28th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B October 10th Day of Prayer to Respect Life

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Haere mai. Welcome! Today is the 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time. It is also a Day of Prayer to respect life, a day in which we are called to support and honour health carers as we acknowledge their work of supporting and protecting life. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, and also because of recent changes to Aotearoa New Zealand’s euthanasia and abortion legislation, Health Carers are under intense pressure. Like Pope Francis, who has acknowledged and thanked health carers in many statements throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, we are invited to adopt a similar attitude of thankfulness for their work. Let us take a few moments of silence to prepare for this liturgy. **(20 … seconds - stay at microphone).** Haere mai ki ……………………… (*parish name*). Let’s stand and sing together.

In the Prayer of the Faithful, we, the people accept our priestly role, given to us at baptism, and pray for the needs of the world, the needs of the poor and the needs of the Church.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that as a Church we applaud and celebrate the work of health care workers who strive to bring wholeness and healing into people’s lives.

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

**For the world’s leaders** - that the care of the poor and the vulnerable, the care of those without sufficient food and water, become a priority they must address.

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

**For those who accompany people to the end of their life -** that their presence will bring peace, consolation and hope and be a sign of love which does not end.

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

**For health professionals, volunteers and family care-givers –** that the gifts of wisdom and insight will inspire and encourage them, as they accompany people in times of fragility and vulnerability.

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

**For ourselves –** that where we see that life is under threat, a desire will awaken in us to support and protect life.

(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 of wisdom, whose word probes the motives of our hearts, with you all things are possible. Let worldly treasure not keep us from Jesus, who looks on us with love. Free us to leave all things and follow him, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.... **Amen.**