The Ascension of the Lord | Year B | 12th May

**World Communications Day**

**Welcome before Mass**:

Tēnā Koutou katoa – Good morning and welcome! Today is Ascension Sunday. ‘Why do you stand looking up to heaven’, we are asked today? At the end of this Eucharist, we will be sent, just as the disciples were sent, to preach good news. Now, we gather in prayer, a people brought together as one in Christ. Let us be still for a moment.

(10 seconds of silence)

Let us sing together!

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that we build up the Body of Christ, encouraging each other’s gifts as evangelists, pastors, teachers, and holy ones, encouraging unity and the work of ministry.

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

**For leaders of nations** – that they will ensure that people in all countries will be free to practice their faith without fear or discrimination or retribution.

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

**For people of different faiths** – that their desire to love God and do what is right will bring people of differing faith traditions into greater communion and understanding.

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

**For workers** – that we appreciate work as a gift through which physical and material needs are met, and that we approach work with energy, diligence, and commitment.

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

**For ourselves** – that as members of the Body of Christ we be humble, gentle, patient, bearing with one another in love, being the presence of Christ in the world.

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

**For communication by social media** – that integrity, honesty, kindness and respect for all others frame the patterns of communication on social media.

(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**

Giver of all good gifts, renew us in your service by your surpassing power, and keep us united to our Savior, Jesus Christ, whose love reaches to the heavens and whose goodness fills all people with blessing, both now and for ever. **Amen**.