**Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church**

**Prayers of the Faithful**

**Celebrant:** Trusting in the Lord’s blessing of peace on his people, we bring our prayers before the Lord.

1. For the Church: that Mary will guide and protect the Church with her motherly love. **Lord, hear us.**
2. For peace in our world: that nations at war may strive for lasting peace and the Lord will’ give us his blessing till the ends of the earth revere him. **Lord, hear us.**
3. For couples who long to conceive but suffer in their loss. Strengthen their love for one another. Heal their brokenness and fragility and bless them with life. **Lord, hear us.**
4. For the Lord’s blessing on our New Years resolutions. For the grace of fortitude, commitment and the resolve to uphold the resolutions we make. **Lord, hear us.**
5. For a spirit of discernment in all our lives, that like Mary, we may ponder God’s will in all things. **Lord, hear us.**
6. For the sick, the orphaned, the lonely, the homeless and the forgotten: that Mary, the Mother of Mercy will be their consolation and their joy. **Lord, hear us.**
7. In this year of Jubilee, we pray that God’s grace will reawaken in the world the blessed *hope* of God’s Kingdom. **Lord, hear us.**
8. For our parish: in the year ahead, may our community be built on love and remain a powerful witness to the presence of God alive and active. **Lord, hear us.**
9. For those who have died; may they dwell in Christ’s abundant love for eternity. **Lord, hear us.**

**Celebrant:** Heavenly Father, as we begin this New Year, open our hearts and minds to the many blessings you offer, and give us joy in following your Son Jesus Christ, who is Lord forever and ever. **Amen**.