**Fourth Sunday of Easter (Vocations Sunday)**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** ‘*Filled with the Holy Spirit*’, we are God’s people, the sheep of his flock. We bring our prayers to the Father, through Jesus, the Good Shepherd:

1. For Pope Francis, Tom our Bishop, and all who serve and minister in the Church; may they have the wisdom and humility to govern wisely the flock entrusted to them by the Good Shepherd. **Lord, hear us.**
2. We pray for the priests of our Diocese: may Christ, the Good Shepherd always remain the ‘*cornerstone’* of their lives. Fortify their ministry through constant prayer and the celebration of the Sacraments. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For all discerning the call of God to serve in priesthood or religious life; that they will attentively listen to the Holy Spirit and respond with generosity in following the Good Shepherd. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For the ongoing work of ecumenism, may Christian churches listen to the voice of Jesus, the Good Shepherd who desires that they ‘may all be one’. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For Christians throughout the world; may they boldly witness to the ‘*name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene’* as the reason for the hope that is within them. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For all who are sick: may they call on the name of the Lord Jesus in their sufferings, that they may experience God’s healing power. **Lord, hear us.**
7. For those who have died; we remember especially ………… As God’s children, may they ‘*see Him as he really is*’. **Lord hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, you have made us your children, confident to call you Father. Increase your spirit of love within us and bring us to our promised inheritance. We ask this through Christ our Lord.  **Amen.**