31st Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B October 31st Mission Sunday

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Tēnā Koutou Katoa – Haere mai. Welcome! Today is the 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time, and in Aotearoa New Zealand, Mission Sunday. Pope Francis said, ‘I dream of a ‘missionary Church', so that all her structures can be used for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her own self-preservation.’ As we join in the great prayer of the Church today, let us also ponder our part in the call to mission and the evangelization of our community. Let us take a few moments of silence to prepare for this celebration. **(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 we participate in the synod and journey as companions, side by side one another on the same road.

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

**For leaders of nations** - that they ensure people of different religions are able to live freely, without discrimination in their countries.

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

**For young people -** that in difficult times, they retain a vibrant hope for the future, be touched by God’s immense love, have wise people to walk beside them, and seek a spirituality centred in Christ.

**For priests, religious and lay people who minister in foreign lands –** that they will be supported by people in their homelands, compassionate in their missionary work, and faithful in their response to the call of the Gospel.

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

**For all who attend our parish Mass –** that we hear and accept the mission given to us at the end of Mass, to ‘go’ and care for the poor.

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

Please add a prayer for your local community.

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

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

**Concluding Prayer**

We bring these prayers to our Father through the power of the Spirit and in the name of the one eternal High Priest, Christ our Lord. **Amen.**