5th Sunday of Lent | Year A **26th March**

**Welcome before Mass**:

Kia ora,

Friends give life, and Jesus is a life giving friend. Friendship unbinds the burdens of life, and in Jesus we have a friend who brings us from death to life, in the trials and struggles of everyday, and in that journey beyond this life to the next.

Let us gather our collective prayers and enter into a time of short silence.

(10 seconds of silence). Let us stand and sing together the entrance hymn.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that ministers will know the Spirit’s power in their self-sacrifice and will continue to be strengthened with a servant heart.

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

**For those preparing for baptism and for reception into the Catholic Church** – that they will know and feel the Spirit’s faithfulness in their commitment to Christ.

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

**For Aotearoa** – that the people of this and every land will know the Spirit’s peace in their pursuit of justice, and work to take care of our shared environment.

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

**For parishioners** – that we will know the Spirit’s goodness in our prayer, fasting, and works of charity.

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

**For our dearly departed** – that they will know the Spirit’s joy in eternal life and rest in the embrace of God.

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

**For our local community of … (What are the needs of your locality – housing, health, truancy, an accident… Please discern the needs of your locality and compose a petition.)**

**Concluding Prayer**

God of the living, your Son raised Lazarus from death as a sign that he came to give us life in fullest measure. By your Holy Spirit, fill us with life. Renew our faith, hope, and love, so that we may live with you always, and come to share the glory of the resurrection. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen**.