3rd Sunday of Easter | Year B | 14th April

**Welcome before Mass**:

Tēnā Koutou katoa – Good morning and welcome! Today is the third Sunday of Easter. Just as the disciples, for a time, wondered what it all meant, we also wonder at what happened and what it means for us today. The doubt of Thomas becomes for us, a moment of faith. In this Eucharist, as the disciples at Emmaus did, we meet Jesus in the breaking of bread. In this Eucharist, may our hearts burn within us. 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 theologians and scholars and all who deepen faith and understanding through study, will enliven the Church by their teaching and wisdom.

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

**For community and national leaders** – that that they will strive to eliminate the problems of overcrowding, homelessness, congestion, and environmental deterioration, associated with modern towns and cities.

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

**For people whose life journey is nearing its end** – that as they near the end of their life, they will find support in the companionship of friends and family, that they will be at peace, and find comfort in the presence of the risen Saviour.

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

**For all who travel** – that through their journeys they will grow in wisdom, faith, understanding, compassion, and kindness.

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

**For people who do not have enough to eat** – that as Christian people we will work to change economic systems and structures that limit food being shared, so everyone will have enough.

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

**For ourselves** – that we follow Jesus, our lives a living witness to the resurrection of Jesus and to the Gospel.

(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 our ancestors, truly your voice speaks of peace: peace for us, your people, and for all who turn to you in their hearts. By this Eucharist, strengthen us to be more zealous messengers of your peace. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. **Amen**.