UNIVERSAL PRAYER – 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

<u>CELEBRANT:</u> Let us make our petitions to the Father, trusting in the truth of His promises and in His everlasting love for all His children.

1. For Pope Francis, that the Lord will be his strength in mind and body and empower him to give witness to God's loving presence in the Church and in the world. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

- 2. For the people of Afghanistan, that, supported by the prayers and practical help of many nations, this time of fear and uncertainty, injustice and hatred, will give way to a new era of growth, freedom and hope for the future. (Pause) Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
- 3. For world governments, that, acknowledging the mistakes of the recent past, they will make welcome those fleeing from Afghanistan and offer them a safe haven and a bright future. (Pause)

 Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
- 4. For all who have been caught up in wildfires, floods and in the earthquake in Haiti, that the dead will be at peace and the injured and homeless given all the help they need to restore their lives and communities. (Pause) Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer
- For married couples, that their love and care for each other will grow stronger every day, bring joy in times of gladness and strength in times of distress. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

6. For every member of our parish community, that we may all be resolved to serve Christ untiringly and wholeheartedly, for He is our strength, our light and our joy. (Pause)

Lord, in your mercy . . . Hear our prayer

Let us ask the help of Mary, our model of faith and obedience to the will of the Father: Hail Mary . . .

Let us make our own prayers for those we know to be sick in mind or body.

CELEBRANT: Father, hear our prayers and help us to renew our total commitment to Christ our Saviour and to be His true disciples, proclaiming His presence in our world by the lives we live and the love we share. We ask this through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.