5th Sunday of Easter | Year B | 28th April

**Day of Prayer for Vocations – National Vocations Awareness Week**

**Welcome before Mass**:

Tēnā Koutou katoa – Good morning and welcome! Today is the fifth Sunday of Easter. We are the branches. Christ is the one vine. We gather here once again, rejoicing that we have been made one with Christ, rejoicing that we are a people united, a people gathered together in Christ. I warmly welcome you here today. Let us be still for a moment as we prepare to celebrate this liturgy.

(10 seconds of silence)

Let us sing together and let us celebrate this liturgy with joy.

**Prayer of the Faithful**

**For the Church** – that we may persevere in faith and bear witness to the unifying power of the Holy Spirit, building up the spiritual temple of God in our midst.

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

**For national and international leaders** – that the values of religious freedom and racial equality will be established among all people.

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

**For all Christians** – that they will grow deeper in love, richer in compassion, stronger in unity and build ever more vibrant faith communities.

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

**For all nations and peoples affected by war** – that people everywhere will wholeheartedly seek peace.

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

**For all who bring forth food from the earth** – that they bring a consciousness of sustainability to their work, ensuring future generations will be blessed by the bounty of the earth.

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

**For Vocation Sunday** – that those discerning a vocation to the priesthood, diaconate, or consecrated life will find guidance in the name of Jesus Christ.

(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**

We praise you, O God, in this assembly of your people, for your strong bond of love unites us to your risen Son. Give us the help and consolation of the Holy Spirit, so that we may love in deed and in truth. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the Lord. **Amen**.