

## SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023 - PRAYER OF THE CHURCH- LENT 3A

*When God gave us the gift of his Holy Spirit in the living waters of baptism, he called us to pray to him as our Father. Let us pray to him in the name of Jesus for the church, the world, and those in need.*

Heavenly Father: thank you that Jesus gives us the living water of his saving word and holy baptism. Keep us close to him by staying close to the scriptures and the church.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

We pray for all people preparing for baptism or confirmation at this time. Lead them in your truth and give them confidence in confessing you before others.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bring justice to people who are wrongly treated by others. Curb all violence and crime, and bring peace to all nations and communities.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Heavenly Father, teach our world the truth about marriage and the blessing you give through it. Give your grace and strength to all married couples and help them fulfill their marriage vows, that they would always seek to serve and forgive each other.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Supply all people with the water they need for daily life, and remove disease and famine.

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

Bring healthy births to women expecting children, including *(insert name(s) here)*. Comfort those who face the loss of loved ones, including *(insert name(s) here)*, and provide for all in need, including those known to us personally and whom we now name in our hearts...*(brief silence)*

*Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.***

*(other petitions may be inserted here)*

Father, you give your Spirit to those who ask you. Pour out your Spirit on us to refresh us and bring us to life in you. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**