**Feast of the Holy Family**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** On this feast of the Holy Family, we unite with the family of God, bringing our requests to God our loving Father.

1. For the Church: may it always uphold the dignity of the family blessed by God, support the bonds that unite them, and inspire them through the Gospel of Life. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For those charged with governing society: that they will build a world in which family life is defended, supported, and enriched. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For the whole human family that we may learn to live in peace, striving to break down the barriers of prejudice, hatred, racism, bigotry, and intolerance. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For wounded or broken families, that they may seek common ground on which the lives of children may flourish in loving and lasting relationships. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For Christians everywhere, that they will endeavour to defend the sanctity of human life from conception to its natural end. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For children who have lost parents, those abandoned or orphaned, those exploited, or maltreated. May they experience refuge, security, and compassion. **Lord, hear us.**
7. For parents anxious for their children. Calm their fears, bless them with grace and confidence, and help them to nourish healthy relationships with their children. **Lord, hear us.**
8. In gratitude for the blessing of our families; for all they do for one another, for the sacrifices they make, the love they share, and the support they offer. **Lord, hear us.**
9. For all who have died, especially family members; enfold them in your eternal embrace. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** God of love, Father of all, teach us the sanctity of human love, and help us to live in peace with the whole of humanity that we may share your life forever. **Amen.**