**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** Having been formed in faith by God’s word, we turn to our Father with our needs confident that he hears our prayers.

1. For the Church: that rooted in the Word of God, we may continue to build up the Body of Christ and promote the common good. **Lord, hear us.**
2. In this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we pray that we may be one, just as the Lord Jesus prayed that we may be one in Him. May all the baptised seek to build God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For all who teach and preach the Word of God: that their words may renew the faith of those who listen and encourage them to trust in the promise of God. **Lord, hear us.**
4. We pray for Ministers of the Word: deepen their love of the Sacred Scriptures and endow them with faith and conviction to confidently proclaim God’s word. **Lord, hear us.**
5. We pray for stability and harmony in our country, especially in our welcome of those seeking refuge and asylum. Give us hearts that recognise their need for sanctuary and security. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For vocations to the priesthood, permanent diaconate and religious life. May the Holy Spirit guide the hearts and minds of those called by the Lord to commit their lives to the service of others. **Lord, hear us.**
7. We pray for our elderly confined to hospitals and nursing homes. May they see in those who care for them the face of Christ who ministers to them with patience, compassion and understanding. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, you know each one of us and all our needs. Help us always to recognise, and respond to your call. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**