat every individual with the love and respect that is their right. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
| 4. | Let us pray for the sick, especially those waiting many months to receive the treatment they need; may the Lord bless them with patience and healing in their pain and frustration. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
| 5. | Let us pray for our young people facing tests and assessments in the next few months; may examining boards and teachers work closely together to ensure just and realistic results that affirm the worth of their students. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
| 6. | Let us pray for all our parish members; may we recognize the need to rebuild our parish community, re-committing ourselves to using our talents and time for the good of all and ever guided by God’s Spirit of Love. (Pause)  Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer |
|  | Let us ask the help of Mary, that obedient and loving handmaid of the Lord:  Hail Mary . . . |
|  | In silence, let us make our own petitions to the Father who always answers our prayers. (Long pause) |

**CELEBRANT:** heavenly Father, listen to our prayers and grant us the grace to carry out the mission Christ has entrusted to us, here in this time and place. We ask this in His Name, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.