**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Priest:** In trust and confidence, let us pray to God, who, in Mary, has brought salvation to the world.

1. For the Church: strengthened by Mary’s prayer and example, may we follow Christ more closely in our discipleship of the Lord. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For an end to hatred, violence and cruelty in our world. May the prayers of Our Lady Queen of Peace bring peace to Palestine, Gaza, Ukraine and the world. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For all who are seeking what seems impossible in their lives. Like Mary, may they trust wholeheartedly in the power of God who makes all things possible. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For all mothers, especially those who suffer, that they may be strong in faith, tender in love and courageous in hope. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For all young people: that like Mary they may be open to God’s call in their lives and respond with a ‘yes’, eager to serve others. **Lord, hear us.**
6. Through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary who carried the Word made flesh in her womb, may all expectant mothers cherish the gift of life and be given the health care and support they need. **Lord, hear us.**
7. For all who have died, may they find their home in heaven with Our Lady and all the saints. **Lord, hear us.**

**Priest:** God of salvation, you reveal your steadfast love in the Immaculate Conception of the Mother of your Son. Let the fullness of your grace kindle in our hearts a desire to serve you in each other. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **Amen**