4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B January 31st

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa. I warmly welcome you here. Today is the fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time. We are called together in this place as the people of God, chosen to be God’s instruments of love, peace and reconciliation, to the world. Let us open our hearts so that we hear and welcome the Word of God in our lives, and are changed by it. Let us prepare for this Eucharist by being silent for a few moments. **(20 … seconds - stay at microphone).** Welcome to ……………………… (*parish name*). Let us stand, and as one people, let us sing together.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that all who have leadership positions in the Church will be open, transparent and just in their dealings, that they will be people of integrity, insight, compassion and love, eager to proclaim the Gospel in all they do.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For those in authority –** that they strive always to discern what is right and just, that they speak the truth with wisdom and, strive to heal divisions and bring people together in unity and love.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For an end to the Covid-19 pandemic–** that people in all nations around the globe work together to end the pandemic, taking care to meet the needs of poorer countries and vulnerable peoples.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For people who struggle with anxiety or depression** – that all who are gathered here today will be carriers of the peace of Christ, and that this peace will touch hearts and minds, revealing God’s goodness and deep and profound love to those who most need this assurance.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For children, students and all preparing to return to places of learning** – that they will respect the opportunity they have for education, apply effort consistently, and strive to develop their talents and abilities through their learning.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For all who have suffered from recent weather events** – that they will not be overwhelmed by the difficulties they face but will be encouraged by the generous support and encouragement of friends, family and community.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**For our local community of**………………….. That\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please add a prayer for your local community.

(Silence) **Reader:** Lord hear us. **All:** Lord hear our prayer.

**Concluding Prayer**

All powerful God, you are all light. In you there is no darkness. Let your light shine upon for all whom we pray

So that we may walk gladly in your ways. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**