6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B February 14th Valentines Day

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa. Today is the sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time and I warmly welcome you here. In popular culture, we also celebrate St Valentine’s Day today. Because today is St Valentine’s Day, please, take a moment now to turn, greet one another in love and welcome each other here. **(pause for 30 seconds).** Thank you. We are called together once again, to be formed as the people of God, a people united, a people who are one. Let us pause for a few more moments, this time in silence, to prepare to celebrate this liturgy, fully and consciously. **(20 … seconds - stay at microphone).** Welcome to ……………………… (*parish name*). Let us stand, and as one, sing together.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that those with healing ministries remain inspired by the healing ministry of Jesus and that they affirm the dignity of the sick, and all whose lives are crushed, broken or marginalized

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For law makers –** that they ensure the dignity, and right to life and health of people who are sick, vulnerable or marginalized, is protected.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For all health professionals –** that the health services they offer will be available to all, regardless of people’s wealth or location, that their work will be funded appropriately, and will bring a sense of joy into their lives.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For people with diseases and injuries that disfigure their bodies** – that they will be loved by their family, affirmed by their friends, live meaningful lives and be confident that they are loved and precious in the eyes of God.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For married couples and all who have committed themselves to each other in love** – that the self-giving, self-emptying love of Christ will be the inspiration and basis of their love for each other.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**For couples preparing for marriage** – that their love will be gentle, kind and respectful, bringing each other to fullness of life, and that in their preparation for marriage, they will be guided by people who are wise, generous and loving.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

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

Please add a prayer for your local community.

(Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

**Concluding Prayer**

God, who sends us to wash in the River of Healing, hear the prayers we offer you this day and enable us to proclaim your good news and spread the word of your salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. … Amen