

## **The Ascension of the Lord**

### **Prayers of the Faithful**

#### **Celebrant:**

Sustained in hope, strengthened in faith, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, we turn to God in prayer.

1. For the Church: strengthened by Christ's promise to be with us until the end of the world, may all the baptised communicate the Good News of Jesus with courage and conviction. **Lord, hear us.**
2. We pray for the Church's missionaries throughout the world: sustain them in their work of evangelisation as they proclaim with fresh enthusiasm the Lord risen and ascended. **Lord, hear us.**
3. As the Lord draws all peoples to himself, we pray for an end to all forms of discrimination. Open our eyes to the dignity, beauty, and worth of every human being. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For all who are tempted to believe the Lord is no longer with us, those whose faith is tried by the difficulties and sorrows of life: may they come to know His abiding presence in their struggles. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For those who are searching for truth and hope in their lives. May we be open to their questions and yearnings, and respond with the life-giving words of the Gospel. **Lord, hear us.**
6. On this World Communications Day, we pray in thanksgiving for the gift of the internet and social media through which we can create, communicate, learn, motivate, and glorify God. Help us avoid the unintended consequences of the internet, that our words and actions are always truthful and grace-filled, encouraging and peaceful. **Lord, hear us.**

7. For those baptised with water and the Holy Spirit at Easter: may they recognise the immeasurable power of God at work in the lives of those who believe. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For those who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus Christ: may they be strengthened by the prayers and support of their fellow Christians and may governments and lawmakers throughout the world uphold the right to religious freedom. **Lord, hear us.**
9. We pray for all in the Media profession. May they serve the world by confronting evil and injustice, relating the compassion, courage and resilience of humanity, rejecting half-truths which deceive and corrupt, and witnessing to honesty, respect and integrity. **Lord, hear us.**
10. For leaders of nations who are called to lead and advocate in the world: help them to use the power and responsibility entrusted to them wisely for the betterment of humanity and world. **Lord, hear us.**
11. For the sick or infirm: provide relief from their suffering, meaning in their struggles, and healing in mind, body, and spirit. **Lord, hear us.**
12. Where Christ has gone, we hope one day to follow. We pray for all who have died. Carry them safely into eternal glory. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:**

Almighty Father, the ascension of your Son is our lasting encouragement and hope. Hear the prayers we make to you in faith through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Please note: The Presider may choose an appropriate number of prayers from these sample Prayers of the Faithful.)