2nd Sunday of Easter | Year B | 7th April

Divine Mercy Sunday

**Welcome before Mass**:

Tēnā Koutou katoa – Good morning and welcome. Today is the second Sunday of Easter, and Divine Mercy Sunday. Our rejoicing continues because our Saviour is risen. Jesus comes among us as one bringing peace. May our eyes be opened in faith, may the spirit be awakened in us and may we rejoice with one another. You are welcome here today as we celebrate this wonderful time in the Christian calendar. We will pause for a moment now and prepare in silence for this liturgy.

(10 seconds of silence)

Welcome! Let’s sing together with joy.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that we who are the Church will be an instrument of peace, and an agent of reconciliation to all people. (Silence) **Reader:** E te Ariki **All:** whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

**For the leaders of nations** – that global leaders will strive to establish peace among all peoples and all nations.

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

**For the newly baptised** – that they will be supported, affirmed, and encouraged by their parish or faith community, their faith nourished, and the promise of baptism brought to life in them.

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

**For people whose nation is torn by violence** – that a strong desire for peace will rise in all hearts, a desire which will not be dampened by greed or aggressive misuse of power.

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

**For people without adequate housing** – that we who are Christian will work to ensure everybody is accommodated in affordable homes that are warm and dry.

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

**For children whose homes offer no peace from violence or abuse** – that their pain will be heard and healed.

(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**

Your mercy endures for ever, O God, and extends wider than our needs. Receive these prayers and answer them for the sake of Jesus, your beloved Son, whose triumph over death is wonderful in our eyes, both now and for ever. **Amen**.