20th Sunday Ordinary time Year C August 14th

**Welcome before Mass**: (Commentator)

Offering the prayer of the faithful is a priestly task. The whole assembly, by their baptism, are called as priests to pray for the needs of the world.

This is what we are doing when we pray the prayer of the faithful.

Tēnā Koutou Katoa / Good morning and welcome. Pope Francis has said, ‘If we are faithful to Christ and do good works, we can spread the light of God’s hope.’ We are reminded this morning of the daily call to faithfulness and to good works. We have come together today in a spirit of faithfulness, ready to participate as one body, one people in this Eucharist. I extend a very warm welcome to you on this, the 20th Sunday of Ordinary Time. You are very welcome here this morning at ……………………..…….. *(Parish name).* In preparation for this Eucharist, let’s us take a moment’s silence together. **(20 sec – stay at microphone).** Now we stand, sing, and celebrate our unity in Christ and with each other.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that the people of God ‘run with perseverance’ the race that is set before them seeking to bring forth the kingdom of God in all they do.

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

**For Christians throughout the world persecuted for their faith** – that their resolve be strengthened and that peace dwell richly in their hearts as they stand for justice, for right, for love of God through Christ, and love of neighbour.

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

**For leaders of countries who tread paths of hostility –** that intolerant regimes be undone, neighbours become friends, people of diverse groups be safe, and that national leaders will strive for peace.

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

**For those who are intolerant of peoples differences** – that by accepting their own dignity and immense human value, they learn to welcome the stranger, the refugee and those in ethnic or religious minority groups.

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

**For all the hungry –** that they will have food, and that we all develop a greater consciousness about who is hungry, and learn to share our food as a matter of habit.

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

**For our Common Home –** that people strive with urgency to live with a deep sense of connection to the planet, accepting our role of stewardship for all creatures, plants and the complex biodiverse systems of the natural world.

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

**For our local community of … (Please add a petition for your local community.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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

**Concluding Prayer** (Priest)

Loving Father, though we fail in our love for you, you never waver in your love for us. Guide us and give us strength to love you. Help us to run the race that is set before us. Attend to the prayers we bring to you today. We make this prayer through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**