

UNIVERSAL PRAYER – SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE

CELEBRANT: Let us make our petitions to the Father, who created us in love, gave us His Son in love and who planted His Spirit of Love in our hearts.

1. Let us pray for the Church; guided and strengthened by the Spirit, and under the leadership of Pope Francis, may She be a channel of God's love for all His people, no matter what their nationality, their colour or their history. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
2. Let us pray for those chosen for positions of authority in the elections of the past week; in lives of true service, may their decisions improve the lives of the most vulnerable in our world – the sick, the elderly, the refugees and the immigrants. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
3. Let us pray for those countries, especially India, where the pandemic is causing countless deaths, sickness and long-term ill-health; may the richer nations be generous in sharing their skills and resources with those who have few. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
4. Let us pray for the children preparing to celebrate their first Communion next month; may they and their families place their trust and hope in the God who loves them with an everlasting love. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
5. This Thursday, we celebrate the Ascension of the Lord Jesus, who now sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven to intercede for us; let us pray that all who follow Christ will be renewed and uplifted by the hope of heaven and the never-ending company of Mary and all the saints. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
6. Let us pray for every member of our parish community; may our daily lives reflect the love God has given to us to share with all people, for God has no favourites. (Pause)
Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

In this month of May, let us ask Mary our Mother to pray for us both now and at the hour of our death: Hail Mary . . .

In silence, let us make our own petitions for those we know to be in particular need of God's healing touch today. (Long pause)

CELEBRANT: Father Almighty, listen to our prayers and deepen our understanding of your enduring love for each and every one of us. Help us to respond by living lives filled with faith, hope and love. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.